

Support for HB 2025 – STIF funding

Dear Co-Chairs McLain, Gorsek, and Members of the Committee,

I write today in **support of the increased transit funding and the STIF program** in HB 2025. The increased funding for the STIF program in this package will help prevent significant cuts to public transit service across Oregon.

I use the max line at least 4 days a week (on the blue line) to get to and from work. I also go to Mt Hood Community College on the weekends and rely on the 20 bus to get me to and from my class. I am fortunate that the company I work for reimburses me for my transit pass which saves me money and helps me get to where I need to go. If my access to public transit were cut, I would have to pay out of pocket for uber/lyft/taxi or rely on the kindness of my friends and family to get to work and my class.

Aside from how I use public transit there are so many benefits for others:

- It keeps people moving, from those who rely on the access it provides, to those who benefit from the reduced traffic congestion when others take the shared ride on a bus or train instead of driving.
- It gets people to jobs, education and services, helping our economy to thrive. In fact, every \$1 invested in transit generates \$5 for a local economy*.
- It employs thousands of Oregonians directly and supports hundreds of thousands more private sector jobs across the U.S. manufacturing parts and developing systems and technology to keep transit running.
- It reduces CO2 emissions and makes our air cleaner by taking cars off the road.

**American Public Transportation Association*

While the funding proposed in this package is not enough to provide the additional transit service I would like to see, it will prevent Oregonians like me from being stranded without the transportation access I depend on. Please support HB 2025.

Sincerely,

Jessica L. Pavlinko
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