

Submitter: Rich Peppers

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

Co-Chairs McLain and Gorsek, Members of the Committee -

My name is Rich Peppers. I live in Portland and I am a volunteer member of Mobilizing Climate Action Together, or MCAT, and co-chair our MCAT Transportation Committee. We promote science-based climate policy to help avert global warming and its consequences.

First off, I want to recognize that this Committee has not had an easy task to do, and still doesn't. I also want to acknowledge that there are several things to like in this package such as the bill's steps toward stabilizing a structural deficit in the transportation system, the priority it places on Safety, Maintenance, Operations, and Preservation, and proposing to fund Transit at current service levels. Transit helps reduce vehicle miles traveled which helps reduce climate polluting emissions.

On the other hand, ODOT's Transportation Emissions website shows Oregon projected to fall short (by over 20 percentage points) of our 2050 emissions reductions goals, and that is before the impact of recent backwards steps are accounted for. As we know, the transportation sector is already responsible for the highest percentage of emissions of all economic sectors - at 37%.

Meanwhile, transportation electrification incentives - whether for charging infrastructure, vehicle purchasing rebates, and/or focused accountability for emissions reductions measures - have had to suspend rebates intermittently or been delayed in implementation.

Therefore, I respectfully request that this package be amended to include meaningful accountability for meeting climate emission reduction goals, and to rebuild the electrification incentive system. Thank you.