

**AUSTIN
INDUSTRIES**

May 7, 2021

The Honorable Senator Fred Girod, Co-Chair
The Honorable Representative Paul Holvey, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, Oregon 97301

Co-Chairs Holvey, Girod and Members of the Committee,

RE: Support for the Bonding Authorization of \$32 million for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass in SB 5534

I am writing to express my strong support for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass and urge you to explore ways to accelerate completion of this vital project.

Austin Industries is the Austin/Parrish Family Office associated with A-dec, Allison Inn & Spa, Springbrook development project and family philanthropy which is located in Newberg, Oregon.

We have seen the Bypass go from an idea for a solution that percolated in the community decades ago, to a reality today. With four of the eleven miles built, we have gotten much closer to that solution, but we must keep the project moving forward to realize all the benefits it can bring.

Although the first phase of the Bypass has brought improvements, it has also resulted in new congestion points and unintended consequences that will only worsen as growth in the region puts more demands on this corridor. There is now a choke point in Dundee, the intersection of Springbrook Rd and 99 W in Newberg and fatal accidents from traffic diverted onto McKay Road.

These issues will only be resolved by completing the entire regional Bypass from Rex Hill to Dayton, which will only grow more expensive with time. We understand the Bypass is within striking distance of being eligible for major federal funding, and that as little as \$32 million could get the project shovel-ready for construction. We do not want to miss this federal funding opportunity to leverage the sizeable investments made by the State and local communities and obtain the funds necessary to finish the project. The Legislature and Governor have entrusted you with leading the way forward for the most critical projects in this state. The Newberg-Dundee Bypass is absolutely vital to communities stretching from the Metro area all the way to the Central Coast. We encourage you to make this project a priority and work with our region to identify the funding needed to make this full Bypass solution a reality. We appreciate your leadership, and this opportunity to register our support.

Sincerely,



General Manager
Austin Industries