

Submitter: Sarah Hale

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On
Capital Construction

Measure, Appointment or SB1601
Topic:

Dear Chair Girod, Chair Nosse, and members of the committee,

I am writing to ask that the state legislature *avoid* redirecting funding from the Oregon Community Paths and Safe Routes to School programs to highway maintenance and operations as currently laid out in the -3 amendment to SB 1601.

Off-street path connections for all community members - especially our young and old - make our communities more safe. The benefits of paths are well-known: they get people outside, they get people moving their bodies, they provide more opportunities for connection with other community members. Cars are getting bigger and faster, and there is less funding for proper enforcement. This makes off-street connections very valuable to people who have to or choose to walk/bike.

When all is doom and gloom in the world right now, please consider how the little things really matter. Being able to walk to school safely or to bike to work - these actions make our daily lives feel better in very tangible ways. We need these small wins right now.

Thank you for your time and consideration.