

Submitter: Casey Kulla

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure: HB2098

All across Oregon, bridges need work. All across Oregon, sidewalks are missing from city centers. All across Oregon, rail lines languish.

And yet, this one I-5 bridge program will take much of our bonding and cash for years to come. We can do better. Please, committee members: do the right thing and insist that this project be scaled down in line with the -3 amendments. We can replace these bridges using high-quality materials and union labor \*and\* keep it just the right size.

The I-5 bridge on the Columbia is just one link in a chain of successful transportation; if we use all of our money to build an expansive bridge with a maze of new off-ramps and frontage roads, we simply will not have enough money for the other links in the chain, like trans-shipment terminals, rail lines, off-road foot and bike paths, and the hundreds of local bridges that need to be upgraded to get product to market and get packages delivered to our homes.