



May 6th, 2023

Joint Committee on Transportation
Oregon State Legislature
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Support of HB2756

To members of the Joint Committee on Transportation,

My name is Zachary Lauritzen and I am the director of Oregon Walks. We are an advocacy organization based on the fundamental principle that all people should be able to safely move around their community outside of a vehicle. I am writing in support of HB2756.

Our organization has been intimately involved in the jurisdictional transfer of Highway 213/82nd Avenue in Portland. Currently, our organization is leading the organizing efforts of the 82nd Avenue Coalition, a group of people who live, work, play, attend school, and worship along the corridor. We are at the front lines in seeing how the transfer is making it possible to transform a dangerous, high crash highway into a safer, more vibrant, and people-oriented corridor where people regularly were experiencing life-changing injuries and, tragically, deaths.

We believe this transformation of orphan highways is an opportunity that every community deserves. It is for this reason that we support HB2793 to set up a committee on jurisdictional transfer. We believe there must be a systemic approach to this work so that all Oregonians have a chance to experience transformation of the roadways cutting through their communities.

That said, the City of Tigard, ODOT, and community members have put together an incredibly robust and important advocacy effort with regard to Hall Boulevard. ***These efforts deserve to be honored*** by the final transfer of Hall Boulevard with the inclusion of resources to make much-needed design changes to improve the life for humans, not just cars. While we make progress toward the creation of a jurisdictional transfer system, please help those living on and near Hall Boulevard by passing HB2756.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Z Lauritzen".

Zachary Lauritzen
Director
Oregon Walks