AMERICAN LAND INSTITUTE

★ 534 Southwest Third Avenue, Suite 716 ★ Portland, Oregon 97204-2511 ★

Phone: 503.228.9462 * Fax: 503.223.1475 * Email: <u>ngmlp@aol.com</u>

February 22, 2007

The nature and extent of property tax reductions for owners of farm and forest land were not well-described until the American Land Institute undertook this study, *Oregon's Public Investment in Conservation, Prosperity and Fairness*. Public discussion regarding the merits of Oregon's laws limiting the use of farm and forest land may now better proceed, using the new information the study provides. We believe it will significantly contribute to an informed discussion of land use issues, including Measure 37, regardless of one's view on any particular issue.

The mission of the American Land Institute is to research land use policy issues, and to disseminate that research to the public. We thank the following donors whose generous support made this study possible: The Peter Jay Sharp Foundation, New York; The Rose E. Tucker Charitable Trust, Portland; The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, Menlo Park, California; Bowerman Family Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation, Portland; Wessinger Foundation, Portland; The Ford Foundation, New York; Gray Family Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation; John D. Gray, Portland; Eric Lemelson, Dayton, Oregon; Paul and Nancy Gerhardt, Portland; Martin and Carolyn Winch, Tumalo, Oregon; Robert C. Stricklin, Warrenton, Oregon; Frank and Ruth Spears, Sherwood, Oregon; Charlie Swindells, Portland; Dr. Strachan Donnelly, New York; Samuel M. Hamill, Jr., Princeton, New Jersey, and the American Conservation Association, New York. We also gratefully acknowledge The Standard, Portland, Oregon, for printing this report.

The knowledge and insight of dozens of professionals, officials, academics and other experts, set forth in **Appendix I**, have been invaluable to the design and execution of this analysis, and are gratefully acknowledged.

Craig M. Chisholm

Chairman