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James C. Richards Award Presented to Forest Grove Mayor Pete Truax

SALEM, Ore. – The prestigious James C. Richards Award was presented Thursday evening to Forest Grove Mayor Pete Truax during the League of Oregon Cities' 97th Annual Conference. The award is given to an elected city official who serves the citizens of Oregon through an exceptional personal investment in intergovernmental affairs.

Mayor Truax has served the city of Forest Grove for 22 years, starting on the city's planning commission, then on the city council, and finally as mayor for the last 13 years. His dedication and insights have helped improve lives in his community and throughout the state. His accomplishments include:

- Creating an urban renewal agency, which led to the construction of a downtown multi-family residence;
- The passage of numerous local option levies and a new city charter; and
- Creation a mural in Forest Glen Park, recognizing the city's history on native land.

Mayor Truax has served on numerous regional and state boards and commissions, including as the League of Oregon Cities (LOC) president in 2015. He's been a regular at the LOC's City Day at the Capitol event, and at the National League of Cities' Congressional Cities Conference.

Mayor Truax has advocated for equity and inclusion and practiced them with honesty, humility, and integrity. Across Oregon, he is recognized as a shining example of public service and diplomacy. With his engaging mix of humor and sports metaphors, he's helped ensure that his peers in government work together for the greater good.

About the James C. Richards Memorial Award

James C. Richards was a city councilor for Bay City and was the administrative officer for Tillamook County. His many years of involvement in intergovernmental affairs serve as a model for others and is the standard by which nominees are evaluated.

About the League of Oregon Cities

Founded in 1925, the LOC is a voluntary association representing all 241 of Oregon's incorporated cities. The League helps city governments serve their citizens by providing legislative services, policy setting, intergovernmental relations, conferences and training, technical assistance and publications.

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