

Submitter: Howell Cathy
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3402
June 27, 2025

RE: HB 3402
To: House Committee on Rules

Chair Bowman, Co-Chairs Pham and Drazen, and members of the Committee

For the record, my name is Cathy Howell and I live in Salem. I am submitting this testimony today, to express my opposition to HB 3402.

For months, I have been a part of OJTA's and Verde's Transportation Justice Leadership Institute, learning about transportation and hopeful that in sharing our stories we can make a difference shaping this transportation package. I don't own a car and public transit and safe walking areas and sidewalks are crucial for me and a lifeline for many other people in my community including low-income, Black, Indigenous, and disabled Oregonians who depend on it for work, school, shopping or visit to the doctor. Failing to fund it in this package means cuts to transit jobs and positions, fewer options for riders, and ? of Oregonians who can't or don't drive being left behind.

It is truly shameful that HB 3402 would result in ZERO investments in local cities and counties, transit, safety, rail, wildlife crossings, local maintenance and transit jobs, and so on. Please reject this too little, too late false solution. 3402 is like filling a pothole while the rest of the transportation system is falling into the ocean. It lacks any funding for critical safety improvements that protect people walking, biking, and driving on Oregon's roads. Salem alone had 9 pedestrian deaths in 2024 and at least 2 more this year. Safety investments are urgently needed to reduce crashes and save lives, especially in communities that have been historically undeserved.

Please support a transit Package that includes those of us who don't want to own cars or who don't have the resources or physical health to drive.

I ask you to be bold and oppose HB 3402 that does not support the needs of many communities in our state.

Thank you.
Cathy A. Howell