

Submitter: James Cavin

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

I support this Transportation bill despite it's huge investments in new car infrastructure that will contribute to MORE congestion because fully funding Safe Routes to School, Great Streets, and Oregon Community Paths will improve safety and quality of life for all Oregonians. A fully-funded, safe, multimodal system keeps people and goods moving and families and businesses thriving. 30% of Oregonians can't or don't drive. The lack of safe streets and paths disproportionately harms people forced to walk, bike, roll, or ride transit, leaving them without access to jobs, education, healthcare, and groceries. My daughter goes to a different school than she is zoned for, and though it is just over two miles away, there is no safe pathway for her to get to school on foot or on bike. Instead my wife has to start work 30 minutes late every day to drive her, which means that she misses out on the income, her patients miss out on medical care, and my daughter misses out on a built in opportunity to exercise. When kids can walk and bike to school safely, they gain independence, stay active, and get better grades. Investing in sidewalks, bike lanes, and trails improves health by reducing chronic disease and lowering asthma rates and increases property values and thus tax receipts. Investments in ADA-compliant sidewalks, off-street paths, and protected bike lanes ease traffic and improve safety for everyone, including drivers.