

Submitter:

Juniper Kilpatrick

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

I am a disabled mother of two living in close-in NE Portland. I love my neighborhood for how walkable it is, however it is disheartening as a mother how little independence my children have. I want to take them on walks without worrying about cars speeding past our residential street, I want to allow my older child to walk the 2 blocks to the bus by himself without worrying that dangerously high trucks won't be able to see him, I want to teach my children to ride a bike and have plenty of free space to practice. When I was 23, I stopped using my bike as my primary transportation because it became too stressful to worry about dodging cars and knowing my very life was in the hands of people driving lethal machines who may be texting, tired, distracted. For myself and my own health, for my children's independence, I desperately want a transportation package that reflects a shift away from car-centric infrastructure. I want more freedom of movement for human beings and less privilege for the machines that kill people every day and are destroying our beautiful environment. For the transition away from cars I want electric vehicles to be economically accessible and feasible, and vehicles that run on gas and diesel to take on more of the economic burden that they are creating for a future that's been decimated by the climate crisis. Please help Oregon pave the way for bicycle, pedestrian and mass transit infrastructure and become an environmental leader once again.