

Submitter: Kelcey Young  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation  
Measure: SB445

The City of Sweet Home is a rural community that is seeing a significant increase in traffic. For our community traffic is a mostly positive sign as it has the potential to boost our economy. However, as traffic has increased so has our number of accidents and safety concerns.

We see an average of 10,000 vehicles go through our city each day. In the summer this number increases. Many of these vehicles are commuting to or from Bend and headed to or from the I5 corridor. While we have speed limits of 35 miles per hour running through our city, we have limited stop lights, and many travelers continue through our town at 55 miles per hour, or higher. We have had 135 accidents in our small community in the last year. Some of these collisions have been fatal. We have pedestrians walking along the highways each day including children coming to and from school.

Highway 20 runs through the very center of our town and requires additional pedestrian crossings and stoplights. We have multiple projects in the works and would be ready to go as soon as we had funding. Our community is just one of many communities facing these types of issues. Rural communities are often forgotten or underestimated when it comes to traffic improvements. I urge you to please pass this bill to provide funding for traffic safety for rural communities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kelcey Young

City Manager of Sweet Home