

Dear Joint Committee on Transportation,

My name is Addison, I live in Empire located in Coos Bay, Oregon. I am a tenth grade student at Marshfield High School. I have been a part of the school's band for a couple years and I am on the youth climate action team with local non-profit, Rogue Climate. I urge you to find more funding to improve our public transit, bike lanes, and side-walks in Coos county.

Being a part of these extracurriculars, I often have to make my way all across town. I'd gladly walk, bike, or utilize public transport, but where I live, on the podunk side of town, there aren't too many public transits or safe paths to get where I need to go. This has been a struggle for as long as I can remember, and it would significantly improve my life if this problem was remedied. The highway that I would have to travel on to get places does not feel very safe to me, it would be really nice if there were consistent bike lanes, and actual sidewalks. It would be great if I could actually utilize the bike I have, while being able to feel safe. As someone that cannot legally drive, I find it important that people like me, or people that don't have access to their own transport, can still get places without a big hassle, and do it safely. Having more public transportation, and roads accessible for our feet and bikes, would be an adjustment to help keep the air a little cleaner, along with the environment. The lack of options for safe public transport really is a climate justice issue, and I truly encourage you to consider putting more funds towards public transit, bike lanes, and sidewalks.