

Submitter: Dylan Hinson

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,

I am Dylan Hinson from the St. Johns neighborhood of Portland. I am writing to ask that you support strong public transportation options in the transportation package. The current proposed bill can go further in funding public transportation packages across the state. For too long our transportation networks have focused on cars. Many Oregonians do not drive or can not drive. Cars cost a lot of money to own and maintain. Many young adult Oregonians simply do not own a car and many low income families only have one car for the household. Better public transit gives all of us more options to get around. While it may appear that cars are the most popular mode of transportation because they take up so much space on our roads, if you consider that one bus typically has as many people in it as 20 cars you can quickly see that our public transportation does out-sized work.

I used to live in Ashland Oregon. Me and my roommates only had one car between the three of us. This meant that we had to walk, bus or uber most places. It also made extended trips to places outside of the bus routes impossible. This is especially challenging since southern Oregon has very limited bus or train transportation options outside of its area. Taking a bus or train to get to Portland or San Francisco is nearly impossible because no routes currently exist. This was not true 100 years ago. In our distant past folks living in Ashland could go to the train station and take public transport all across the state. Unfortunately we lost these great transportation systems and now folks living in Ashland without cars are basically stranded.

Thank you for your efforts to improve our transportation systems.

Dylan Hinson