

HB 4017 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Rules

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Meeting Dates: 2/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Oregon Department of Transportation to study development of uniform standards to speed bump height and markings and report to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2023.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Transfers annual funding currently directed toward the Interstate 5 Rose Quarter Project to the Interstate 205 Abernethy Bridge Project, effective January 1, 2022.

BACKGROUND:

The Legislative Assembly enacted House Bill 2017 (2017) as a highway and multimodal transportation funding and policy package to fund maintenance and modernization of Oregon's roads, public transportation, institute safety improvements, and improve multimodal transportation connections. The measure included a ten-cent increase in the state's gasoline tax, along with commensurate increases in weight-mile taxes for motor carrier transportation, which are to be imposed in four steps: the tax increased by four cents per gallon in 2018, two more cents per gallon in 2020, and is set to increase by an additional two cents each in 2022 and 2024.

The 2017 legislation lays out funding for certain specified projects as well, one of which is \$30 million per year, beginning January 2022, to pay debt service on bonds meant to pay for the Interstate 5 Rose Quarter Project, which is intended to add auxiliary lanes and make interchange improvements with the goal of improving safety and reducing traffic congestion on one of the Portland metro region's biggest choke points. The current proposed Rose Quarter Project also includes protected bike lines, a bicycle/pedestrian bridge, and highway covers that will provide usable areas above the freeway lanes.

The proposed -1 amendment to House Bill 4017 transfers the dedicated \$30 million in annual funding from the Interstate 5 Rose Quarter Project to the Interstate 205 Abernethy Bridge Project. Another project identified by House Bill 2017 (2017), the Interstate 205 Widening and Seismic Improvements Project includes adding an additional lane of travel in each direction from Stafford Road to the Highway 213 interchange north of Oregon City, as well as widening and strengthening the Abernethy Bridge, which connects Oregon City and West Linn over the Willamette River. The I-205 projects did not receive specific funding allocations in House Bill 2017, and the current funding plan anticipates instituting tolls on the Abernethy Bridge to pay for the improvements to that facility.