



PRESS RELEASE

OREGON HOUSE DEMOCRATS

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House Democrats Fight for Washington County Funding

SALEM – The 2017 legislative session has wrapped up in Salem after six months of work to balance the budget, pass a historic transportation package, and provide better opportunities for all Oregonians.

The Washington County delegation of Oregon House Democrats, including Rep. Jeff Barker (D-Aloha), Rep. Margaret Doherty (D-Tigard), Rep. Ken Helm (D-Beaverton), Rep. Sheri Malstrom (D-Beaverton), Rep. Susan McLain (D-Hillsboro) and Rep. Janeen Sollman (D-Hillsboro), fought for funding for a variety of projects that will directly benefit Washington County.

House Bill 2017, the transportation package, funds specific infrastructure projects and sends 50% of new revenues to cities and counties for local maintenance and improvements. The package includes long sought-after funding to upgrade Highway 217 in both directions and millions of dollars in maintenance for roads in communities throughout Washington County, from Forest Grove to North Plains to Beaverton.

Highlights of the transportation package include:

- \$44 million for upgrades to Hwy 217 southbound
- \$54 million for upgrades to Hwy 217 northbound
- \$2.4 million per year in new maintenance funding for Beaverton
- \$1.3 million per year in new maintenance funding for Tigard
- \$678,000 per year in new maintenance funding for Tualatin
- \$301,000 per year in new maintenance funding for Cornelius
- \$591,000 per year in new maintenance funding for Forest Grove
- \$2.5 million per year in new maintenance funding for Hillsboro
- \$51,000 per year in new maintenance funding for North Plains
- \$13 million per year in new maintenance funding for Washington County
- \$71 million per year in new transit funding to TriMet

“After spending nearly two years engaged in the hard work of bringing the transportation package to fruition, I am proud of the final result for Oregonians and thrilled that we are able to bring much needed funding to projects in Washington County,” Rep. McLain said. “As we continue to grow, these projects will help keep our economic engine running strong.”

In addition, the legislature secured \$50,000 for Bag & Baggage Productions’ Cultural Innovation Project in Hillsboro.

This year, the Oregon Legislature’s budget committee passed wide-ranging funding that will work to protect Oregon’s environment, drive our thriving economy and ensure students have safe schools and safe routes to schools.

“I am proud of the work we were able to do this year to give Washington County the resources it needs to grow and thrive in the future,” Rep. Sollman said. “Together, we were able to move our community forward this legislative session with transformative investments.”

These regional projects are in addition to major statewide investments that will benefit every community in the state, including:

Bond Funds:

- \$100 million for seismic rehabilitation at public school buildings statewide
- \$20 million for seismic rehabilitation at emergency services buildings
- \$80 million for the LIFT housing program
- \$10 million for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund
- \$120 million for the Veterans’ Home Loan Program (reauthorization)
- \$25 million for the Elderly and Disabled Housing Program (reauthorization)

Lottery:

- \$30 million for Connect Oregon to finance transportation projects across the state
- \$25 million for affordable housing preservation
- \$5 million for the Oregon Main Street Revitalization grant program
- \$10 million for levee projects around the state

Transportation:

- \$130 million per year for transit
- \$10 million per year for Safe Routes to Schools
- \$1.2 million per year for bike and pedestrian projects

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