

Submitter: David Gutt

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

HB 2025 - Sample Testimony

Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLain, Vice Chair Starr, Vice Chair Boshart Davis, and members of the Joint Committee on Transportation Reinvestment,

Thank you for your work on the Oregon Transportation Reinvestment Package (HB 2025). In scanning this bill, it's clear you have poured a great deal of work into this bill.

I urge you to pass a transportation package this session that delivers a safe, sustainable transportation system that offers Oregonians many options to get around. HB 2025 is an excellent start.

I appreciate and support the proposed funding for:

Wildlife Crossings

Great Streets program, and

Safe Routes to School program.

These investments improve the safety of our roadways for both motorists and wildlife and boost quality of life for all Oregonians. I also support:

Increased oversight and accountability for ODOT, and

Increased funding from a variety of sources for the operation and maintenance of our existing infrastructure. Please consider taking a hard look at the increasing presence of bicycles, scooters, and e-bikes, which are increasingly using motor vehicle roadways. Are you missing a potential revenue source for safety improvements already being invested in our roads. By this, I mean registration and/or taxation fees for 2 wheeled conveyances using our roadways. (If such language is already in the bill, or considered in other measures, pardon my missing it.)

I'd also like to see some changes so that this bill fully meets the needs of Central Oregon's communities:

Increasing funding for the Oregon Community Paths program, electrification programs, and fully funding transit.

Investments in every part of Oregon (geographic equity). Large-scale and costly road expansions in the Portland area demand trade-offs from funding for the rest of the state. By ensuring coastal, central, eastern and southern Oregonians have a fair share of the funds, we create a better future for everyone.

With access to safe, reliable, and sustainable transportation options, Oregon communities can thrive. HB 2025 is a solid map to help us navigate our way there. With a few additional adjustments, this bill will deliver the balanced transportation system that Oregonians need and want.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments and for your work to deliver a safe, equitable, and sustainable transportation future for all.

Sincerely,
David Gutt
Bend