



April 19, 2013

House Committee on Education
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: HB 2594

Dear Chair Doherty and Members of the Committee,

The Sustainable City Year Program (SCYP) was a year-long partnership between Sustainable Cities Initiative, TriMet and a handful of other stakeholders in which students and faculty in courses from across the University of Oregon collaborated with a public entity on sustainability and livability projects. TriMet greatly appreciated this program and the tremendously positive impact it made on the Southwest Corridor Light Rail Project.

SCYP faculty and students worked in collaboration with TriMet staff through a variety of studio projects and service-learning courses to provide students with real world projects to investigate. SCYP's primary value derives from collaborations resulting in on-the-ground impact and expanded conversations for a community ready to transition to a more sustainable and livable future

The Southwest Corridor Project benefited from partnering with the Sustainable Cities Initiative which resulted in turning a relatively small capital investment into 50,000 hours of forward thinking work and hands-on learning. By the end of the 2017-18 academic year, the process resulted in 24 projects across 26 classes that engaged over 200 students across 12 disciplines in seven schools and colleges from University of Oregon and Portland State University. Across all the engaged courses, over 400 ideas were presented. With this compilation, common themes emerged that best inform project staff on how efforts addressed the project goals and objectives: Urban Mobility, Climate Change & Environment, Placemaking & Urban Design, and Community Building.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aaron".

Aaron C Deas
Office of Government Affairs
TriMet