

Submitter: Karen Harrington

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

Dear Co-Chairs McLain and Gorsek, Vice Chairs Boshart-Davis and Starr, and members of the committee:

My name is Karen Harrington and I live in West Linn, Clackamas County. I'm testifying today because I support a 2025 transportation package that works for ALL Oregonians and reflects our shared values of safety, affordability, equity, and climate resilience. In particular, I urge you to fully fund a comprehensive public transit system, increase biking and pedestrian safety, and provide charging stations to increase the adoption of EVs.

Oregon's communities need a better transportation system that is healthy, affordable, and safe. Imagine an Oregon where we all have the freedom to choose how we get to work, school, or the doctor without risking our safety. Where kids can get to school safely and reliably. Where public transit gets you there and back on time. Relatively small investments now can have huge payouts in getting all Oregonians where they need to go while improving our economy, environment, and public health.

It is essential to pass a transportation package that advances our climate goals, only possible with deep investments in public transit and encourages the adoption of EVs. I drive an EV and strongly believe that a strong public transit system paired with access to EV charging stations will dramatically improve Oregon's air quality. Additionally enhanced safety measures for those walking and biking are needed, including a network of bike lanes and sidewalks that provide safety all the way to your destination.

New dollars must be prioritized to meet our safety, climate, and mobility needs. If we're going to ask Oregonians to pay more, we have an obligation to put their dollars to work for the future.

We can't afford to wait. Let's build a future where every Oregonian has access to safe, reliable, and sustainable transportation options. I urge you to pass a transportation package this session that moves Oregon forward.

Sincerely,  
Karen Harrington  
West Linn, Oregon