

February 9, 2026

RE: Support for Senate Bill 1564– One-time UGB expansion for City of Woodburn

Dear Chair Pham and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of **Chemeketa Community College Woodburn Campus**, I write in support of SB 1564 and the proposed development it enables through the inclusion of a specific site into the City of Woodburn's urban growth boundary.

As a public community college, Chemeketa serves students across Marion and Polk Counties, including Woodburn and surrounding communities. Many of our students are working adults, first-generation college students, farmworkers, service workers, and young people balancing school, employment, and family responsibilities. For these students, access to stable and affordable housing is not separate from educational success—it is foundational to it.

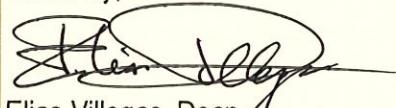
SB 1564 allows for intentional, planned development in an area where housing demand far exceeds supply. The proposed site will support **both affordable housing for low-income Oregonians and market-rate housing**, helping stabilize the broader housing market and ensuring that students, staff, and local workers can continue to live near where they study and work. Housing scarcity and long commutes are among the most common barriers we see affecting student persistence, completion, and overall wellbeing.

We are especially encouraged that this development will include a **working farm, creating Woodburn's first agrihood**. This model aligns with Chemeketa's commitment to sustainability, workforce preparation, and community-based learning. An agrihood presents opportunities for workforce training, food systems education, environmental stewardship, and partnerships that connect housing, education, and local economic development.

SB 1564 reflects a thoughtful approach to growth—one that recognizes the urgent need for housing while supporting long-term community resilience. For the students and families, we serve, this bill represents opportunity, stability, and a stronger connection between education and place.

We respectfully urge your support for SB 1564.

Sincerely,



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