

Submitter: James Corthell

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

Support for HB 2025 – STIF funding

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.

Because I am low-income, I'm incapable of affording a car, let alone the costs of insurance, gas, or even just rudimentary maintenance. This means that the only measure I have to get anywhere, be it for a doctor's appointment, visiting friends, commuting to classes/work, and more, and only be completed via public transit.

I especially depend on bus service where I live, and the schedule I have entirely focuses on the hourly service of my bus, which continues to be at risk of closure due to a lack of both ridership and funding. Should this get taken away from me, I will be forced to waste thousands yearly on ride sharing services to get around, and if these services have zero transit infrastructure to compete against, these ride sharing services will be incentivized to unfairly charge a premium for the Portland metro area as a whole.

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, and thousands of others in this state depend on. Please support HB 2025.

Sincerely,

James Corthell
Milwaukie, OR