



Testimony by City of Wilsonville Mayor Shawn O’Neil Supporting SB 967 A:

Legislation Clarifies Cities’ Ability to Create Local Improvement Districts in Urban Growth Expansion Areas to Facilitate New Development

Scheduled for public hearing on April 16, 2025, before
the House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Chair Marsh, Vice-Chairs Anderson and Breese-Iverson, and Members of the Committee:

I am testifying in support of SB 967 A, which allows local governments to enter into an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) to allocate jurisdiction over a local improvement district (LID) sited or proposed for an unincorporated area within a city’s urban growth boundary (UGB).

When a city expands its UGB, infrastructure improvements on land owned by a single landowner are typically managed during phased development and annexation into the city. However, in areas with multiple property owners, shared infrastructure requirements like major roads and large water or wastewater systems can be more difficult to finance.

Local Improvement Districts (LIDs) are an effective way to share infrastructure costs among multiple owners with local government support. State law currently allows LIDs within city limits and, under certain circumstances, outside UGBs. However, state law does not clearly authorize collaboration between cities and counties to establish LIDs in unincorporated UGB areas.

SB 967 A amends existing law to make clear that local governments are allowed enter into IGAs to establish LIDs for unincorporated areas within a city’s designated UGB and in conformance with the city’s comprehensive plan. While a simple change in law, SB 967 A could significantly help move the needle on infrastructure development and provide local governments with an important finance tool to increase jobs and housing production.

Wilsonville has a number of UGB expansion areas with fragmented property ownership that could benefit from potential formation of a LID to help finance infrastructure serving new employment or residential development.

The City appreciates your consideration and urges a Do-Pass vote on SB 967 A.

Shawn O’Neil, Mayor
City of Wilsonville