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On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

7 years ago, I moved here from Michigan - car country, flat land, endless burbs & parking lots. When I moved to downtown Portland I walked everywhere, because I could & it was fun. Then I bought a bike and started biking everywhere, up & down Broadway all the time! Then I bought a house in South Burlingame & had a baby & thought my bike commute days were over. I live 1 minute from the highway on ramp, right off Terwilliger. But no! I discovered I could still bike!!! All the way to Multnomah Village & the SW Community Center at first, then down the cemetery & along the waterfront, all the way downtown for Sat Market. Then!!! Across the Sellwood bridge & into East Portland, for the coolest parks & playdates at our friends' houses. My kiddo LOVED riding in a Burley trailer, he LOVED Sunday Parkways! We doubled down. Got a Cargo ebike & now those SW Hills no longer phase me, I can make it to the Springwater in no time flat! I ride to preschool twice a day & hardly need to drive anywhere! Kiddo just turned 4 & a few days after his birthday he started pedaling on his little bike for the first time. He rides to/from preschool up & down Capital Highway on the safe bike sidewalk path. One time though, we tried to ride to the library which is on the other side of the freeway & WHOA - where the bike infrastructure ends it's a different world - rough & dangerous riding next to very fast cars. That made us appreciate what's there north of Barbur very much & understand all that had to be built intentionally.

My kid's going to grow up healthy & strong & independent because of the biking culture here. I'm not good at understanding the intricacies of the law & bills but we need more funding to all the excellent pedestrian & biking projects which have had such a positive impact on my life & happiness. I am a computer nerd & biking saved my life by introducing easy exercise & local community into my daily routine. Protect the Bike Bill please! Keep up the excellent work bike nerds in Portland have already undertaken.