Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon HIV Services

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Dear <u>Joint Committee On Transportation</u> Co-Chairs, Senator Gorsek and Representative McLain, and members of the Committee:

I am writing to ask you to support public transit in this legislative session of the Oregon State Legislature.

Our program serves HIV survivors, we are a dop-in center for low-income individuals living with HIV/AIDS. Providing service for over **100** people every week.

All of our clients have low incomes and need public transit to meet their regular transportation needs. Without public transit, our community members would have difficulty accessing food, employment, and health care. Further, without affordable public transit, a large portion of our clients' budgets would need to be spent on private transportation, leaving less for other essential needs.

As you consider the important transportation bills before your committee, we ask that you find ways to continue funding public transit in our community and across the state.

Very respectfully,

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