



Commissioner Chloe Eudaly
City of Portland

May 13, 2019

Dear Members of the Joint Transportation Committee:

The Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) supports HB 2846 because we think it will result in a reduction in fatalities and serious injuries on some of Oregon's most dangerous streets.

An analysis of statewide crash data indicates that high-speed multi-lane arterials in urban areas are among the most dangerous streets in Oregon. From 2014 to 2018, one in five Portland traffic deaths occurred on non-interstate state-managed streets. Many orphaned state highways are currently functioning as city streets in some of our most diverse neighborhoods. Beyond the immense loss of life and costs related to injuries, the lack of safety on these corridors threatens economic and community development.

HB 2846 is a major step forward: it addresses one of the most critical safety and equity issues in Portland and across Oregon. It begins the process of developing a funding strategy for transfers and can improve on the management of these facilities in advance of a transfer.

HB 2846 will establish a statewide priority list of corridors and establish a fund that could support future transfers.

While working to facilitate transfers, HB 2846 also requests that the Oregon Transportation Commission provides design and process guidance to the Oregon Department of Transportation and the State Legislature on how ODOT can effectively work with local governments to manage these important facilities in advance of a transfer to immediately improve the safety of these important roadways.

I strongly encourage your support for this legislation.

Sincerely,

Chloe Eudaly
Commissioner, City of Portland