

Dear Chair Gorsek and Vice Chair Weber, and members of the committee:

My name is Jeremy McKay, and I live in Oregon City. I'm testifying today because Oregonians need a transportation system that maximizes its investments in safety, road and bridge maintenance, and climate impacts, and does not put Oregon's future at risk by taking on unnecessary debt. Guardrails for Good Governance is important to me because ODOT's loans have increased by 400% since 2007 and are outpacing the money coming in, leaving less for bridge and road maintenance, seismic retrofits, and safety investments. It is crucial that we spend what limited infrastructure dollars we have on the most important investments, and less on debt service. Measure what We Drive is also necessary to pass because it requires ODOT to provide an assessment on how new projects align with transportation goals and it requires ODOT to provide a public accountability dashboard showing how the agency is doing in meeting transportation goals. Fundamentally Oregon is having a difficult time funding projects we need while we are spending money on projects we don't. We need to invest in climate friendly transportation, funding our existing roads and bridges, and investing in safety.

In addition, these policies are based on proven policies from other states and are budget-neutral. These bills will improve alignment and accountability in meeting ODOT's transportation goals. Oregonians need Guardrails for Good Governance and Measure What We Drive to pass.

Sincerely,
Jeremy McKay
Oregon City, Oregon