

Submitter: Aaron Kelly

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

I have been a driver, bicyclist, public transportation user, and walker many years in the general Portland area, including years in the rural outskirts. I appreciate many of the elements of this bill, and the way that it helps to provide some limited support for public transportation in a time when it is desperately needed. My one major ask for amending the legislation is to include funding for dedicated trails and paths. Forcing pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers onto the same roads together is stressful to everyone and increases rather than decreases danger. As a driver and currently, and as a bicyclist in the past, I have found this very anxiety-producing. If we are actually serious about bicycling and other alternative forms of transportation, they need their own infrastructure - which is often much less expensive than car infrastructure. The current system simply feeds mutual resentment between motorists and bicyclists, undercutting alternative transportation support and safety. As a person who has struggled with partial disability and lived in rural areas, I would also encourage supporting the expansion of point-to-point transportation, not just fixed route transit. Thank you.