



Main Office | 133 SW 2nd Ave, Ste 201 | Portland, OR 97204
Willamette Valley Office | 454 Willamette St, Ste 213 | Eugene, OR 97401
Southern Oregon Office | PO Box 2442 | Grants Pass, OR 97528

February 22, 2023

Dear Co-Chairs Bynum and Sollman, Co-Vice-Chairs Knopp and Wallan, and Members of the Joint Committee on Semiconductors,

For nearly 50 years, 1000 Friends of Oregon has worked with Oregonians to leverage the state's special and unique land use planning program to foster connected, vibrant, and beautiful cities and towns while protecting farms, forests, and iconic scenic areas from sprawl development and irreversible conversion.

1000 Friends of Oregon appreciates the inspiring vision highlighted in Senate Bill 4 and throughout the Joint Committee's hearings: long-term, high-quality, high-density semiconductor expansion(s) that bring to Oregon more federal funding.

1000 Friends also appreciates the Joint Committee's initiative to request information from our cities and towns about available industrial land across Oregon.¹ We are all learning about more potential sites; many of them are sites that communities have approved for industrial growth through comprehensive planning processes. Multiple sites exist inside urban growth boundaries, zoned for industrial/employment development, connected to some existing infrastructure, and possess characteristics that this Joint Committee has heard make sites competitive for semiconductor expansion(s).

As we learn about more sites, the opportunities for semiconductor expansion planning and development become clear in order for us to be successful in reaching the vision outlined in SB 4. Leaders from multiple towns across Oregon report that they have land, but they need the financial and technical assistance to bring this land up to Tier 1 status (e.g., money for site assembly, aggregation, and infrastructure). Our cities and towns also voice the need for help holding onto potential semiconductor and advanced manufacturing sites, crediting patient capital as a contributing factor for private property owners and local jurisdictions to be able to wait.

The need for funding and financing options is a primary barrier for semiconductor expansion efforts. **We cannot overlook the calls from our cities and towns to assemble and aggregate these sites and bring them up to Tier 1 status.** These are cities that have identified and are protecting sites for industrial development and are, in many cases, making initial investments in site readiness. We need the State to be supporting these economic development strategies.

¹ **We reiterate our support for the Legislature to direct the State (e.g., Business Oregon, Department of Land Conservation and Development) to work with cities and towns to create and maintain a statewide inventory for industrial lands to help identify and hold onto Goal 9 lands.**



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We do not need to wait for urban growth boundary expansions, skip over potential sites inside urban growth boundaries, or create entirely untested or alternative land use processes in order to make Oregon more competitive for semiconductor company expansion(s). **Prioritize, instead, the funding and staff time, as called for in Section 6, for land already inside our urban growth boundaries.** Direct the State (e.g., Business Oregon, Department of Land Conservation and Development) to provide technical assistance to expedite these readiness efforts and work with communities across Oregon to reach their economic development, educational, and workforce training goals².

We look forward to continued, productive conversations. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions at Sam@friends.org or (503) 497-1000.

Sincerely,

Sam Diaz
Executive Director
1000 Friends of Oregon

TO:

- Chair State Representative Janelle Bynum, Rep.JanelleBynum@oregonlegislature.gov
- Chair State Senator Janeen Sollman, Sen.JaneenSollman@oregonlegislature.gov
- Vice-Chair State Senator Tim Knopp, Sen.TimKnopp@oregonlegislature.gov
- Vice-Chair Kim Wallan, Rep.KimWallan@oregonlegislature.gov
- Committee Staff Erin Seiler, Erin.Seiler@oregonlegislature.gov
- Committee Staff Isabel Hernandez, Isabel.Hernandez@oregonlegislature.gov

² **We reiterate our support for the legislative concepts proposed by DLCD and Business Oregon to equip communities with the site readiness tools to create and protect industrial land.** We encourage dedicated funding towards these concepts. We also urge the State to place conditions on how this land must be used: for semiconductor facilities. **And, we reiterate our support to create a strategic manufacturing fund within Business Oregon as part of the State's Industrial Site Readiness Program (RSIS).** The Fund should be co-managed by DLCD's Economic Development Strategy with regular reporting to the Economic Development Subcommittee on achievements and lessons learned. Again, the initial conditions should focus on the semiconductor industry: creating high-wage, quality, local jobs and leveraging the federal funding in the CHIPS and Science Act.