



August 25, 2025

Joint Interim Committee On Transportation Funding
900 Court Street NE, HR F
Salem, OR 97301
RE: LC 2- Special Session Transportation Funding Package

Co-Chair Wagner, Co-Chair Fahey, Co-Vice Chair Bonham, Co-Vice Chair Drazan, and
Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on LC 2, which is the current draft of the transportation funding package that will be considered during the upcoming special session. Oregon's transportation infrastructure is at a breaking point. Our streets are crumbling, and many communities still lack basics like sidewalks and safe crossings. Yet every day Oregonians rely on this system to reach work, school, and medical care. The proposal before you is urgently needed. For Portland this proposal prevents reductions of about 50 transportation positions, allowing us to continue core services like streetlight repair, pavement maintenance, and traffic safety work. It also provides essential support for our transit, state, and county partners. Additionally, we look forward to partnering with the State to find ways for the resources to be used to keep the highways in the Metro region clean and safe.

We cannot underscore enough how much we appreciate that this proposal preserves the longstanding 50/30/20 split of State Highway Fund between the state, counties, and cities. Our systems are deeply interconnected so by maintaining this partnership, you're helping to keep the entire network functioning. With this in mind, we urge you to support this proposal.

At the same time, I must also emphasize—this is a short-term fix. Even with state partnership and Portland's voter-approved gas tax, our Bureau of Transportation has faced cuts every year for seven years. This measure sustains an already significantly reduced level of service. It does not address the growing maintenance backlog across the state,



challenges with gas tax and parking revenues, or capital projects Oregon needs to support safe systems and economic growth. So, while I urge your support for this proposal, I also ask you to keep working toward long-term, modernized funding solutions that will keep Oregon moving safely and efficiently. Portland stands ready to partner with you in that effort.

Sincerely,

Keith Wilson

Mayor of Portland