

June 10, 2025
Joint Committee on Transportation
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301



**TRAILKEEPERS
OF OREGON**

Request to Include Trails Funding in HB 2025

Dear Co-Chairs McLain and Gorsek, and Members of the Committee,

Trailkeepers of Oregon (TKO) is a statewide nonprofit dedicated to protecting and enhancing the Oregon hiking experience through trail stewardship, advocacy, outreach, and education. Each year, our volunteers contribute thousands of hours to maintain, restore, and build trails as well as ensure visitors feel safe and welcome across the state—service that is essential to ensuring safe and equitable access to Oregon's public lands.

We write today to urge you to amend HB 2025 to dedicate a portion of new revenue to the Multimodal Active Transportation Fund—specifically, to fund the Oregon Community Paths program.

Off-street trails are essential infrastructure. They are not luxuries. They are safe routes to school for rural kids, connectors to transit for car-free commuters, and vital lifelines to nature, health, and community—especially in areas where walking or biking along a highway is the only current option. Without Oregon Community Paths funding, we leave behind communities that rely on trails and simple neighborhood paths the most.

While we applaud the investments this package proposes for Great Streets, Safe Routes to School, and public transit, we must not ignore the acute underfunding of off-street paths. Demand for Oregon Community Paths has exceeded funding more than 4 to 1. Over 80% of Oregonians use and value local trails, we ask that you listen.

Trails also pay us back. They reduce crash risks, improve public health, and support Oregon's recreation economy. Every mile of trail is a long-term investment in safety, sustainability, and equitable access to the outdoors—values Oregonians deeply share.

We believe in building a future where more people can safely walk, ride, and roll in their communities—and that starts with including off-street trail funding in HB 2025.

Sincerely,

Steve Kruger
TKO Executive Director