

March 4, 2021

Honorable Senator Lee Beyer, Representative Susan McLain & Members of the Joint Committee on Transportation

Subject: Salem Area Mass Transit District Supports SB 395

Members of the Committee:

My name is Allan Pollock and I am the General Manager for Salem Area Mass Transit District (SAMTD). Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support of SB 395.

Salem Area Mass Transit District provides fixed route transit and paratransit services within the Salem-Keizer urban growth boundary. In addition, SAMTD operates commuter services to Wilsonville and provides Cherriots Regional service to rural communities in Marion and Polk counties like Stayton & Dallas. SAMTD co-operates the 1X Wilsonville/Salem Express, which is utilized by commuters between the Portland-metro area and Oregon's capital city.

We are the transit provider to seniors and people with disabilities in the area through our Cherriots LIFT, RED Line Shopper and Dial-a-Ride services. Our main goal in everything we do is to provide better transit services to our citizens.

We support SB 395 and the goals of increasing access and investments into multi-modal transportation options for more Oregonians. Many of our transit riders are also utilizers of bike and walk paths and we urge lawmakers to seek out new and innovative methods for enhancing biking and pedestrian transportation projects and increasing access to these options throughout the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments to the committee, and we urge your passage of SB 395.

Sincerely,

Allan Pollock, General Manager
Salem Area Mass Transit District