

Submitter: Laurie Dougherty
On Behalf Of: 350 Salem OR
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure: HB2781

To: Joint Committee on Transportation
From: Laurie Dougherty
Date: February 2, 2023
Re: Opposition to HB 2781 & HB 2137

Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLain, Co-Vice Chairs Boquist and Boshart Davis, and members of the Joint Committee on Transportation:

I live in Salem and am a Co-Coordinator of 350 Salem OR. I concur with the comment submitted by Philip Carver on behalf of our organization. We do not need another bridge over the Willamette River in the Salem area. Expanding road and bridge capacity encourages more driving, resulting in the same old congestion. This phenomenon of “induced demand” is well understood and documented by planners and academic researchers. <https://www.planetizen.com/definition/induced-demand>

The way to reduce congestion is to get cars off the road. We need you to turn your attention to providing safer, more convenient infrastructure for biking and walking and other alternative modes of transportation; to encourage telecommuting; to support public transit; and to provide incentives for mixed use development so that people can work and conduct activities of daily life near where they live. This is much healthier for people, for our communities, and for our planet.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.