



6/26/2025

Dear Chairs Pham and McLain, Vice Chairs, and members of the committee,

I am submitting this testifying on behalf of the Oregon Trails Coalition and as a member of the Move Oregon Forward coalition.

We're here to share our support for passing a transportation package this session.

I want to be clear, Oregon Trails Coalition came to this process more than a year ago to advocate on behalf of the more than 80% of Oregonians who use local trails and for the Oregon communities working to fill dangerous gaps in their regional networks with safe, off-street connections for kids walking and biking to school, and people traveling to work, prayer or play or make the last mile connection to transit.

The package before us unfortunately does not make meaningful progress in addressing the funding shortfall for off-street paths, or addressing the lack of flexibility for local governments to invest safety dollars outside of the road right of way. That is work we look forward to collaborating with you on another day.

Because, while we've been advocating for trails, we've also been listening: to Oregonians across the state at the roadshow last summer and fall, to diverse stakeholders at pre-session workgroups, and to all the Oregonians testifying in public hearings, including ODOT maintenance workers, families impacted by traffic violence, electeds lacking the resources to maintain their local roads, and Oregonians who rely on transit.

Outside of this process, we also listened to trail users of all kinds who participated in seven focus groups we hosted this Spring to inform the update of our State Trails Plan. Transportation barriers came out among the top impediments to Oregonians enjoying their favorite trail activities, across all trail user groups.

In other words, we've heard loud and clear that our fellow Oregonians will suffer even more if the legislature further delays in investing in safety through Great Streets and Safe Routes to School, investing in transit and rail, and investing in the basic maintenance of our transportation system.

While this package is full of compromises and falls short of many of our goals, we believe passing it this session is critical for the safety and mobility of Oregonians in the short term.

Thank you again for your work on the package.

Stephanie Noll, Director, Oregon Trails Coalition