

Submitter: Guinevere Lawrence

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

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

I write today in support of the increased transit funding and the STIF program in HB 2025. The increased funding for the STIF program in this package will help prevent significant cuts to public transit service across Oregon.

I rely on and enjoy using public transit for all of my transportation within the metro area. Continuing to fund and support public transportation would mean continuing to provide access to city for individuals like myself. I depend on buses to go to work, access medical care, engage with the community, run errands, etc. A reduction in funding would result in a reduction in my ability to care for myself and my community.

Beyond it being a necessity for me, I enjoy taking the bus everyday, often seeing the same community members everyday. Sure, I don't know their names and anything about them beyond the fact that we take the same bus, but I love seeing the same faces everyday. It's nice to not feel like I'm in my own world. I share it with everyone- kids, elders, doctors, government employees, people I wouldn't interact with anywhere else.

Please support HB 2025 so that myself and my neighbors can continue riding together.

Sincerely,
Guinevere
Portland