

April 3, 2017

RE: Letter of Support for HB 3230 for Safe Routes to School Funding

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of HB3230 on behalf of the Blue Zones Project in Klamath Falls. As a community, Klamath Falls has been working to create an environment that nudges people towards active commuting and makes active transportation accessible for all. Prioritizing and supporting Safe Routes to School is an important part of this work.

Our local Blue Zones Project Steering Committee of 20 key community stakeholders, as well as our Built Environment Policy committee of more than 17 volunteers, identified the creation and support of a Safe Routes to School Master Plan as one of a handful of policy priorities that the community as whole would pursue over a three-year period. A similar, priority of creating an Urban Trails Master Plan was also identified, and has already been achieved! With that success, our volunteer stakeholders have now turn their attention in force to creating the Safe Routes to Schools Master Plan.

Our community has prioritized creating improved walking and biking path to schools. We have held walking tours in multiple neighborhoods focused on identifying safe routes to schools' projects. One school has moved forward with an outdoor revitalization plan that includes increasing the ease and access of students both walking and biking. Klamath County may not be the first place in Oregon to come to mind when you think of active transportation, but active transportation and safe routes to school are the first thing on the mind of many, many, Klamath County residents.

Enhancing Safe Routes to School improves safety and well-being for our kids. This investment in our future will pay huge dividends for all Oregonians. It is with great enthusiasm that I write this letter of support for HB 3230 for Safe Routes to School funding.

Sincerely,



Jessica DuBose
Community Program Manager