



CITY OF BEND

City Hall
710 NW Wall Street
Bend, OR 97703

February 9, 2026

House Committee on Transportation
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97701

RE: City of Bend HB 4085 Concerns

Chair McClain and members of the Committee:

The City of Bend appreciates the ongoing conversation about emerging transportation technologies and the benefits they may offer Oregon communities. As a local government responsible for day-to-day traffic and parking management, emergency response coordination, and the maintenance of public infrastructure, the City is evaluating how autonomous vehicles (AVs) may integrate within existing systems. This bill also raises broader questions related to cybersecurity, workforce, and environmental impacts.

The City of Bend shares the concerns raised by the League of Oregon Cities and Portland Bureau of Transportation regarding the complexity of the current proposal and the need for more time to address issues thoroughly.

We request that local governments retain regulatory authority and not be preempted. Cities must be able to manage core transportation system functions, including traffic operations, public safety, parking and curb management, local licensing and permitting, and fee structures that support any increased administrative and operational responsibilities associated with AV deployment. AVs will influence each of these areas and local jurisdictions need flexibility to adjust policies with technology, real-world conditions, and our understanding evolving.

AV deployment also has implications for roadway infrastructure, including additional wear and tear on the system. At a time when the State is evaluating long-term transportation funding solutions, it is important to understand how AVs align with the broader funding landscape.

The City of Bend supports thoughtful planning for new technologies and looks forward to continued engagement as Oregon refines its AV framework. Alignment between state policy, local operational responsibilities, and long-term transportation funding will be critical to ensure that our transportation system remains safe, reliable, and well-maintained.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Abbas".

David Abbas, PE, Transportation & Mobility Director