



A place where families and businesses thrive.

February 22, 2021

Senator Sara Gelser
Representation Susan McLain
900 Ct. St. NE
State Capitol, H-477
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Senator Gelser and Representative McLain,

We are writing today in support of House Bill 2985, which directs the Oregon Department of Transportation to ensure that membership of advisory committees reflect racial and ethnic and ability composition of Oregon. This bill reflects the population characteristics as delineated by the American Community Survey which includes, but is not limited to, such factors as: Age, Disability Status, Poverty status, Sex, Gender, and Veteran Status.

For many months, we have watched, been inspired by, and learned from one of our most dedicated community members to this cause, Chris Billman. Chris has worked tirelessly to advocate for changes that can and should be made to allow for equity and inclusion, particularly when it comes to bicycles and alternate modes of transportation. He has opened my eyes to elements of our system that need to change to make sure we are promoting policy and systemic change to include all.

The members of Forest Grove City Council listed below support HB 2985, which is in direct support of Council Goal #1: Support diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in the delivery of city services and operations. As we all continue to do the work to make these changes, the Council appreciates the leadership and vision you have shown in shepherding this bill forward.

Thank you for your continued work and passion for all of our Oregon communities.

Sincerely, and on behalf of the below members of the Forest Grove City Council:

City of Forest Grove Mayor
Council President Malynda Wenzl
Councilor Kristy Kottkey
Councilor Donna Gustafson
Councilor Timothy Rippe
Councilor Mariana Valenzuela