

Submitter: Stephanie Noll
On Behalf Of: Oregon Trails Coalition
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure: HB3016

March 1, 2023

Dear Chair Marsh and Members of the Committee:

I'm submitting this testimony in support of HB 3016 on behalf of the Oregon Trails Coalition.

The Oregon Trails Coalition is a coalition of broad-based, statewide partners dedicated to the preservation, development, and stewardship of a statewide network of sustainable trails that provide access to outdoor recreation and active transportation for all.

Our advisory council includes representatives from more than twenty-five federal, state, and local agencies, trail user groups, outdoor industry and tourism partners, conservation advocates, and volunteer organizations. We represent walkers, bikers, runners, paddlers, equestrians, adaptive equipment users, skiers, snowmobilers, and motorized trail enthusiasts.

Our coalition partners are concerned about the increasing impacts of climate change on outdoor recreation, on the landscapes where we recreate, and on our communities in general. As recreationists and stewards of public lands, we are determined to partner in forwarding climate solutions.

HB 3016's establishment of a Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program, Community Green Infrastructure Fund, Task Force, and urban tree canopy assessment tool will give our partners much needed tools to address and mitigate climate change impacts.

We also want to express our support for suggested amendments that add a park representative to the task force and add Oregon Parks and Recreation Department as a partnering agency. Recreation planners, land managers, and the broader community recreating on public lands are all critical partners in positively addressing climate change.

We hope to see this legislation forwarded by the committee.

Thank you for your leadership,

Stephanie Noll,
Coalition Director,
Oregon Trails Coalition