

Submitter: Erin Lauer  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3453

Co-Chair McLain, Co-Chair Gorsek, Vice-Chair Boshart-Davis, Vice-Chair Starr, and members of the Joint Committee on Transportation, thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB 3453.

I am an Oregonian who supports HB 3453, which will positively affect anyone traveling between Portland and Salem (and eventually, Eugene). This bill will increase regional transportation options and accessibility, and reduce congestion and greenhouse-gas emissions from intercity travel in the Willamette Valley.

This bill offer opportunities for working single-car families, like my own, to navigate meetings across the Willamette Valley corridor without having to pay for gas, charge the car, get new tires, and have the other without a car for child pickup from school. This enables productivity, while those riding WES to a different city will allow them to work more while traveling, not available while driving. This will reduce traffic fatalities, by reducing multitasking while driving. This will open opportunities for all to travel intercity regardless of ability and economic status. This bill can connect communities and create opportunities for transit-oriented housing and retail. I am happy that this bill would reduce greenhouse-gas emissions and connect the climate future of Oregonians, especially our youngest generations. I am enthusiastic for this being one part of a larger strategy to expand passenger rail and intercity transit service across the state; a better rail network like this would simplify your travel in the region.

Thank you,  
Erin Lauer, Portland resident (Southwest Portland)