

Submitter: Andrew Simrin

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1601

I am a lifelong Oregonian living and working in Eugene. I frequently and often travel on foot or on bicycle in the state.

I oppose these cuts. Oregon should not balance its books at the expense of schoolchildren, disabled folks, or communities already facing rising costs, soaring unemployment, and climate impacts. Oregon's massive, expensive road system created this budget crisis, yet the state is raiding from the tiny sliver of funding dedicated to things like child safety, trains, and community paths. We are forcing the 30% of Oregonians who do not or cannot drive to pay for road debt they didn't create.

Roads have large impacts. The state is taking \$17 million from Safe Routes to School and \$8 million from Oregon Community Paths. That is more than 60% of both programs' budgets. This funding builds the crossings, sidewalks, and paths that allow children to get to class without risking their lives.

Please oppose SB1601-3.

Thank you.