

Submitter: Nick Christensen
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure: SB1563

Members of the committee:

I'm writing today as a private citizen who enjoys visiting our coast - and has enjoyed visiting our coast for all 40-plus years of my life. As a kid, my family spent our summers on the central coast. Now, I take my daughter out there whenever I can.

It amazes me how very little the transportation network has improved despite Oregon's growth in that time. And it concerns me, as a parent, that a lot of the infrastructure is unable to handle the large earthquake that scientists didn't even know was possible until the mid-1980s.

This is a good first step towards identifying US 101 from Lincoln City to Yachats and from Florence to Coos Bay as a seismic resiliency corridor, developing a long-term plan to harden infrastructure, make safety improvements and address livability and economic development in Oregon communities. That might include relocating US 101 out of existing communities onto a new, more seismically-hardened alignment. But that work can't happen without a study, and I urge this committee to advance that work.

Best,

Nick Christensen