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April 5, 2011

Senate Committee on Business,  
Transportation and Economic Development  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court Street NE, Room 453  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Beyer and Committee Members:

I am a senior site acquisition manager for Fred Meyer Stores and have served on the Access Management Committee. I have appreciated very much the collaborative process that culminated in SB 264-1. It is important legislation and I encourage you to support it.

Fred Meyer is a grocery and general merchandise retailer headquartered in Portland. We have 131 stores in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. We employ 13,000 in Oregon.

From the beginning of this process I recognized that it would be a challenge to find the right balance between growth and development and safety.

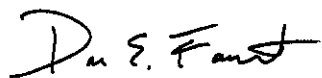
However, finding that balance was critical, as it plays a vital role in allowing companies such as Fred Meyer to continue investing in our stores and in the communities where we do business. Throughout the past two-plus years of recession, we maintained our commitment to our capital expenditures, including an investment of more than \$100 million in remodel and expansion work in Oregon stores. We will open a \$35 million store in Wilsonville in July, which will be our first new store in Oregon in six years and will provide more than 200 net new jobs. Looking forward, we plan to invest more than \$140 million in Oregon in new stores, remodels and expansions over the next few years.

The work and continued progress of the Access Management Committee and this resulting legislation was a major reason we have been able to continue our investments.

I want to express my thanks to ODOT and others who served on the Access Management Committee. I would like to give a special acknowledgement to ODOT Director Matt Garrett, ODOT Region 4 Manager Bob Bryant and other senior members of ODOT. The success of this process started with their attitudes and willingness to tackle these difficult issues, which kept many of the other players at the table.

Thank you for your time and for your attention to this important issue. I hope you will pass this legislation.

Sincerely,



Don Forrest  
Sr. Site Acquisition Manager