

Submitter: Kieran Hanrahan  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation  
Measure: HB2098

I write today to strongly oppose amendment 2 to HB 2098 not just because of the outrageous cost of this project, but because of the dangerous designs that ODOT is pursuing for the new interstate bridge that will put the lives of everyone who drives across it at risk.

Proposed designs for the IBR would use a 4% grade, and the off ramps will have even steeper grades, as high as 7%. These numbers may not sound like much, but they would make it the steepest interstate bridge in the country. Combined with the region's inclement weather, the high speed of I5 traffic, and the density of traffic flowing along the route, proposed designs could kill hundreds of people in avoidable crashes over the lifespan of the replacement bridge.

Furthermore, the majority of ODOT's requested funding amount will not actually go to replacing the bridge itself! Project documents released by the IBR team in November 2022 revealed that the cost of replacing the bridge is only \$500 million. The rest of the money spent would go to replacing interchanges, not the bridge itself.

Oregonians don't want to pay for a dangerous traffic interchange project; we want a bridge! Oregon deserves safe, financially responsible alternatives to proposed designs. ODOT should not be given more funding to pursue its deadly plans.

Thank you,  
Kieran Hanrahan  
Portland, OR