

Submitter: Ben Brint

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

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

My name is Ben Brint, and I live in Portland, Oregon. I'm testifying today because I support a 2025 transportation package that works for ALL Oregonians and reflects our shared values of safety, affordability, equity, and climate resilience. In particular, I urge you to fully fund clean transportation programs and public transit systems.

Oregon's communities need a better transportation system that is healthy, affordable, and safe. Imagine an Oregon where we all have a transportation system running on low-to-no emission vehicles. Where public transit gets you there and back on time. 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.

It's essential to pass a transportation package that:

Advances our climate goals.

Invests deeply in public transit.

Climate-forward transportation is important to me as an EV driver and longtime clean transportation advocate. I've worked hard to live and implement these solutions to improve air quality, lower pollution, and mitigate the impacts of climate disasters. Clean transportation options are especially beneficial to disadvantaged, environmental justice communities.

I try to minimize my driving, and rely on my bike and public transit whenever possible. Biking on dedicated, protected paths can be the difference between life and severe injury or death. Affordable, accessible public transit can be the difference between getting to other parts of town safely. We need these smart, climate-friendly solutions in our communities!

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. That means:

Improving air quality and lowering pollution by funding clean transportation programs to help low-income Oregonians purchase electric vehicles, put more clean, zero-emission trucks on our roads, and expand charging infrastructure statewide. Saving Oregonians money by expanding safe streets, public transit and passenger

rail that helps us save on gas, parking, and car maintenance.

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,

Ben Brint
Portland, Oregon