

Submitter: Kim Cummings
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure: HB2137

As a resident of of Salem who lives on the west side of the Willamette River for the 18 years, I strongly support this measure. I have witnessed multiple instances of difficulty on the bridge impacting large parts of Salem traffic. In one occasion I was attending an event at Broadway Commons. It was obvious that traffic on the westbound Marion Street Bridge was not going well. Traffic was backed up so that friends from South Salem who were supposed to attend with me were unable to reach the venue due to traffic. In another instance, I was hosting a family event as people were getting ready to leave, we received news that the bridge had been closed. Family members who had appointments to get to were required to drive to Independence to cross the river there.

Since these 2 examples (there are more) happened the population of Salem on the west side of the river has grown significantly but the infrastructure has not significantly changed in all that time. We need additional river crossing.