

Submitter: Chane Griggs
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure: HB2137

To the Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee in Transportation,

As a community we need an additional bridge for several reasons. The need goes far beyond addressing a convenience for Salem residents crossing the Willamette. Far more important to our state is the dire need to move goods more efficiently through this area. The current Center Street Bridge is one of the few points through which traffic can flow between the coast and the Cascades and likewise, from Portland to points south. If a producer of any good or service is spending more time on the Center St bridge because of traffic congestion, that is a cost to that business.

As you know, we have addressed this issue for a number of years and that effort was abruptly halted by our city council vote. Some of the opponents simply did not want another bridge, and others did not like the proposed siting bridge.

Please consider supporting this bill and then put together a task force that can promote a viable siting for the bridge. It's been over 40 years since Salem constructed a vehicular bridge. It's time.

Respectfully submitted,
Chane Dillard Griggs