

Submitter: Ethan Jones

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure: HB2098

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 -3 Amendment (and the policy recommendations offered by the Just Crossing Alliance) that ensures this replacement bridge project moves forward smoothly with a right-sized design, explicit pro-labor provisions, financial guardrails, and major investments in mass transit. ODOT is not listening to what Portland actually wants, instead kowtowing to the whims of the oil industry while Oregon literally burns. It is critical that major investments in public transit be made in conjunction with this project. The current bridge will destroy Portland businesses, living spaces, and the environment all so people can maintain their 75 mph sprint through a city and fill Big Oil's coffers. Cars are dirty, loud, and deadly. Even electric cars will spew tire particulates in the air that are 2,000 times worse than fuel exhaust, and will still run over cyclists and pedestrians. It's time to end the terror of the tires and make a better environment.