

Re: Dash-Three Amendment to SB 1576
From: Cycle Yamhill County
To: Senate Judiciary Committee, Oregon Legislature
Date: February 12th, 2024



Chair Prozanski, Vice-Chair Thatcher, and members of the committee:

Cycle Yamhill County is dedicated to increasing the safety and accessibility of cycling infrastructure and information, making for healthier people and a healthier community. In Yamhill County, cities have closed parks (in new housing developments, even) and trail network operators worry they may need to, because they are newly at risk of lawsuits. We believe that **SB 1576-3—with language that clearly restores recreational immunity for public and private landowners and applies to both improved and unimproved trails**—will go a long way towards reopening closed trails, parks, and paths and will provide the assurances insurers need to advise trail operators on reopening. A comprehensive amendment would specifically cover all types of landowners and park, trail, and path managers (tribal, federal, private, local government, special districts, nonprofits, and regional governments).

Remember: healthy communities and a healthy environment require fair and equitable access to public spaces for all Oregonians. Cycle Yamhill County board members are happy to help provide advice when you consider a long-term fix in cooperation with all stakeholders. Thank you for wrestling with these important issues.

Respectfully,

Eric Ladouceur, president
Philip Higgins, vice president
Adam Stone, secretary
Casey Kulla, treasurer
Gerry Hunter, board member
Natalie McPhilips, board member
Ron Baker, board member
Jeff Knapp, board member

Contact: <https://cycleyamhillcounty.com/contact>