

Submitter: Julie Stewart

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure: HB2756

Dear Committee Members:

My name is Julie Stewart. I am a resident of Washington County, where I live one block off of Hall Boulevard in the Metzger neighborhood. My own child and all the other 10 & under children in our neighborhood deserve a safe crossing of Hall Boulevard to reach their elementary school. There are no sidewalks on the County side of Hall, which defines the city limit of Tigard. The lack of sidewalks applies not just to Hall itself but to the connecting, high-traffic arterial streets, so the entire route is unsafe for kids to navigate even though it is a short walk to the school for most of us.

An excellent solution for the Metzger area kids would be to take advantage of a lightly trafficked street - Mapleleaf-- that is popular already with pedestrians because it features a series of dead ends, and cars don't use it. Mapleleaf Street terminates at Fanno Creek, which runs lateral to Hall. Building a pedestrian bridge over the creek and adding a motion sensing signal to cross Hall would create a safe passage for children and all other pedestrians. The bridge would be perfectly located to connect with an existing pedestrian pathway across Hall that feeds directly to the school.

I realize this is a very specific comment. Regardless, I urge you to give a favorable vote to this bill because any improvements to Hall Boulevard will prevent future tragedies for local pedestrians.

Thank you for your consideration.