

Submitter: Sara Davis

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.

While I support a right size bridge project, I have concerns about freeway expansion when resources are desperately needed for safety considering the number of traffic fatalities—particularly that of pedestrians. I worry about letting my kids walk to school. Im deeply concerned about the climate emergency and frustrated that ODOT wants to spend billions on a freeway that will increase emissions instead of investing in better local and statewide transit options, when 40% of Oregon’s carbon emissions come from transportation. It would be great if Oregon could prioritize investments in passenger rail, basic bus service, and other ways to get around for the 1 in 4 Oregonians who can’t or don’t drive.