

Submitter: Andy Nelson

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 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.

- In rural Washington County, for example, thousands of people a year rely on the transit that Ride Connection provides in partnership with Washington County, providing rides to work, medical appointments and school.
- Despite this success, we must turn down 30,000 rides a year at Ride Connection because of a lack of funding, meaning people cannot get to their dialysis appointments, grocery store or their community.

While the funding proposed in this package is not enough to allow many transit providers to expand service and some cuts will still be necessary, this increase in transit funding will prevent tens of thousands of Oregonians from being stranded without the transportation access they depend on. Please support HB 2025.

Sincerely,

Andy Nelson
CEO
Ride Connection