

Co-Chairs McLain and Gorsek, and committee members,

Thank you for your efforts towards a transportation package in the 2025 legislative session. I am advocating for a transformational package that recognizes the climate crisis that is upon us now and will become more extreme if we don't take immediate and aggressive action.

The 2025 transportation package should support the State's climate goals by reducing emissions from transportation through vehicle electrification and reductions in vehicle miles traveled. We should invest heavily in mass transit state-wide, as well as electric regional rail. We should also invest in pedestrian and bike infrastructure state-wide, making sure to prioritize safety.

The package must also center equity economically, geographically, and for those with disabilities. No one can be left out. Low- and moderate-income families must have access to electric vehicles and e-bike ownership. All of Oregon's cities must have funding for local mass transit interconnected with other transportation modalities.

ODOT must be held accountable to climate goals, including reducing emissions and vehicle miles traveled. ODOT must look beyond highways to include accessible regional mass transit systems.

Our funding strategy should require those using transportation infrastructure to fund its maintenance, with consideration for low-income populations. The funding strategy should also incentivize climate-friendly transit options and penalize options that create emissions.

Thank you for your consideration,

Scott Shurtleff  
SW Portland