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Mingus Mapps Commissioner Tara Wasiak Interim Director

May 16, 2023

Senator Lew Frederick, Co-Chair Representative Susan McLain, Co-Chair Joint Committee on Transportation 900 Court Street, NE Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs Frederick and McLain and Members of the Committee,

We appreciate the opportunity to express support for HB 3622. These three bridges are important connections in the state's transportation system, and these projects are a good investment for the future.

The City of Portland appreciates the inclusion of the Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge, which will provide a modern multimodal crossing that will keep people, goods & services moving, and meet regional resiliency and emergency response needs. Portland City Council supports the EQRB Locally Preferred Alternative. A rebuilt Burnside Bridge in the heart of downtown Portland will provide necessary connections for all users, including those walking, rolling or biking of all ages and ability, to key destinations, services, jobs, and our beautiful waterfront. This project is critically important to create a seismically resilient crossing of the Willamette River. Burnside has been determined as the best location for creating an earthquake ready bridge in downtown Portland as a lifeline route, and it is also located in the heart of the Central City multimodal transportation network.

We also note that there are many other needs for transportation funding facing around our state at the moment. We look forward to a participating in future conversations about how to sustainably fund a transportation system that is safe, resilient, and effective and supports thriving communities.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 3622.

Sincerely,

Mingus Mapps, Commissioner City of Portland

Bureau of Transportation



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