



Charlie
Hales
Mayor

John
Widmer
Interim
Director

April 10, 2013

Rep. Phil Barnhart, Chair
House Revenue Committee
900 Court St. NE, H-383
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Support for HB 2453

Chair Barnhart and Members of the Committee,

The Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) supports HB 2453 which provides a mechanism for collecting user fees from high-mileage motor vehicles. This bill would produce an equitable and relatively simple mechanism for collecting and allocating funds to support the continued maintenance and expansion of transportation systems across Oregon.

Like all cities, Portland relies heavily on the existing gasoline tax to support our local transportation system. The combination of more efficient vehicles, increasing demands from the public, declining infrastructure quality and increasing costs of materials has significantly reduced the purchasing power of existing gas tax revenue. Moving forward, we believe it is essential that the State and cities collectively move toward a more sustainable funding structure to support transportation work. A fee on high-mileage motor vehicle-miles-traveled is a reasonable and logical next step.

PBOT supports the structure and intent of HB 2453; however, with major elements such as the actual cost per mile still in question, we look forward to continuing the discussion with all of our partners.

Thank you for your consideration.



Alissa Mahar
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Portland Bureau of Transportation

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