



- Tuesday April 11, 2017
- RE: Support HB 3230
- Oregon & SW Washington Families for Safe Streets request the state of Oregon to make health and safety their number one priority by supporting HB 3230. I am not happy to be part of Families for Safe Streets because to qualify for this group, my family paid the ultimate price. My 19-year-old niece Tracey Sparling was killed while riding her bike in the bike lane on her way to class on Burnside & 14th. Tracey was a beautiful creative loving intelligent young lady with a promising future in communication design at PNCA. Lost forever by the actions of one thoughtless driver.
- Dedicating statewide funding for safe routes to school is an economical investment to insure no other families' become members of Oregon and SW Washington Families for Safe Streets.
- Educating children in traffic safety will also end up reminding their parents of their responsibilities for safe travel on our roads.
- As a physician I want to point out that providing dedicated funding for Safe Routes to Schools is an investment in the health of our most precious commodity, our children.
- Sidewalks, safe crosswalks and bike lanes will encourage daily walking and cycling to school. Such regular physical activity will decrease the incidence of serious health conditions related to a sedentary lifestyle and the direct medical expenses resulting from these chronic diseases.
- If safety and health aren't good enough reason to dedicate funding, you must realize that any family that fears for their child's safety will drive their child to school and be yet another single occupant vehicle contributing to traffic congestion and slowing thru our streets. As Oregon's population grows and

spreads, widening streets with higher speed limits will not keep commerce in motion, if nothing is done to reduce the proliferation of single occupant vehicles. Such singular focus on vehicle movement, is unsustainable in a growing vibrant livable economy.

- With the education and infrastructure corrections provided in the Safe Routes to Schools program, children and their parents will be allowed to be less dependent upon single occupant vehicular travel.
- If Safe Routes to schools does not have statewide funding, we of Families for Safe Streets will hold every legislative member responsible for the increased burden on our medical systems from the influx of children with chronic diseases previously only seen in adults after years of sedentary living. The next time we are stuck in traffic because Single Occupant Vehicles pack our roads we will hold you our legislature be accountable.
- If Safe Routes to Schools is not a funded priority, the next child that is killed or injured in our streets will be on your hands.
- This is why the members of Families for Safe Streets and I urge you to support HB 3230. Your statewide constituents deserves dedicated funding for both safety projects near their schools and the education programs that support the utilization of these measures.

Respectfully,

Susan Y. Kubota MD and the members of Families for Safe Streets.