

## Hamre Jaime

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**From:** richardnross@earthlink.net  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 10:28 AM  
**To:** Hamre Jaime; Rep Clem; Rep McLain  
**Subject:** RE: HB 4029 The Legislature Should Not Micro-Manage Bend's Trail System ATTACHMENT

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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Jaime  
Let me know if this gets through Thanks

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**From:** richardnross@earthlink.net [mailto:richardnross@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 9:15 AM  
**To:** Rep Clem <Rep.BrianClem@oregonlegislature.gov>; Rep McLain <Rep.SusanMcLain@oregonlegislature.gov>; Hamre Jaime <Jaime.Hamre@oregonlegislature.gov>  
**Subject:** HB 4029 The Legislature Should Not Micro-Manage Bend's Trail System

**Please see attached my testimony against HB 4029**

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Feb 7, 2018

**House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee**

**Rep Brian Clem, Chair** [Rep.BrianClem@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:Rep.BrianClem@oregonlegislature.gov)

**Rep Susan McLain, Vice Chair** [rep.susanmclain@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:rep.susanmclain@oregonlegislature.gov)

**RE HB 4029 The Legislature Should Not Micro-Manage Bend's Trail System**

**Dear Representatives Clem and McLain**

As regular Bend trail users, our family deeply appreciates the foresight of Bend Parks in creating one of Oregon's best parks and trails systems, especially the pedestrian bridges that have connected Bend for over a century.

We believe that the Legislature should reject HB 4029, not micro-manage Bend's urban trail plans (or any other city's). This NIMBY bill overrides the broad majority of Park District patrons who have supported a South end pedestrian bridge in a bond measure, master plans, and

a 2017 survey. This bill discards years of public review on river trails and bridge locations, to connect Bend Eastside trails to Forest Service Westside trails and Sunriver.

Bend Parks planned south crossing site is not a pristine wilderness. It's at the edge of Bend's Urban Growth Boundary. It is one of few viable crossing sites in the midst of subdivisions (current and planned), resorts, and golf courses that line the river south of the Old Mill District. Alternate trail and crossing locations South of this site are also blocked by massive lava beds between Lava Butte and the river. New State trail studies, as HB 4029 proposes, won't change these facts. It will just waste public resources and stall a needed regional trail connection.

In 1970 I worked on the initiative that created the Oregon Scenic Waterways system. Proponents of Scenic Waterways envisioned a system that both protects the character and provides public access to our waterways. HB 4029 does neither.

From its earliest days, Bend has built a system of good pedestrian bridges, that once connected millworker families on their walks to work, to school, or Downtown. I wonder what those early families would have thought if the 1917 Legislature had banned the bridges we still depend on for walking across town and to enjoy our river?

**Sincerely**

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