

Submitter: Philip Wu

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

Dear Co-Chairs McLain and Gorsek, Vice Chairs Boshart-Davis and Starr, and members of the committee:

My name is Philip Wu, and I live in Beaverton. I'm testifying today to express support for a transportation package in 2025 that meets the needs of all Oregonians and achieves the important goals of a robust transportation system and makes progress towards mitigation of climate change.

Our highways and roads are increasingly congested. This results in high fuel costs and aggravates air pollution. Evidence shows that no amount of road expansion and the dollars required will fix this. Public transit and active transportation are two alternatives that will help; but, they need comparatively small but significant investment.

Oregon's communities need a better transportation system that is healthy, affordable, and safe. We all deserve the freedom to choose how we get to work, school, or the doctor without risking our safety. Our kids want to get to school safely and reliably, and our public transit system should take us where we want to go consistently on time.

I spent over two years as a citizen volunteer on ODOT's Equity and Mobility Advisory Committee that looked at how to make congestion pricing and tolling equitable across all of our communities. While the concept of tolling and congestion pricing did not advance, our work clearly showed that many communities are dependent on alternative forms of transportation other than single-occupancy vehicles.

So for me the two main goals I would like to see in a transportation package are investment in a truly robust public transit system and doing everything we can to further mitigate climate change. Thank you for working hard to achieve this!