



SKATS

SALEM-KEIZER AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

100 High St. SE, Suite 200 Salem, OR 97301 Phone (503) 588-6177 FAX (503) 588-6094

March 26, 2015

Senator Betsy Johnson, Co-Chair
Representative Dave Gomberg, Co-Chair
Transportation and Economic Development Sub-Committee
Joint Ways and Means Committee

RE: HB 5040 Department of Transportation Public Testimony

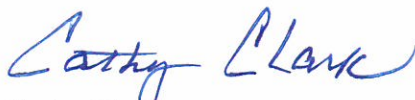
Honorable Senator Johnson and Honorable Representative Gomberg:

The Salem-Keizer Area Transportation Study (SKATS) Policy Committee voted, at its meeting on Tuesday, March 24, 2015 to submit the following public testimony for your consideration on March 30, 2015, regarding the proposal to invest up to \$30 million during the '15-'17 biennium and approximately \$90 million over the next ten years to DMV Service Transformation Program - Customer Service for the 21st Century.

Our policy committee discussed this proposal and, while we do not dispute the need to modernize and upgrade the antiquated DMV technology system, the plan to fund this program "off the top" of Highway Trust Fund dollars, thus reducing the funds to be distributed through the allocation formula, is of great concern to the local governments we represent. Funds to maintain our roads, with every effort to maximize efficiency and effectiveness, are already not enough to keep up with the need.

Our committee strongly recommends the funds for the DMV technology improvements be secured through increased user fees rather than further stretching our already insufficient transportation funds. Short of increasing available funding through fees, we recommend this project be postponed until such time as additional revenues can be identified to pay for the upgrades.

Thank you for your consideration.



Cathy Clark
Policy Committee Chair
SKATS Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

CC:mj

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