

Submitter: Kathy Lincoln

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure: HB2662

To: Co-chairs Senator Gorsek and Representative McClain and members of the committee:

I urge you to move HB 2662 forward. The development of frequent, reliable, affordable public transportation between Portland, Salem and other cities in the mid Willamette Valley is long overdue. Commuter rail would take traffic off of I-5 between Salem and Portland which is notoriously congested almost all day, any day of the week now. We all know people who are living in Keizer, Salem, Woodburn, etc and commuting to the Portland area for work and play. A good percent of those commuters would gladly use an alternative if it were frequent and connected with transportation options at either end. The proposed study to extend Express Service must include the option to use electric trains - this is a great opportunity to reduce the carbon footprint of those who travel up and down the valley in gasoline driven vehicles. Electric commuter rail service in the valley will bring the state closer to meeting it's climate change goals, give commuters a stress-free, safe way to travel, and reduce maintenance costs for existing bridges and highways. This is a critical first step to take, and I encourage you to support HB 2662.

Thank you  
Kathy Lincoln