



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rep. Andersen Secures \$20 million In Salem Area Investments

Investments increase access to behavioral health and addiction treatment, recovery housing, and improve recreation and culture in the community.

SALEM, Ore. — Even-year legislative sessions are only 35 days and there are limited resources the legislature can spend on statewide programming but **Rep. Tom Andersen** (D-South Salem), a first-term legislator and former Salem City Councilor, was able to secure crucial funds to increase access to addiction treatment, and improve things that the Salem community has long held dear as resources for people who live here.

“I am proud to have helped bring a variety of investments to Salem. This includes critically important funding for addictions treatment, a social services resource center at the YMCA, and tools for Marion County to divert individuals away from the criminal justice system and into addictions programs,” said Andersen.

Giving Law Enforcement Tools They Need and Funding for Addiction Treatment

The legislature passed the [Oregon Drug Intervention Plan](#) which included policy and budget components to connect those struggling from addiction to treatment. Andersen, having built a strong relationship with Marion County Commissioners, [applauded](#) Marion County for committing to diversion programs in the region.

Funding includes \$11.5 million for Bridgeway Recovery Services for the development of a medical center and substance use disorder residential treatment facilities. Bridgeway Recovery Services has centers which provide addiction recovery treatment to those in the Salem area. Additional funding includes \$650,000 to the Iron Tribe Network for the purchase of a home to provide services for those in addiction recovery.

The legislature also allocated over \$30 million to deflection programs, which Marion County has already signaled its intent to provide. This program is a cornerstone of HB 4002 which gives law enforcement the tools they need to connect more people struggling from addiction in Salem to treatment.

“I am especially grateful for the support of Marion County Commissioners and the District Attorney for their support of addiction treatment alternatives that are part of our Measure 110 Fix contained in HB 4002.”

Investment in Salem Recreation and Culture

Andersen also voted for legislation that allocated \$3 million in funding to develop a centralized social service and resource center and affordable housing in Salem at the YMCA of Marion and Polk Counties. He was initially a chief sponsor of SB 1570, which proposed the funding that was later included in the end-of-session budget.

Legislators also allocated \$150,000 in repairs to the Eco-Earth Globe in Riverfront Park, a staple of the community that faces impacts of weather and rain that force repairs.

“I am very proud to help bring state money into Salem for critical projects to promote our response to the mental health crisis and community culture in this state,” said Andersen. “These, and other projects approved by the legislature are a meaningful investment in our city.”

Andersen will continue working during the interim with city and county officials to develop long-term solutions to the fiscal challenges that the city faces, expand on work to address the housing crisis in Oregon, and develop compassionate ways to get people the treatment they need while keeping Salem safe.

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