



1006 E. Jackson St.
Medford, OR 97504
541.773.2872
www.buildso.org

15 September 2026

Dear Mayor Graham, City Council, and Planning Commission Members:

On behalf of the Builders Association of Southern Oregon (BASO), I want to thank the City of Ashland for taking a proactive look at its land use code and identifying opportunities to reduce unnecessary barriers to housing development.

We were encouraged to see the recent discussion surrounding potential amendments intended to make the development process clearer and more workable. Updating land use regulations is not an easy process, but it is an important part of addressing our region's housing challenges. Reviewing issues such as lot sizes, accessory dwelling units, street standards, landscaping requirements, and other development regulations can help identify areas where the code may unintentionally add cost, delay projects, or make housing more difficult to build.

BASO represents builders, contractors, suppliers, and other businesses throughout Southern Oregon, and our members can provide a valuable real-world perspective on how land use and development regulations affect projects from concept through construction.

We would appreciate the opportunity to participate in these conversations as the City moves forward. BASO would be happy to meet with City staff, Council members, the Planning Commission, or other stakeholders to discuss the proposed changes and provide feedback from the building industry.

We appreciate the City's willingness to examine these issues and look for practical ways to encourage housing development while maintaining the qualities that make Ashland a unique community. We look forward to being a resource and partner throughout this process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joey Minear', is located below the 'Sincerely,' text. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Dr. Joey Minear
Chief Executive Officer
Builders Association of Southern Oregon