

Submitter: Nic Westendorf

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Interim Committee On Transportation  
Funding

Measure, Appointment or  
Topic: LC 2

Co-Chairs Wagner and Fahey and Members of the Committee,

My name is Nic, and I live in Beaverton. I am writing in to testify as neutral on LC 2.

While I applaud the work to bring essential funding to ODOT to maintain our roads as well as the small increase in STIF funding to attempt to stave off much of the potential cuts to transit, this bill does not nearly address the transportation system challenges we face today nor does it reflect the public testimony received from the statewide roadshow and previous hearing on earlier versions of the bill.

LC2 does not address crucial transportation safety issues and does not include enough funding to help build the robust transportation system Oregonians deserve.

Funding for Safe Routes to School, Oregon Community Paths, the Great Streets program, and funding for jurisdictional transfers or state-owned orphan highways to local road agencies has all been removed. In addition, the STIF increase has been reduced to an amount well below the stated needs of transit providers and well below the amount needed to meet the level of service vice Oregonians have requested.

I understand we need to strike a balance to get something passed. I also understand that this economic environment is not conducive to increased taxes and fees. While both of those are true, the reality is we need more funding to meet the needs of our state. The people have spoken and this stopgap bill comes up far too short of our desired goals. I urge you to find a path to resolve this problem - whether Friday or in 2026. We cannot keep kicking this down the road. We deserve better.

Thank you for your time and attention to these urgent needs.