

Submitter: James Elliott

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1601

Dear Chair Girod, chair Noose and members of the committee,

I am writing to ask you NOT to redirect funding from the Oregon Community Paths and the Safe Routes to Schools programs to highway maintenance and operations that is currently laid out in the -3 amendment to SB 1601.

I support funding for maintenance and operations for our current transportation systems. But not at the expense of programs which allow the 1/3 of Oregonians who are not drivers such as the disabled, those who cannot afford to drive, those who have aged out of driving, children over the age of ten. All of these members of the communities of Oregon also need safe ways to travel to destinations of choice.

I am a school crossing guard and I value the efforts to make the streets and sidewalks safer for our children.

The Oregon Department of Transportation has squandered millions of dollars on mega-projects that seem to never get completed. You are responsible for this department and their record of failure. Stop feeding the mega-project beast!

At the transportation roundtable held in 2024 around the state, a majority of Oregonians, your constituents, testified about the needs for more choices in addition to cars to allow them to fully benefit from their communities.

Please stand up for your constituents and use the funds already in the ODOT budget to focus on maintenance and operations!