

Submitter: Laurie Dougherty

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure: HB2662

Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLain, Co-Vice Chairs Boquist and Boshart Davis, and members of the Committee,

Commuter rail service between Salem and the Portland Metro area is a much needed component of our transportation system. I do not have a car and usually take Amtrak to Portland. West-side service would be more reliable with less competition from rail freight and would take cars off I-5. I would like the study to consider cleaner electric modes of propulsion. Catenary -based systems are in use in other locations, some for over 100 years. Self contained electric and hybrid locomotives are coming online and offer another option to consider. I would also like the study to consider a route into downtown Portland. I would also like to see scheduling throughout the day and evening, not just during rush hours.

Transportation is the biggest source of greenhouse gas emissions. Extension of the WES 50 Salem would make a good contribution to reducing traffic and emissions.

I urge you to support HB 2662..

Thank you for the opportunity to comment,