



March 8, 2023

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

We write to you as the co-founders of Salem Bike Vision, a project working to create accessible, direct, and protected bike infrastructure throughout the community. Respectively, we serve on the Salem City Council, the transit district board, and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Over the past year, we have engaged extensively with our community and heard clearly from hundreds of individuals and more than 20 local businesses that there is a desire for conditions and infrastructure that make biking safer throughout our city. Senate Bill 895 is a simple legislative fix that would improve safety for individuals who bike in Salem.

Presently, there is ambiguity in the law about whether or not a motorist can pass someone riding a bike or other slow-moving vehicle by crossing the centerline in a no-passing zone, which is common on 2-lane undivided rural roadways. SB 895 would clarify that motorists are able to pass in a no-passing zone if someone is biking or operating a slower vehicle so long as the motorist drives at least five miles per hour under the posted speed limit.

This simple legislative fix is very likely to reduce injuries and deaths. We urge you to support Senate Bill 895.

Thank you for your consideration,

Virginia Stapleton, Ian Davidson, and Dylan McDowell
Salem Bike Vision Co-founders
www.salembikevision.org