

Dear Co-chairs and committee members,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB 2017-3. I echo the comments made by Oregon Walks copied below. We cannot wait any longer to invest in desperately needed walking infrastructure so that everyone can safely access their communities. Please do the right thing though it may be hard.

Oregon Walks believes that HB 2017-3 needs to address the following critical areas in order to fully meet the transportation needs of community members across the state:

- Highway and roadway expansion does not help us toward a more climate friendly, or a less-congested future.
- We need more progressive funding sources that do not burden our most vulnerable residents
- Youth in Oregon deserve safe and accessible transportation to school, work, and play.
- Low-income transit riders need firm commitments toward making our transit system more accessible.
- We need clear investment toward reaching the goal of zero traffic deaths on our roadways
- As we plan for the future, this bill needs to address HOW we will ensure benefits and burdens are distributed equitably.

Sincerely,

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