

Submitter: Alan Niven  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation  
Measure: HB3113

We need safe access to streets for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other alternative active transportation modes. Interactions with cars are more fatal with these cleaner, lighter forms of transportation because they don't carry the thousands extra pounds of steel that cars drag around. The best routes for active transportation are ones that are completely separated from auto and trucks. Very few people have died from colliding with each other or with a bicycle. These separated routes are inherently much safer and quieter, there by encouraging there use.

If pedestrians and bicyclists must share a road with carbon intensive traffic, there should be a physical barrier or berm to prevent the debris (rock, glass, trash) that cars and trucks throw to the side of the road from interfering with the use of the bike/walkway. There also needs to be mini street sweeper or other methods of clearing the spillage of road trash from big vehicles. Raised sidewalks don't often have this problem, so that might indicate there's a design solution to prevent trash build up.

Please prioritize starting on and completing already fully funded active transportation paths, such as the Council Creek Regional Trail running between Forest Grove, Cornelius and Hillsboro. This trail has been in the work for over 8 years and would allow Forest Grove and Cornelius residents access to the Max rail line, but give Hillsboro and Portlanders, via the Max, access to the farms, wineries and popular natural areas surrounding Forest Grove and beyond.

With new forms for electrically assisted active transportation coming on line now and the need to reduce carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide pollution, this lighter form of transportation deserves your attention and funding now.