

From: Sarah Mazze
To: [HTP Exhibits](#)
Subject: HB 2667, Establishes Task Force on Vision Zero: Achieving Zero Traffic Crashes, Injuries and Fatalities
Date: Monday, February 13, 2017 9:23:26 PM

Dear Chair Rep. Caddy McKeown and members of the committee:

I am an avid bike commuter with a six-year old daughter, whom I walk to school each morning. My morning ride to work includes Eugene's off-street river path, where I feel incredibly safe, as well as travel on highly trafficked roads where I catch myself reciting a mantra, "Please don't hit me," as I pass through intersections or anticipate cars zooming by me in the bike lane. I walk my daughter along streets with no shoulders or sidewalks where I place her life in my trust that the sparse traffic consists of drivers who are not using their cell phone, speeding or intoxicated.

I recently started working as Eugene 4J School District's Safe Routes to School Coordinator (although I am not writing in that capacity). In my work, I have been examining crash data to determine which areas should rise to the top of our infrastructure improvement wish list. It is horrible to consider all of these lives senselessly taken and all the ruined lives of those close to them, in what are preventable deaths. Somehow, we have accepted as a culture that it's more important for someone to save several seconds on their drive than it is for all users of the road, including drivers, to arrive safely.

With traffic deaths at their highest in 2016 in over a decade and multiple jurisdictions establishing Vision Zero policies, the tide of public opinion has shifted. It is time that we analyze the risks of the roadways and then design improvements to reduce the severity of crashes so that fatalities are an unlikely outcome, rather than a given.

I urge you to **please vote yes on HB 2667** and convene a broad group of stakeholders and experts to compile a list of public health-focused recommendations and take action to eliminate all serious injuries and fatalities on our roads.

Sincerely,
Sarah Mazze
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