

Submitter: Kristin Koptiuch

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On
Capital Construction

Measure, Appointment or SB5531
Topic:

Dear Co-Chairs Girod and Nosse and Members of the Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Capital Construction,

I'm writing to express my strong support for state investment in the Salmonberry Trail. This project represents an exciting opportunity to create an 82-mile, safe, and accessible trail connecting the Oregon Coast and the Willamette Valley.

In Rockaway Beach where I live, I have attended several public hearings and planning sessions about the Salmonberry Trail. I can attest that our community is very excited about moving forward with this project, which will run right through our little city. We do understand that this is an intergenerational, long-game project that will benefit our entire state, so it's important not to lose the momentum that has been steadily gearing up in recent years.

The Salmonberry Trail will bring a range of benefits to Oregonians—boosting local economies through increased tourism, promoting public health through active recreation, and improving transportation safety for those who currently lack safe alternatives to busy highways. It also creates equitable access to the outdoors, especially for rural communities that have historically seen less investment in recreational infrastructure.

As the state considers funding priorities, I urge you to include the Salmonberry Trail. This is a smart, future-focused investment that will serve Oregon for generations to come.

Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,
Kristin Koptiuch
Rockaway Beach