

Dear Co-Chairs McLain and Gorsek, committee members,

My name is Juliae Riva, I rent in North Portland, and I am a woman of color in my mid-twenties who is passionate about safe & active transportation. I am the Clean Energy & Environmental Grants Manager at Portland General Electric, and I also am on the Emerging Leaders Board at Oregon Environmental Council.

I want state action to reduce transportation's climate impact and the need to drive, while creating safer transportation for ALL. Transportation impacts everyone's lives, and because of that, I am choosing to testify for my first time ever.

I ride my bicycle or borrow a BIKETOWN e-bike to get around whenever I can, and I have been almost hit by cars eight times in the last month due to lack of protective infrastructure for cyclists and pedestrians. When I am not biking, I choose to walk or take public transit, but often feel unsafe doing so. **We need to ensure that people can get around without needing to own a car while feeling and being safe. This means more protected bike lanes, better pedestrian infrastructure, and stronger investments in public transit.**

When I am not using active transport, I drive my electric vehicle. As a renter who parks on the street, I can speak firsthand to how unreliable and unavailable public chargers are in places that are convenient to community members. **We need to make more easily accessible and reliable public chargers available so that folks feel comfortable making the switch to electric.**

The way we fund transportation should align with the state's goals to reduce vehicle miles traveled and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, while being fair to lower-income Oregonians. I am in favor of road-use charges such as tolling in places that face the most traffic congestion. These tolls can be reduced by carpooling, driving electric, or best yet, not driving at all. I am also in favor of increasing public parking prices, especially in areas such as downtown Portland where other transport modes are available.

The 2025 transportation package should prioritize active transportation networks while decarbonizing our transportation system through:

- **More protected bike lanes**
- **Better pedestrian infrastructure**
- **Stronger investments in public transit**
- **More accessible and reliable public chargers**
- **Tolling and congestion pricing**

Thank you, co-chairs, and committee members, for your time & consideration.
With hopes of a better transportation system,
Juliae Riva