

Submitter: Rebecca Wells-Albers

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

I'm Rebecca Wells-Albers and I am a SE Bend resident. I prefer to use a bike over using my personal my vehicle for running errands in town due to the physical and environmental benefits the activity provides, but I've experienced barriers in safely navigating Bend's roads and trails due to incomplete connections and lack of infrastructure.

Specifically, my commute from SE Bend (near Elk Meadows Elementary School) to 27th and Highway 20 includes navigating busy roads (Brookwood) and crossing multiple intersections (Brosterhaus and 3rd, SE 15th and Reed Market, Bear Creek and Rawhide). The speed and size of vehicles in addition to distractions like cell phones creates an uncertain and stressful environment for myself and others to move about town.

Therefore, I'm asking you to increase funding for the Oregon Community Paths program in HB 2025. With our city growing rapidly, we need safe, connected walking and biking routes so people of all ages and abilities can get where they need to go—especially since many in our community don't drive. Investing in multi-modal infrastructure isn't just smart planning, it's essential for a livable, equitable, and sustainable Bend.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Wells-Albers
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