



April 29, 2021

Representative Julie Fahey, Chair
House Committee on Housing
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for SB 141 A

Dear Chair Burdick and Members of the Committee:

The City of Hillsboro has utilized the Vertical Housing Development Zone (VHDZ) program with success in recent history as an incentive for redevelopment in our Downtown and Orenco Station neighborhoods. The VHDZ program is an important state authorized incentive that aids communities in revitalizing neighborhoods with mixed use development opportunities.

We supported recent legislative changes that provided for local administration over the VHDZ program, and for similar reasons we support this proposal that will improve the overall incentive and make the program more flexible. With SB 141-A, the VHDZ program will be improved to increase the incentive for developers to maximize their development, which will make it more likely that developers are able to add additional housing units in their projects, including much needed regulated affordable housing units.

Cities need all the help we can get from the state when it comes to local options for incentivizing housing development. SB 141-A is one way the state can help.

We urge your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy Smith".

Andy Smith
Government Relations Manager
City of Hillsboro