



April 4, 2013

The Honorable Julie Manning  
Mayor, City of Corvallis  
P.O. Box 1083  
Corvallis, OR 97339-1083

JOHN A. KITZHABER, MD  
Governor

The Honorable Kitty Piercy  
Mayor, City of Eugene  
777 Pearl St., Room 105  
Eugene, OR 97401


Dear Mayor Manning and Mayor Piercy:

I am pleased to designate the Regional Accelerator Innovation Network (RAIN) as an Oregon Solutions project and to appoint you both as co-conveners. This Oregon Solutions project will be managed by Jamie Damon, the South Willamette Valley Regional Solutions Team Coordinator. A host of community partners have already demonstrated their commitment to advancing new technologies. Combining university resources with their host communities will accelerate the translation of ideas and research into enterprises that benefit local economies and institutions. The project will develop a permanent governing structure built on public-private partnerships with a business plan to enable the alignment of university resources with their host communities to advance research and transform concepts into commercialization. This is to be done with the aim of retaining these new businesses and jobs within Oregon.

This collaborative effort among local governments and the two major research universities in the South Willamette Valley (UO and OSU), Oregon Nanoscience and Microtechnologies Institute (ONAMI), Oregon Built Environment and Sustainable Technologies (BEST) and the other regional stakeholders should provide sufficient accelerator resources to meet the burgeoning technology business development needs of the South Willamette Valley. I am enthusiastic about how the project addresses the triple bottom line of the Sustainable Community Objectives and advances the regional priorities adopted by the Regional Solutions Advisory Committee.

I am pleased that you have agreed to take a leadership role in this collaborative project for the South Willamette Valley. Please keep my office updated on this effort and thank you for the preliminary work and accomplishments demonstrated thus far. Your efforts will support Oregonians living in the region and throughout the state.

Sincerely,



John A. Kitzhaber, M.D.  
Governor

JAK:gw/lh

cc: Greg Wolf  
Beverly Stein