

Submitter: Tony Roos

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

I write today in support of a transportation package. I am a Civil Engineer with 27 years of experience in planning, design, and construction of our public infrastructure. I have served in leadership roles on the Oregon Chapter of American Public Works Association, the Yamhill County Road Improvement Advisory Committee, and the Newberg Traffic Safety Committee. Our roads and bridges are the #1 asset that our City's and County's own and maintain; and the cost to do so is always increasing.

This bill is more than just ODOT funding. It also provides necessary money to the City's and County's who are struggling to maintain the roadway infrastructure, let alone make it safer. I encourage you to visit Yamhill County's Public Works department to see the innovative and efficient programs they have developed and implemented to maintain the pavements, gravel roads and bridges in the County. The maintenance and operations crews are stretching every dollar they have to extend the life of the roads (700+ miles) and keep the bridges (133) open to farmers and freight. They are experimenting with new technologies and treatments, implementing asset management protocols, and still responding to emergency repairs; yet the Pavement condition index (the rating of road network) is still sliding downward and the number of load rated bridges is increasing. This doesn't allow them to address critical safety issues like the intersection of Red Hills Road and Hwy 240, McDougals Corner, or the intersection of Stringtown and Webfoot Roads where there have been repeated crashes with significant injuries.

HB2025 is a good proposal to continue addressing maintenance, operations, and safety of our public infrastructure. Yes, it will cost us all, but the roads we drive on need maintenance and we, the users, should pay for it. I encourage you to look at the good it will do for Yamhill County roads and bridges and vote Yes.