

Submitter: Abel Quintero

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 Abel Quintero, and I live in Portland. I'm testifying today because I support a 2025 transportation package that works for ALL Oregonians and reflects our shared values of safety, affordability, equity, and climate resilience.

Oregon's communities need a better transportation system that is healthy, affordable, and safe. Imagine an Oregon where we all [have the freedom to choose how we get to work, school, or the doctor without risking our safety. Where kids can get to school safely and reliably. Where public transit gets you there and back on time.] Relatively small investments now can have huge payouts in getting all Oregonians where they need to go while improving our economy, environment, and public health.

It's essential to pass a transportation package that advances our climate goals and invests deeply in public transit.

Public transit and cycling/walking infrastructure have helped me cut back on driving significantly, reducing my carbon footprint while also saving a lot of money on gas. Good transit and cycling infrastructure also keeps families and communities safer.

New dollars must be prioritized to meet our safety, climate, and mobility needs. If we're going to ask Oregonians to pay more, we have an obligation to put their dollars to work for the future.

That means:

Improving health and safety by funding popular but underfunded programs like Safe Routes to School, Great Streets, and Oregon Community Paths.

Saving Oregonians money by expanding safe streets, public transit and passenger rail that helps us save on gas, parking, and car maintenance.

Sincerely,
Abel Quintero