

Dear Co-Chairs McLain and Gorsek, Vice Chairs Boshart-Davis and Starr, and members of the committee:

My name is Matthew Hall, and I live in Hillsboro. I'm testifying today because I support a 2025 transportation package that works for every Oregonian, regardless of ability, and which reflects our shared values of safety, affordability, equity, and climate resilience. In particular, I urge you to fully fund Safe Routes to School, Great Streets, and the Oregon Community Paths program. These programs will improve safety and quality of life for all Oregonians, while doing our part to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, 40% of which come from the transportation sector. A fully-funded, safe, multimodal system will keep people and goods moving, help people to fully participate in life in the manner they choose, and help small, local businesses to thrive while improving the livability and resilience of our communities.

Oregon's communities need a better transportation system that is healthy, affordable, and safe. Imagine an Oregon where we all have the ability to participate fully in life because Oregonians of all abilities (including the estimated 30% of Oregonians who cannot drive) have the freedom to get to work, school, or the doctor without risking our safety. Relatively small investments now can have huge payouts in getting all Oregonians where they need to go while improving our economy, environment, and public health.

We must pass a transportation package that funds safety first and advances our climate goals, through meaningful investments in safe multimodal infrastructure like sidewalks, bike lanes and secure funding for public transportation.

Nearly 15 years ago, I was hit by a driver in a car while crossing a street with the right of way. Through several months of recovery, I was able to learn, in the most visceral and painful manner possible, what happens when we prioritize the movement of cars over the movement of people. In that time since that collision, one of the overriding passions of my life has been to see traffic violence like I experienced eliminated for everyone, especially for vulnerable road users like children, aged people and people with disabilities like myself, who are much less

likely to drive and much more reliant on public transportation and pedestrian infrastructure. We have a moral duty to provide a safe transportation system for everyone, regardless of mode.

New dollars must be prioritized to meet our safety, climate, and mobility needs. If we're going to ask Oregonians to pay more, we have an obligation to put their dollars to work for the future. This means: Improving health and safety by funding popular but underfunded programs like Safe Routes to School, Great Streets, and Oregon Community Paths and providing Oregonians with cost effective transportation options by expanding safe streets, public transit and passenger rail.

We can't afford to wait. Let's build a future where every Oregonian has access to safe, reliable, and sustainable transportation options. I urge you to pass a transportation package this session that moves Oregon forward.

Sincerely,
Matthew Hall
Hillsboro
Board Treasurer, Oregon Walks