

April 24, 2023

Hello Transportation Committee,

I support replacing this bridge, but oppose HB 2098 -2, because this legislation as currently written jeopardizes a right-sized Bridge Replacement, right now. I support the forthcoming -3 Amendment (and the policy recommendations offered by the Just Crossing Alliance) that ensures this replacement bridge project moves forward smoothly with explicit pro-labor provisions, finance guardrails, and major investments in mass transit.

This proposal deserves support both for fiscal responsibility and for a more sustainable future. As a resident of Kenton neighborhood in North Portland, I am concerned about the air quality during construction and about building oversized fossil fuel infrastructure. There are so many reasons to not give highway construction a blank check. Please stop and consider a more modest, responsible, and sustainable approach to the needed crossing bridge.

I write as a neighbor, Journeyman Carpenter and longtime member of Northwest Carpenters Union.