

Submitter: Randy Knop

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 Randy Knop, and I live in NE Oregon in the City Union. I am testifying because I support a 2025 transportation package that works for ALL Oregonians, both east and west, and reflects our shared values of safety, affordability, equity, and climate resilience. In particular, I urge you to fully fund public transit, safety, and active transportation.

Oregon's communities need a better transportation system that is healthy, affordable, and safe. An Oregon where we all can rely on making it to doctor appointments, have the freedom to choose how we get to work, without risking our safety. Where public transit gets us there and back. 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.
- Invests deeply in public transit.

Air quality for my region 5 continues to worsen, not just with summer forest fires but with worsening winter conditions for the east side, where each winter air quality has been eroded during highway closures due to heavy commercial traffic staged in rural communities due to winter highway closures. This fact is lost on urban and city dwellers and their elected officials.

I also know that thousands of eastern Oregonians would benefit from a public transit system that provides connections between major rural communities that rely on services not available in every city and town people live in, travel times and events have increased significantly over time and yet the public transit system has evolved to meet those needs.

This means that improvements will benefit communities and people by enhancing health and safety, saving consumers money on vehicle purchases and maintenance, and fostering better relationships between the east and west sides of the state.

My children and I cannot wait. Please help to build a future where every Oregonian can be proud of a transportation system that is safe, reliable, sustainable, and

equitable. I urge you to pass a transportation package this session that moves Oregon forward.

Sincerely,

Randy L Knop  
Union, Oregon