

Submitter: Wendy Byrne  
On Behalf Of: myself  
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

Co-Chairs McLain and Gorsek and Members of the Committee,  
My name is Wendy Byrne and I live in Corvallis. I'm a physical therapist, a bicycle mechanic, a safety advocate and a survivor of traffic violence.  
I'm here to testify in support of House Bill 2025, particularly the investments in Safe Routes to School and the Great Streets programs.

We will never build enough streets and roads so that everyone can drive. We need to make sure there are viable alternatives for people to be safe and move around our towns, cities and the state by bike, by transit, but electric scooters and other devices. We need to reduce the numbers of people driving for daily tasks so that our freight can move on our roads, and our transit can arrive on time. We need parents NOT to drive their kids to school. But if the parents worry about their children's safety getting to and from school, of course they will drive them instead. Kids need to be safe to get to/from school afoot, on bikes, and on the bus.

The \$50 million for Safe Routes will save lives and ensure that our youth can walk and bike to school safely. The \$250 million for Great Streets will support local main street transformations that improve safety, support local economies, and help communities adapt to climate impacts.

Finally, I want to highlight the importance of completing our active transportation network. On-street investments must be matched with funding for off-street routes as well. Please include support for the Oregon Community Paths program to help fill these critical gaps.

Please pass HB 2025 and ensure these safety programs are fully funded.

Thank you for your time. Pass HB 2025!  
Wendy Byrne  
Corvallis