



August 25, 2025

Co-Chair Senate President Robert Wagner  
Co-Chair Speaker Julie Fahey  
Co-Vice Chair Daniel Bonham  
Co-Vice Chair Christine Drazan  
Joint Interim Committee on Transportation Funding

RE: Support LC 2

My name is Alex Pierro, I am a member of AFSCME Local 189 and a Senior Public Works Construction Inspector for the Portland Bureau of Transportation. I am here today to speak in support of the State transportation bill.

In my seven years with the Bureau, my coworkers and I have dutifully served without interruption – through a global pandemic, uprisings for racial and social justice, devastating wildfires, and one economic catastrophe after another. Throughout all this, we continue to perform our duties as dedicated public servants. Each of my seven years here has also been a budget cut year. At this point, there is no “fat” to trim. Any future cuts will cut to the bone. I come here today to put an urgent request on the table: Don’t put our lives and the public’s wellbeing in danger by failing to properly fund transportation in Oregon. (0:37)

The services we continue to provide are essential – basic safety and maintenance that contribute to core public wellbeing in a very visible way.

We are surveyors, who provide essential information for all kinds of safety improvements. We are inspectors, who ensure that proper materials are used, plans are followed, and that our job sites are safe – for workers, and for the public. We are parking enforcement officers, who provide access to ADA facilities, fire hydrants, and sidewalks.

We respond in emergency events across the City - staffing service lines during weather events, removing vehicles from plow routes during snow storms, responding to every kind of emergency in our right of way, from pole knockdowns to landslides to sinkholes.

We are also chronically understaffed, and critically at risk if this package does not pass. Our ask is simple: Provide a stable funding source so we can continue to serve our communities effectively. Don’t overload an inspector who has to check traffic control on 82nd Avenue while monitoring a concrete pour at a different location. Don’t cut our survey crews and delay critical safety improvement projects. Don’t lay off our co-workers at the City, at Trimet, at ODOT, who form a critical part of our transportation web. Without them, it becomes impossible for us to do our jobs, and the people of Oregon will see and feel the difference. (1:40)



We need you to make sure that visiting friends and relatives can safely reach their destinations in our cities and towns. Commit to delivering the highest quality work for the greatest public good. Please fund transportation in Oregon, and support LC 2.

Alex Pierro  
AFSCME Local 189