

Submitter: Shawne Martinez  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation  
Measure: HB2098

I support replacing this bridge, but oppose HB 2098 -2, because this legislation as currently written jeopardizes a right-sized Bridge Replacement, right now. I support the forthcoming -3 Amendment (and the policy recommendations offered by the Just Crossing Alliance) that ensures this replacement bridge project moves forward smoothly with explicit pro-labor provisions, finance guardrails, and major investments in mass transit.

We must prioritize people over cars to reach our climate goals. Maintaining a transportation system based on personal car ownership is not working! Single occupancy vehicles clog our roadways and pollute the air near our schools and neighborhoods with tire particles and tailpipe emissions. Drivers do not and have never fully paid for roads that they destroy. Deferred maintenance costs are in the billions of dollars yet we continue to build more lanes for more cars. We need to stop. Traffic violence is killing tens of thousands of our neighbors each year and injuring millions more! Cars are the second leading cause of death for children after guns. A sedentary lifestyle of sitting in a car for hours is costing society in healthcare bills and lives lost. We must promote active transportation. Multimodal trips using micromobility and public transit must be prioritized.

Thank you,  
Shawne Martinez