

From: Nathan Bofto
To: [JWMTR Exhibits](#)
Subject: Passenger Rail Funding - Public Hearing 3/28/17
Date: Monday, March 27, 2017 9:21:01 AM

To whom it may concern:

I saw that there is a public hearing tomorrow at 1:00pm about the funding for passenger rail for Amtrak Cascades for the state of Oregon. I am unable to make it since I have to work, but I would like to voice my concern.

This rail service is crucial to our state and for people who can't drive or need alternative transportation options. Ridership has been up and demand is increasing. These trains have carried so many Oregonians throughout the years, and cutting it now as our population is growing and as I-5 is becoming more congested, would be devastating. I strongly urge the joint ways and means transportation committee to fund this service for this next cycle, and establish a funding system as well. We need these trains as gas prices WILL rise once again. I use this service constantly to see family members since I do not have a reliable car. Buses are not a good alternative to driving and they are not as high in popularity. The state of Washington has some serious improvements implementing this year that the Oregon corridor will benefit from. Please keep this Amtrak Cascades service running

Thank you for your time

Nathan Bofto

Eugene, OR

541-359-5534

nbofto@gmail.com