

Submitter: Regan Choffin

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.

Our family uses public transit to visit high tourism areas that lack easy parking. If it weren't for the Max, we would never go downtown or attend any major events; public transit is the surest way to revitalize the area via resident-tourism. Whether it's to see the Blazers or get dinner at Din Tai Fung in Pioneer Place, we - like the rest of the people here - rely on its convenience. Ridership has been up every year for the last 4 years, and more riders had proven to make transit safer, which has then been proven to lead to more riders. We used to be known for having some of the best transit in the country, don't let us fall behind.

While the funding proposed in this package is not enough to provide the additional transit service I would like to see, it will prevent Oregonians like me from being stranded without the transportation access I depend on. Please support HB 2025.

Sincerely,

Regan Choffin

Portland, OR