

Submitter: Krista Reynolds

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the transportation package.

There are many positives included. The bill includes significant funding for popular street safety programs that Oregonians have demanded. However, funding for off-street networks and trails, which connect Oregonians to schools, work, and transit, are currently missing. This investment is critical for safety, access, and rural mobility.

Also, as someone who has only owned and driven electric vehicles for the last five years, I ask that electrification be prioritized so Oregon can lead in decarbonization efforts. My husband and I bought EVs because we strongly believe we all need to contribute to reducing CO2 emissions. However, it can be a challenge to find EV charging stations in more remote areas, which means we don't always get to visit areas we would like to. And many people will not make the switch unless charging is as convenient as getting gas at their local gas station. The amount of EV infrastructure falls far short of where it needs to be to make EV purchases a reality for all Oregonians.

As drafted, this package will fail to deliver needed investments in clean, electric vehicles or charging infrastructure, while simultaneously imposing punishing new fees that specifically target electric vehicle drivers.

Oregonians who purchase an electric car or truck need accessible charging. Funding for Community Charging Rebates and Zero Emission Fueling Program brings key charging infrastructure to rural and underrepresented communities.

We need the transportation package to double down on clean truck investments—rebates, charging infrastructure, and cleaner air for the communities hit hardest by diesel pollution.

Air pollution from transportation is killing and sickening us, particularly in urban areas of our state. 19 of 36 counties in Oregon, from Washington to Malheur, have diesel pollution high enough to be carcinogenic.

Regarding air pollution, my husband and I moved out of NE Portland after 13 years there because we felt the air quality near I-5, the airport, and trains was negatively affecting our health. We NEED more EVs on the road to help prevent asthma and other illnesses caused by air pollution.

Again, please add these EV-friendly initiatives to the package!