



www.RogueClimate.org || PO Box 1980, Phoenix, OR 97535 || 541-301-9204

Coos Bay Office: 243 S. 2nd St. Coos Bay, OR 97420 || 541- 816-0758

Dear Chair Bowman, Vice-Chairs Drazen and Pham, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jess Grady-Benson and I am the Organizing Director at Rogue Climate.

We serve and work alongside Southern Oregon and South Coast communities most impacted by climate change, including BIPOC, low-income, rural and coastal communities.

As members of the Move Oregon Forward Coalition and the Oregon Just Transition Alliance, we are committed to advancing transportation policy that invests in safety, clean air, and accessible public transit, especially frontline communities. Community members and advocates across the state have been working with legislators for nearly two years to develop a package that is equitable and effective at meeting the core needs of our transportation system as the impacts of climate change continue to intensify.

Yet, HB 3402 is a rushed attempt that fails to address any of these core needs, prioritizing mega-projects with the State Highway Fund over the safety, transit, electrification, trails and local investments that are needed to keep everyday Oregonians moving.

The Rogue Valley Transportation District is currently facing dire cuts to nearly 80 local jobs due to the lack of federal and state investments, resulting in a decision to cut up to two-thirds of bus routes. In Coos County, parts of critical roadways are frequently flooded as storms gain intensity and the sea level rises. Community members testified countless times urging you to take leadership to invest in safe sidewalks, bike lanes and transit to enable people get to work, school, and medical appointments. HB 3402 fails to meet the needs of local cities and counties, especially in rural parts of our state.

Creative solutions like the luxury vehicle tax could have filled a critical gap in funding for a robust transportation package, without overburdening low-income community members at the pump. Meanwhile, over \$100,000 million is being invested in dredging in the Coos Bay Estuary, and the legislature has failed to fund critical climate resilience programs. We urge the legislature to find more equitable solutions to meet the funding needs of our state that will result in real benefits for working families in Oregon, without sacrificing the places we call home.



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HB 2025 with the -28 amendment is a practical compromise that deserves your vote. Vote no on HB 3402, and find a more holistic solution to invest in an accessible, safe, and climate-smart transportation system that actually meets ALL Oregonian's needs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Jess Grady-Benson, Organizing Director

Zoe Serrano, Legislative Coordinator

Rogue Climate