

Submitter: Meghan Teeter

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

YES! I support the HB 2025 transportation package especially because of its focus on Safe Routes to School programs, thoughtful wildlife crossings, and Great Steets program. I would like to see an INCREASE in focus, however, added to the bill that: 1) improves existing infrastructure (we don't need to add anymore new paved areas, rather let's improve/amend what is already there); 2) a shared equity in funding throughout the state (the Portland Bridge sucking so much funds that bumps paying for other projects throughout the state is a great example of inequity); and 3) most importantly, PLEASE increase the state's investment in off-street paths through programs like Oregon Community Paths. Although I can and do drive, the majority of my trips are by foot with my baby in her stroller and by bike. In Bend, we have beautiful multi-use paths, but they don't connect and many of the on-street paths are dirty, noisy, unpleasant and unsafe to be walking or biking so close to cars. Having better and MORE multi-use paths that are SEPARATE from driving paths makes communities like mine so much more pleasant to live in, especially for those of us who choose, or are forced, to walk, bike, and roll instead of drive. We've spent decades investing in driving infrastructures. Let's spend the next decades investing in biking, walking, rolling infrastructure to create more healthy, interconnected, beautiful towns and cities. Thank you.