

Diego Hernandez
State Representative

House District 47
The Mighty and Multicultural East Portland

900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301
503-986-1447



OREGON STATE LEGISLATURE

900 COURT ST NE SALEM, OREGON 97301

September 26, 2018
Attorney General Ellen F. Rosenblum
Oregon Department of Justice
1162 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301-4096

Dear Attorney, General Rosenblum:

Over your tenure you have been a champion of reforms to our criminal justice system. From legislation addressing racial profiling to sentencing reforms, you have been at the forefront of work that has created a stronger and more equitable state for everyone. We believe you have another opportunity before you to address further disparities within the system.

We strongly believe that the ruling of Multnomah County Circuit Court Judge Wittmayer in the case of Ana del Rocío (State v. Rosa Giovanna Valderrama, Opinion & Order 18CR17532) was the correct one.

A policy of sweeping fare enforcement searches violates the constitutional rights of transit riders. This practice exacerbates disparities in the criminal justice system and contributes to the over-policing and over-prosecution of people of color, people with disabilities, and people experiencing homelessness and other forms of economic insecurity.

We, the undersigned, believe this moment presents an opportunity for the impacted agencies to respond with a renewed focus to truly protect and serve the public by developing an equitable, effective transit system. These agencies can choose to invest in further fare relief for some of our most vulnerable community members instead of militarized fare enforcement, enclosure of public transit infrastructure, and continued criminalization of transit riders.

We believe this ruling presents the kind of accountability our law enforcement needs to fairly administer the law within our communities, and that the precedent set through this decision should be allowed to stand.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Diego Hernandez".

Rep. Diego Hernandez, HD 47

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Chris Gorsek".

Rep. Chris Gorsek, HD 49

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Carla Piluso".

Rep. Carla Piluso, HD 50

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Mitch Greenlick".

Rep. Mitch Greenlick, HD 33

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Rep. Margaret Doherty, HD 51

Rep. Sheri Malstrom, HD 27

Rep. Rob Noose, HD 42

Rep. Janeen Sollman, HD 30

Sen. Michael Dembrow, HD 23

Rep. Susan McLain, HD 29

Rep. Karin Power, HD 41

Rep. Barbara Smith Warner, HD 45

Rep. Alissa Keny Guyer, HD 46

cc: TriMet General Manager Doug Kelsey
TriMet Board of Directors
Clackamas County District Attorney John S. Foot
Multnomah County Chair Deborah Kafoury
Multnomah County Board of Commissioners
Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill
Washington County District Attorney Kevin Barton