

Submitter:

Skye Ellis-Blossom

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

My name is Skye Ellis-Blossom, and I live in Coos Bay, Oregon. I don't own a car - I rely on my bike and walking to get around my town.

Every person, regardless of age, ability, or income, deserves safe, accessible, and dignified transportation options.

However, basic access is not a reality for many of us right now. I regularly bike to work, and parts of my route are dangerous. There's no bike infrastructure, which means I have to ride alongside large trucks and fast-moving traffic. Drivers often don't see me. I also share the road with wheelchair users because many sidewalks are completely inaccessible. They're uneven, don't have curbs, or they are not there - this makes it impossible to use safely.

I live just two streets from the high school, and I see young people every day trying to cross intersections without any stop signs, crosswalks, or signals. Our streets are telling people - especially disabled folks, youth, elders, and low-income residents, that their mobility doesn't matter.

We need fully accessible sidewalks with gradual slopes. We need connected, safe and protected walking and biking routes. We need reliable bus lines that actually serve the needs of our community.

I'm asking you to invest in real, accessible transportation solutions - because everyone deserves to move through our towns safely and with dignity.