

Submitter: Elisa Cheng

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,

Please do not to redirect funding away from the Oregon Community Paths and Safe Routes to School programs in order to cover highway maintenance and operations as currently laid out in the -3 amendment to SB 1601.

I am in favor of allocating funds to operations and maintenance of the current transportation system by using project money from large scale vehicle infrastructure projects, not at the expense of funds used for safety and children.

Off-street paths provide the absolute safest places in our community for people of all ages and abilities to walk, bike and roll. The Oregon Community Paths and Safe Routes to School program are already tragically underfunded, and people continue to die on our streets as a result. Please do not cut their funding and endanger children's lives to accommodate vehicles.

Please protect funds used for programs for our most vulnerable community members with the Multimodal Active Transportation Fund, Oregon Community Paths program, Transportation Operating Funds, and Safe Routes to School Funds.

We have been overbuilding vehicle infrastructure for over 50 years in Oregon at the expense of real active transportation options. I am a bike commuter and often find unsafe and dangerous situations in town while trying to get where I need to go. Please don't cut funding for the programs that will help alleviate this.