

Submitter: William Dalton  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3453

Dear Committee Members.

My family and I drive the I5 corridor frequently.  
From the volume of traffic nearly 18 of 24 hours each day, it is obvious this is a major connector - not just for trucks (i.e., THE major link between Canada and Mexico...), but also for those who travel and COMMUTE between Portland/Salem/Eugene. The sheer volume of traffic - especially during morning and afternoon 'commute' times -- can make this a time-consuming, exhausting, and dangerous trip.

The three major cities above have each developed an efficient local bus service that allows connection between existent rail lines and most in-city (and even some outlying...) areas.

Having reliable RAIL-based service among those major destinations would .. save commuters (and visitors...) time, energy, personal wear & tear, and ultimately money.

.. relieve congestion on our highways (especially Interstate 5), making travel less cumbersome for commercial/truck traffic and less dangerous and time-consuming for all.

AND, importantly - -

.. would help in our increasingly challenging and essential efforts to reduce carbon emissions (a proven detriment to both personal health and the climate).

In light of the above, please give your consideration to improving/expanding rail service in the Willamette Valley, especially between Portland, Salem, and Eugene.

Thank You.

Sincerely,  
William Dalton  
6619 Huntington S.E.  
Salem, Oregon

P.S: We All know that any substantial improvement in rail service will be accepted slooowly by a car-addicted population (of which I am a part).

But Efficient, Reliable, Affordable service WILL be gradually accepted, utilized, and appreciated!