

Submitter: Steven Acker

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

Support for HB 2025 – STIF funding

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

We 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.

- We gave up on car ownership six years ago to cut down on our contributions to global warming. We have found we can do everything we need and want to in Portland and around the state using public transit. We get to the grocery store, medical appointments, and family occasions with ease. We also enjoy outdoor recreation throughout the year, using public transit.
- We use Tri-Met in the Portland metro area many times each week. For outdoor recreation, we rely on Columbia Area Transit, Cascades East Transit, Sandy Area Metro, and the Mount Hood Express. We travel to Hood River, Mount Hood Meadows, Mount Bachelor, Government Camp, and Timberline Lodge every year.
- Without public transit, our lives would be much more difficult and much less enjoyable. We could still buy our groceries and see our doctors and local family, but we would spend much more time (or money for ride-share vendors). Our options for recreation would be vastly reduced, given that we are firm in our decision not to own a car again.

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

Sincerely,

Steven Acker and Lynda Bishop

Portland, OR