



City of Oakridge  
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Oakridge, Oregon 97463  
Phone: 541-782-2258 FAX: 541-782-1081

June 1, 2017

Re; HB 2017-3 Joint Committee on Transportation Preservation and Modernization

Senator Lee Beyer and Representative Caddy McKeown  
Oregon Legislature  
Salem, OR 97301

Senator Beyer and Representative McKeown

On behalf of the City of Oakridge, I would like to take this opportunity to first thank you for all that you do, in the service of the citizens of Oakridge and the State of Oregon.

One of the proposed amendments of HB 2017-3 is to add passing lanes on State Highway 58, west of the city of Oakridge. It is imperative that the motoring public and commerce move safely along an extremely important state truck route. In collaboration with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the City of Oakridge, we recently completed a Bicycle Pedestrian Study of Highway 58 as it goes through the City of Oakridge.

One of the recommendations was to reduce the number of travel lanes from 5 lanes with a center turn lane, to 3 lanes with a center turn lane. This allows for bicycle lanes to be added without any reconfiguration of sidewalks or any other infrastructure. Placement of crosswalks were recommended for Highway 58, which allows for a shorter crossing distance for pedestrians. At present citizens and visitors are forced to run across an overly wide lane highway and bicyclists riding on inconsistent sections of sidewalk. This would also encourage the traveling public to stop in Oakridge businesses by de-emphasizing the through or passing nature of corridor in the city.

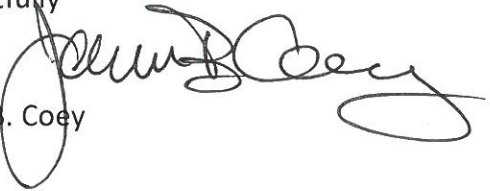
One of the concerns is that without additional passing lanes west of the city, the chance of frustrated drivers driving carelessly or recklessly to get around slower vehicles and semi-trucks

increases greatly. The City of Oakridge believes that the addition of passing lanes on Highway 58, west of the city would enhance traffic safety, calming and the consistent movement of goods on an extremely important state truck route.

If there are any questions please feel free to contact me at [Mayor@ci.oakridge.or.us](mailto:Mayor@ci.oakridge.or.us) or at 541-782-2258.

Respectfully

James B. Coey  
Mayor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James B. Coey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent loop at the end of the last name.