



April 6, 2023

**Honorable Co-Chairs Elizabeth Steiner and Tawna Sanchez
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St., NE
Salem, Oregon 97301**

Honorable Co-Chairs Elizabeth Steiner and Tawna Sanchez and members of the Committee:

On behalf of the City Council and Tigard community, I urge you to fund the repair and improvements to SW Hall Blvd from SW Durham to SW Locust. This investment would facilitate the transfer of this urban arterial from the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to the City of Tigard and would help ensure the corridor is safe for everyone.

Urban arterials such as Hall Blvd are home to racially diverse communities and lower income households. While accounting for only five percent of roadway miles in our region, urban arterials account for nearly half of all serious and fatal crashes.

If you live in the Portland region, you know these roads combine high speeds and heavy traffic, auto-oriented designs with sidewalk and bike lane gaps, poor visibility, and failing infrastructure. It is no wonder that users of these corridors experience worse road safety outcomes. Last year, I witnessed first-hand the devastating impacts of these fatal crashes by participating in rallies and marches on Hall and SE Powell Blvd, where I had the honor of meeting and talking with Representative Pham.

We can do better. And we have to. Not just because of our commitment to equity, and not just because of our commitment to climate action. We have to do better because young people need to get to school. Because adults need to get to the bus to access jobs and services. Because the choice to commute by bicycle should be safe and convenient. Because serious injury or worse, cannot be an acceptable outcome of our collective need for mobility.

We have an opportunity to do better in Tigard with the proposed jurisdictional transfer of Hall Boulevard. ODOT and Tigard have been working in partnership for years on this transfer, and **we are close**. With funding to reach a state of good repair and deliver safety improvements, we can get unstuck on urban arterials and our community can realize its vision for the corridor. We are requesting \$50 million to repair and improve Hall Boulevard, and help our residents enjoy an equitable community that is walkable, healthy, and accessible for everyone

Sincerely,

Tigard City Council President Yi-Kang Hu