

Joint Committee on Transportation Preservation and Modernization
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

«Dear Joint Committee on Transportation Preservation and Modernization,

I am a member of the County's Cornelius Pass Road Safety Improvements Project Community Advisory Committee. There is considerable history over the last few years concerning increasing the safety of Cornelius Pass Road where it passes over the Tualatin Mountains in Multnomah County. With the limited funding available, we have identified and engineered what we believe would be the most effective improvements.

The emphasis and original impetus here was to improve the safety for all users of Cornelius Pass Road, taking into account its unique location and function and the desires of the local community. The goal was not to increase the capacity of Cornelius Pass. That is a different issue and deserves a evaluative process that looks at all the issues involved, especially how Cornelius Pass fits into a regional transportation Plan.

Transferring jurisdiction over Cornelius Pass to ODOT is not necessarily the best method to achieve the goal of improving the safety on Cornelius Pass Road, as Multnomah County has responded effectively. Therefore I do not think that it is advisable, at this time, and for many reasons. if ever, to do so.

I oppose the possible transfer of jurisdiction over Cornelius Pass Road from Multnomah County to The Oregon Department of Transportation as outlined in HB 2017-3. And advise you to consider if there exists sufficient benefit to justify this action.

Very Truly Yours,

George Sowder