

Committee Members,

Thank you for your time and consideration and your dedication to service.

Please support this bill. Our roads and streets have grown far too unsafe to continue to lack investment in proper infrastructure and this bill will help make sure that happens.

I live in North Portland and here in the Portsmouth Neighborhood just this year, 5 year old Jaccob Riscajche was killed on a new road in the New Columbia area that could have been built better and safer had this portion of road construction been required for safe infrastructure and it could have saved his life. Late in 2019, another child was hit at the intersection of Willis & Portsmouth on their way to school at Cesar Chavez Elementary school. No child nor their friends nor their young acquaintances should ever be subject to traffic or vehicular or car violence and this bill will go a long way to ensuring the safety of future Portlanders and Oregonians.

This toll of death doesn't begin to account for lives seriously impacted when people are spared by vehicular violence. A good friend of mine has been in a wheelchair in an assisted living facility as a result from a crash in 2013 that left them with a traumatic brain injury because they were riding bike where there was no bike lane and were hit by a car. Before the crash they had a promising career, had just purchased a new home and adopted a puppy all of which had to be liquidated by the family just to give them the care they required to come out of the coma the crash put them in. Had there been safe space for them to bike, there is no telling where their potential would put them today.

So, please, support this bill as it stands. Support better and safer infrastructure for all Oregonians no matter how we choose or need to get around this beautiful state.

Thank you again for your consideration, your time and your service.

-Paul Buchanan