



**CAROLYN TOMEI**  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**  
DISTRICT 41  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

April 23, 2013

The Honorable Tobias Read  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court St. NE Room S-413  
Salem, OR 97301

Chair Read,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 345.

Senate Bill 345 gives cities more flexibility to build and maintain more affordable residential roadways that fit the needs of neighborhoods.

Currently, state law requires pedestrians and wheelchair users to travel along the sidewalk or shoulder of the road. When state law does allow pedestrian or wheelchair users in the road, it is on the left side facing oncoming traffic.

This bill allows pedestrians and wheelchair users to travel on low-speed narrow residential roadways as long as the pedestrian does not create a traffic hazard. It also ensures that signs will be posted to notify drivers to be cautious of pedestrians in the roadway.

Senate Bill 345 accomplishes two goals: First, it gives pedestrians and wheelchair users an added legal protection. Second, it will allow cities to upgrade their streets in a cost-effective manner.

Dan Eisenbeis, from the City of Portland, will be available to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Tomei  
State Representative, District 41