February 7, 2019

House Committee on Agriculture and Land Use
Representative Brian Clem, Chair
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301
haglu.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

RE: Testimony from the Oregon Chapter of the American Planning Association in Support of House Bill 2075

Dear Chair Clem and Members of the Committee:

This letter provides testimony from the Oregon Chapter of the American Planning Association (OAPA) on HB 2075. OAPA is an independent not-for-profit membership organization of over 950 planners from cities, counties, and metropolitan areas across the state. OAPA provides leadership in the development of thriving communities by advocating excellence in community planning, promoting education and resident empowerment, and providing the tools and support necessary to meet the challenges of growth and change.

OAPA supports the passage of HB 2075. This bill provides the opportunity for the State to support planning for housing and economic development. OAPA supports the creation of the Development Readiness Program and the arguments made in support of its passage from the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development. “Improve housing affordability and availability” and “fund planning for and the development of infrastructure” are two of OAPA’s five 2019 legislative priorities, with financial and technical assistance being key. OAPA supports the availability of funding to support local plans and for needed public infrastructure integral to the development of housing and jobs.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony on HB 2075. OAPA recommends the Committee vote the bill out with a Do Pass recommendation.

Kirsten Tilleman, President
Board of Directors

Damian Syrnyk, Chair,
Legislative and Policy Affairs Committee