



**SLAVIC OREGON  
SOCIAL SERVICES**

— A program of EMOregon —

Dear  
Joint  
Committee on  
Transportation  
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.

At Slavic Oregon Social Services (SOSS), we serve Slavic survivors of domestic and sexual violence and work closely with broader Eastern European, Central Asian, and Slavic immigrant and refugee communities across the state. Our programs include not only crisis response, but also prevention outreach, mental health support, housing and public health initiatives.

Many 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 social services, but also 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,

Yekaterina Kozachuk  
Program Manager  
SLAVIC OREGON SOCIAL SERVICES