



March 8, 2023

To: Chair Sen. Floyd Prozanski, Vice-Chair Sen. Kim Thatcher, Judiciary Committee Members

Re: **YES on SB 895 Relating to the offense of passing in a no passing zone**

Dear Chairs and Committee Members:

The Street Trust is a membership advocacy organization representing street users from across Greater Portland. We advocate to break the political gridlock to address unsafe and incomplete public streets that threaten lives and livelihoods, and to win policy and investments that save lives, reduce barriers, and expand mobility and opportunities to the people and neighborhoods our current system neglects.

Last year, Oregon had the 10th highest traffic fatality rate in the country – with 1.45 roadway deaths for every 100 million miles traveled, according to data for the first half of 2022 from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Racial disparities in traffic fatalities are pervasive with dangerous conditions and deadly roads disproportionately affecting BIPOC and low-income people in underserved communities.

We SUPPORT SB 895 because it codifies what should be common sense when a person driving a motor vehicle encounters a person riding a bicycle in a no-passing zone typical on 2-lane undivided rural roadways. To protect the life and safety of the person riding the bicycle, the person driving the motor vehicle should slow down, wait until there is no oncoming traffic, pull across the double yellow line to give the person on the bicycle plenty of room, and safely pass to continue on their way.

We hope that its passage will reduce serious traffic crashes and injuries in Oregon.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Iannarone
Executive Director, The Street Trust
sarah@thestreettrust.org