

Submitter: David Binnig

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure: HB3113

I'm writing in support of HB 3113, dedicating funds to the Great Streets program. While Oregon plans to spend billions on interstate freeway projects, many of our deadliest roads are the state highways that serve as city arterials and town main streets. Beyond their toll in lives, the danger of fast traffic on these roads creates barriers that divide neighborhoods, separating children from schools and families from parks.

I live near Portland's Southeast Powell Boulevard (US 26), where 20 people have been killed in crashes in the past five years, but there are roads with similar problems throughout the state. ODOT's new Blueprint for Urban Design sets admirable goals for safer roads and better bike and pedestrian access, but those goals can't be realized without the funding to back them up. HB 3113 would allow Oregon to more systematically devote resources to making these roads safe and usable, rather than reacting piecemeal after tragedies happen. I hope the Committee will support it.

Thank you,
David Binnig