

June 11, 2025



FUND OREGON COMMUNITY PATHS IN THE TRANSPORTATION PACKAGE

Dear Co-Chairs McLain and Gorsek, and members of the committee,

The Intertwine Alliance supports and celebrates HB 2025's investments in safe streets, wildlife crossings and transit. **We're asking that you also use this critical moment to make a significant investment in off-street paths.**

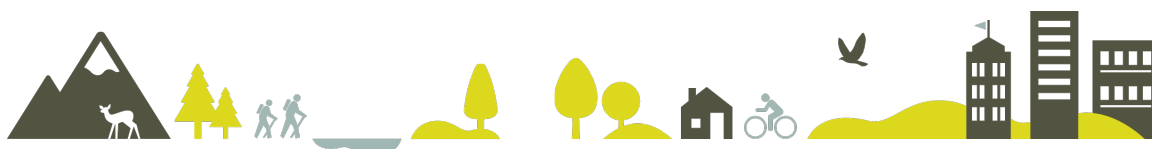
The Intertwine Alliance is a Portland metro coalition of 80 public, private and nonprofit partners working to preserve and nurture a healthy regional system of parks, trails and natural areas.

We strongly support the amendment (no number at the time of writing) that would institute a 4% luxury vehicles tax, with 2/3 of the revenue going to vehicle electrification and 1/3 to Oregon Community Paths. This funding source will likely not meet the full and pressing need for \$50 million/year investment in off-street paths, but it is a great start that we are very excited about. Please include this amendment in the package, and please move to pass this critical package before the end of session.

The Portland metro area's regional trails network provides desperately needed alternatives to residents of all ages to get where they need to go without sharing the road with large, fast-moving vehicles. Paved off-street paths connect kids safely to school, families to parks, and commuters to work— but there are critical gaps in our networks. Local communities are restricted from spending transportation dollars on off-street options, even when they are the community-preferred alternative.

The Council Creek Trail in Washington County will provide an alternative to walking and riding on the TV Highway high crash corridor. The Columbia Slough Trail in North and NE Portland provides an alternative to rolling alongside large trucks on Columbia Blvd. The Trolley Trail in Clackamas County provides an alternative to Highway 99 for people on bike and on foot.

At their best, these trails connect our residents to nature and recreation. But at their most basic, they provide our communities with safe passage to where they need to go. This is so important, and cannot be overlooked in a transportation package that might be our best shot to get this right for years to come. As communities are restricted from spending other safety dollars outside



of the road right-of-way, please identify funding in the package for ODOT's Oregon Community Paths program.

Thank you for your leadership.

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