

Submitter: David Green

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

Chairs Gorsek, Chair McLain, Vice Chair Starr, Vice Chair Boshart Davis, and members of the Joint Committee on Transportation Reinvestment,

Thank you for your work on the Oregon Transportation Reinvestment Package (HB 2025). You really listened to the citizen input at your listening sessions last year and the proposed bill shows that.

This transportation package is a great start towards a safe, sustainable transportation system that gives all Oregonians choices about how they move around their cities and the state. I especially support the increased funding for the Great Streets and Safe Routes to Schools programs and for wildlife crossings. These investments improve the safety of our roadways for children and adults both in and outside of cars. Protecting wildlife is important as is reducing crashes between wildlife and people in cars. The increased oversight and accountability for ODOT is welcome. I hope it will reduce the consistent, large, cost overruns of their major projects in the future. ODOT has not emphasized maintenance of our existing infrastructure, both seasonally and long term. I'm pleased to see that HB 2025 ensures that funds are available for that.

There are a few adjustments to the bill I'd like to see.

1) The Oregon Community Paths program needs more funding. This program is critical for creating safe routes for people not using motor vehicles and should be given more funding.

2) Infrastructure is needed to support electric vehicles is critical to accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles and funding should be added to this program.

3) Ensuring that transportation projects are spread across the state and that funding is not provided primarily to large, expensive projects in the Portland and Willamette Valley area.

Oregon's transportation system has most of the pieces it needs. HB 2025 is a great way to build towards the future: to ensure we maintain what we have, to provide services to more people no matter how they travel, and to ensure we don't spend all our funds on large projects serving only a part of the state.

Thank you for your work to deliver a safe, equitable, and sustainable transportation future for all.

Sincerely,
David Green