

Submitter:	carina solis
On Behalf Of:	St Johns Neighborhood Association
Committee:	Joint Interim Committee On Transportation Funding
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	LC 2

Good afternoon, my name is Carina Solis, and I serve as the Safety, Livability, and Transportation Chair of the St. Johns Neighborhood Association. I'm here on behalf of my neighbors in North Portland.

I am here in support of LC 2. We need a resiliency study of the bridges and tunnels that connect the North Portland peninsula, especially around the CEI hub. This isn't just planning on paper — it's a critical part of incident and emergency response. We need to know where the vulnerabilities are and what it will take to keep our community connected in the face of disaster. This is not just a North Portland issue; it's a regional lifeline issue.

For us, bridges aren't just infrastructure. They are lifelines. They connect us to our jobs, our schools, our families — and they connect the rest of the city to St. Johns, to our businesses, and to our community. Right now, if there's a major natural disaster or serious accident, the few crossings we have — the St. Johns Bridge, the rail bridges, the cut, and the tunnel — could leave tens of thousands of people stranded. At the same time, I urge you to increase the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund. Transit is more than a commute option — it's accessibility. It reduces isolation, strengthens workforce participation, and lessens the burden on costly emergency services like road and highway maintenance. A strong transit system means a decrease of a burden on often strained (and expensive) emergency services. And as you consider funding, I ask that you also reconsider the tax strategy so that working families don't carry the heaviest burden as we modernize our transportation system and strengthen our economy.

Thank you for your time and for considering the voices of North Portland.

Thank you for your consideration