



February 7, 2023

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice-Chair Bobby Levy and Vice-Chair Emerson Levy, and members of the House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment:

We write to you as the co-founders of Salem Bike Vision, a project working to create accessible, direct, and protected bike infrastructure throughout the community. Collectively, we serve on the Salem City Council, the transit district board, and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Over the past year, we have engaged extensively with our community and heard clearly from hundreds of individuals and more than 20 local businesses that there is a desire for more safe bike infrastructure throughout our city. We have also heard from community members whose lives have changed thanks to ebikes. For some, they no longer dread their daily commutes but look forward to them because of the fun they have on their ebikes. For a father with limited vision, who is unable to drive a car, he is now able to drop his kids off at school each day thanks to a cargo ebike. For countless others, ebikes have allowed them to remain active well into old age.

Across the country, despite a lack of financial incentives, ebikes now outsell electric vehicles by a large margin. However, as the recently published report [Electric Micromobility in Oregon](#) by the Oregon Department of Transportation noted, the cost to purchase an electric bike is out of reach for many Oregonians. An ebike rebate, like the one proposed in House Bill 2571, will supercharge the adoption of ebikes and make this safe and clean transportation option affordable to many who cannot afford them now. This will ultimately lead to safer, healthier, and more connected communities for residents of all ages and skill levels.

We urge you to support House Bill 2571.

Thank you for your consideration,

Virginia Stapleton, Ian Davidson, and Dylan McDowell
Salem Bike Vision Co-founders
www.salembikevision.org