

Submitter: Brian Potwin
On Behalf Of: Commute Options
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On
Capital Construction
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1601

Dear Chair Girod, Chair Nosse, and Committee Members,**

I'm writing to ask that you not redirect funding from the Oregon Community Paths and Safe Routes to School programs to highway maintenance, as proposed in the -3 amendment to SB 1601.

While highway maintenance is important, it should not come at the cost of safety for children and those who can't drive. We suggest redirecting funds from major highway projects instead.

Over 80% of Oregonians use local trails—more than those who drive. Off-street paths are the safest places for people of all ages to walk and bike. These programs are already underfunded, and people are dying because of it.

Please protect the following funding:

*Multimodal Active Transportation Fund: Supports the Oregon Community Paths program.

*Transportation Operating Funds: Supports passenger rail, paths, and para-transit.

*Safe Routes to School Funds

Thank you for your time and attention.

Brian Potwin
Commute Options
Executive Director
commuteoptions.org