

From: rlewis
To: [SENRR Exhibits; rep.whisnant@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:rep.whisnant@oregonlegislature.gov)
Subject: Testimony in opposition to HB 2027A
Date: Tuesday, May 09, 2017 12:23:56 PM

My name is Robin Lewis. My family lives in Bend. I believe this bridge is an important connection for our community. Please allow us to continue to discuss and find solutions locally.

As an isolated community we weather the ups and downs of the national economy mainly because we are a desirable place to live. People bring their own jobs with them or start up their own companies because they can live anywhere but choose Bend because of our natural beauty, quality of life, and easy access to trails and recreation. Our trail system is important. It is in our best interest to ensure that our environment is protected, while opening up greater access to our trails, and promoting economic diversity through bicycle tourism, mountain biking, bike sales, and bike rentals.

Our family is one example of the Bend entrepreneurial spirit necessary to make a living here. We chose Bend for the Bend lifestyle and then set about to find employment. I am an engineer and in a growing community have lots of economic opportunities. My husband opened his own business, a small retailer named "Lost Creek Armory" to create his own economic opportunity. The success of his business and many other businesses in town relies on the economic success of the community.

This bridge is planned to create a much needed connection between people's homes on the east side and the trails on the west side of the Deschutes River. It will further support and continue to grow our recreational economy.

I oppose this bill as it would stop community discussion of a long planned community asset.

Please let us work the issues out locally. There is much work for us to do.

Please help by not passing this bill out of Committee.

Sincerely yours,

Robin Lewis

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