



February 8, 2023

House Committee on Climate, Energy and Environment  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem Oregon 97301

**Re: HB 2571 - Support**

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice-Chairs Levy and Levy, and Members of the Committee,

Climate Solutions is a regional non-profit working to accelerate clean energy solutions to the climate crisis. We write in support of HB 2571 and offer the following perspectives.

Our transportation system produces nearly [40% of Oregon's GHG pollution, kills nearly 500 people in Oregon every year](#), disproportionately burdens low-income and Black, Indigenous and communities of color with toxic air pollution, and fails to fully serve the 1 in 3 Oregonians who don't drive due to age, disability, or income. Oregon will not meet its climate goals, if we do not reduce emissions from the transportation sector by electrifying the transportation system as well as prioritize funding for alternative modes of transportation that reduce car trips.

HB 2571 would create a rebate program to help Oregonians purchase quality electric bicycles incentivizing folks to replace car trips with bike trips. The average American's car trip distance is less than 10 miles, making the electric bike a perfect transition to cut car trips altogether. Rebates for electric bicycles have been popping up across the nation and have proved both popular and successful. Last year, Denver, Colorado launched its citywide rebate program for electric bicycles and within [minutes](#) of being open, reached its funding limit. To understand how the program was displacing car trips, a city [survey](#) was conducted and found that those who received the rebate had replaced 3.4 car trips each week with e-bike rides, new e-bike riders were riding 26.2 miles per week on average, and low-income riders were riding 32 miles per week on average. With the success of Denver's program, the state of Colorado is now planning to launch its own \$10 million rebate program later this year geared towards providing rebates to low-income Coloradans. If this HB 2571 is implemented, Colorado will be a good case study to assess how future iterations of this program can target benefits to low-income Oregonians.

We strongly support HB 2571 as it would not only reduce car trips thus reducing climate and tailpipe air pollution, but it would also improve quality of life for individuals and communities across our state given the array of co-benefits that bike riding produces, such as reduced transportation spending, mental and physical health improvement, as well as safer streets.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V Paykar".

Victoria Paykar  
Oregon Transportation Policy Manager  
Climate Solutions