

Submitter: Kirke Wolfe
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure: HB2098

I am writing in support of Amendment 3 to HB 2098 concerning replacement of the I-5 bridge across the Columbia River. (HB 2098 appears to be mischaracterized above as calling for study of uniform standards for speed bumps.)

I support replacing this bridge, but oppose HB 2098 -2 and -4, because this legislation as currently written jeopardizes a right-sized Bridge Replacement, right now. I support the -3 Amendment (and the policy recommendations offered by the Just Crossing Alliance) that ensures this replacement bridge project moves forward smoothly with a right-sized design, explicit pro-labor provisions, financial guardrails, and major investments in mass transit. We need a clean bill focused solely on the replacement of this bridge so we secure immediate federal funding and prepare to hold a statewide conversation about the rest of our transportation system in future years.

I am a resident of NE Portland and a long time member of the Sabin Community Association Land Use and Transportation Committee, which has concerned itself for some time with the proposed Rose Quarter and Bridge Replacement projects. I am commenting as a private individual, taking into account my own research and dialogue with other committee members, among whom there is a consensus that such projects should be designed and executed at a scale that avoids both the local pollution and planetary consequences of emissions created by induced demand and unnecessarily takes limited transportation resources away from keeping existing roads in good repair and making them safer for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists. HB 2098 -2 and -4 fail on both counts.