

Submitter: Brett Schneider

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1601

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

I am writing in opposition of SB 1601 redirecting funds from the Oregon Community Paths and Safe Routes to School programs to highway maintenance and operations.

Cutting funding that aids schoolchildren and non-drivers is endangering pedestrians, cyclists, and multimodal users. From 2017-2021 51% of injuries to Portlanders by drivers were at signaled intersections and averaged 24 pedestrian deaths from 2022-2024; 20 lost their life in 2025. Providing safe alternative pathways for non-drivers is essential for their safety during their transit.

Non-street routes offer safest options for community members regardless of their mode of transit or capabilities. A redirection of the funding for Oregon Community Paths and Safe Routes to School will guarantee more non-drivers will be killed.

Funds need to be redirected for the operations and maintenance for Oregon's transportation system, but should not come from these programs. New project funding should be directed to maintenance.

Again, I am in opposition of amendment -3 under SB 1601 and request no redirection of funds for the Safe Routes to School, Multimodal Active Transportation Fund, and Transportation Operating Funds.

Thank you.