Wednesday, March 8, 2017

Representative Brian Clem, Chair
House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Oregon Chapter of the American Planning Association testimony to the House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources regarding HB 2095.

Dear Chair Clem and Members of the Committee,

The Oregon Chapter of the American Planning Association (OAPA) is an independent, statewide, not-for-profit educational organization with 850 members that provides leadership in the development of vital communities by advocating excellence in community planning, promoting education and citizen empowerment, and providing the tools and support necessary to meet the challenges of growth and change.

Our organization has reviewed HB 2095 and support the bill as drafted. **We respectfully ask that the Committee pass the bill out of the Committee.**

This bill gives Metro needed flexibility to manage the Portland Metro urban growth boundary and make modest adjustments of up to 1,000 acres to accommodate growth midway through the six-year statutory urban-growth cycle. Given that the provisions of this bill require the acknowledgement of the urban and rural reserves, in cities that are able and willing to provide infrastructure, we believe this is a common-sense change.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Damian Syrnyk, AICP
Chair, Legislative and Policy Affairs Committee