

Submitter:

Evelyn Kocher

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3362

Dear Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLain and members of the committee,

My name is Evelyn Kocher and I'm a resident of Beaverton, Oregon. I am writing you today to urge you to vote YES on HB 3362. 4% is ultimately a small price to pay for the multitude of damages that microplastics from tires do to the air and water of our beautiful state and the wear and tear that vehicles put on Oregon's infrastructure systems. States as across the country, from New Mexico and North Carolina, have state passenger rail boards and statewide passenger rail service while Oregon continues to fall behind, with the only intercity passenger rail being provided by Amtrak even though 8 of the largest 10 metro areas in the state all lie in a straight line in a river valley. With terrain that is arguably some of the easiest to build on in the country connecting the vast majority of the state's population, it is unconscionable that our rail development has not grown at the same pace as our population--or even our highway infrastructure. Passing HB 3362 would be the first of many steps that we as a state need to take to invest in rail and towards a greener and more people-centered developmental future for our state.

I urge you to vote YES on HB 3362.

Thanks,

Evelyn Kocher

Beaverton (97003)