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April 21, 2016

Mayor Lou Ogden
City of Tualatin
18880 SW Martinazzi Avenue
Tualatin, OR 97062

Dear Mayor Ogden,

I want to congratulate you on Tualatin's advancement as a semi-finalist in the America's Best Communities Competition. It is an impressive feat that Tualatin's Community Revitalization Plan has been selected from a pool of over 400 communities as one of the top fifteen in the nation. I am impressed with the plan's emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) education and efforts to increase youth access to career and technical education (CTE).

I was proud to support Congress' recent efforts to reinvigorate our nation's commitment to these principles with the passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act. As you know, I work closely with your Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici to promote STEAM education and to ensure that students are afforded a full array of educational opportunities that better prepare them to succeed in a dynamic and competitive economy.

Tualatin's Community Revitalization Plan is a tremendous example of leadership in this area. Your efforts not only identify workforce needs but also build the local coalition and partnerships necessary to effect positive change. This is exactly the type of fresh thinking and collaboration needed to help close achievement gaps that disproportionately impact low income student populations. The Tualatin ABC Mobile Makerspace takes STEAM education on the road in order to reach young people in schools, in their neighborhoods, or around their community.

I congratulate Tualatin on its success to date, and wish you the best of luck in the next round of the competition. Please keep Ree Armitage of my staff informed of your progress.

Sincerely,



Ron Wyden
United States Senator

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