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On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

During my 36 year career as a land use and transportation planner, I rode my bike to work rain or shine, year around. Now that I'm happily retired, I continue to walk and bike daily, usually with my husband, friends, kids and grandkids. Walking and biking are not just great means of getting around, they are excellent forms of exercise and wonderful ways to spend time with others.

At work I helped develop numerous transportation system plans, bicycle plans, pedestrian plans, and multimodal urban arterial corridor plans. They are good plans, but a major frustration has been that there has rarely been money to implement the plans. Or should I say there has not been the will to spend adequate money on improvements for walking and biking safety and accessibility. In the meantime pedestrian fatalities continue to occur far too often.

That's why I am delighted to see the package of transportation funding now before you, including the proposed funding for Great Streets, Jurisdictional Transfer, and Safe Routes to School. Bravo! You really listened!

I do have one wish: that funding for off-street trails and paths be included in the package. Even though I am personally comfortable riding in traffic, as I got older and as I ride and walk with my grandkids, I prefer off-street trails. So do many people who are interested but concerned about riding or walking in traffic. It is vitally important to provide young kids and seniors the opportunity to ride and walk in peace.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.