

Hello,

I am unable to make it to the public testimony sessions regarding HB 2017, but wanted to voice my input as well.

I strongly urge this subcommittee to reexamine the level of funding for rail within our state's future transportation package. We cannot simply add lanes to interstates and expect all our traffic problems to dissolve. Our citizens need other options to create a sound, efficient transportation system.

In addition to expanding Amtrak Cascades service within Eugene-Portland, I urge the committee to look into rail service elsewhere such as central or eastern Oregon. Rail is much cheaper overall to build per mile than highways, and is more efficient in the long run with numerous environmental friendly benefits. Please consider increasing the allotted amount for rail in this bill for our state, we need it.

Thank you for your time,

Nathan Bofto
Eugene, OR