



February 2, 2024

Co-Chair Susan McLain & Co-Chair Chris Gorsek
Joint Committee on Transportation

Re: Support for HB 4067 - E-micromobility Task Force

Dear Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLain:

The City of Lake Oswego is writing to express our support of HB 4067, establishing a task force to review and make recommendations on e-micromobility safety and education.

E-micromobility devices, especially e-bikes, have become very popular for transportation and recreation in our community, along with many others across the state. Electric micromobility presents opportunities to advance our equity and climate goals by providing low-carbon transportation options accessible to a wide range of ages and incomes. However, as with many new technologies, their adoption has outpaced the regulatory environment. This has led to public safety challenges in our community.

Over the past year in Lake Oswego, we have experienced conflicts between pedestrians and e-bikes, as well as an increase in unsafe and unlawful usage of e-bikes, particularly by youth. We have been working closely with our school district for targeted youth outreach to address these issues. While we have increased our public engagement and education efforts about existing laws that relate to e-bikes, including that the devices are not allowed on sidewalks and operators must be at least 16 years old, we feel there are opportunities to strengthen the regulatory framework to ensure that these newer technologies can be integrated safely into our transportation systems. Ensuring safety for all travelers and types of trips in Lake Oswego is a key priority for our community.

We support the approach of HB 4067 to establish a task force whose membership represents a broad range of stakeholders, expertise, and interests related to e-micromobility devices to review existing laws and best practices and make recommendations on how we can support electric micromobility in a way that ensures safety for all users of our roads and pathways, while advancing equity and climate goals.

We urge your support for HB 4067.