

Submitter: Karen Smith

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

Dear Members of the Join Committee On Transportation Investment,

I am writing in support of HB 2025. We need to modernize our transportation system to help Oregon progress toward a future that is safer, more sustainable, and more equitable. It is an investment that benefits us all.

My family does not own a car, so we are sensitive to the challenges faced by people who want or need to travel car free. Uncomfortable or dangerous situations are difficult to avoid when cycling and walking, especially with children. Transit (both in and between cities) runs infrequently which limits our options to get around. There are many who can't afford to or are not able to drive, and they face these challenges and more.

We need investments in programs that create safer streets for all users, including fully funding the Safe Routes to School and the Great Streets programs. We also need investments in transit so that programs can grow.

One change I would make to HB 2025 is to add funding for the Oregon Community Paths program. This program helps make off-street connections that make a huge difference for people using active and alternative transportation methods.

Thank you,
Karen Smith