



March 6, 2025

Joint Committee on Transportation  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR, 97301

RE: Testimony regarding HB 3362

FR: Mackenzie Springer, Transportation Advocacy Manager, Neighbors for Clean Air

Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLaine, Co-Vice Chairs Starr and Boshart Davis, and members of the Joint Committee On Transportation,

My name is Mackenzie Springer, Transportation Advocacy Manager for Neighbors for Clean Air, a statewide advocacy organization that for over 15 years has worked to protect public health from toxic air pollution. I appreciate the opportunity to comment on HB 3362 and the bill's oversight in failing to allocate anticipated revenue to address tire emissions.

We appreciate that this legislature is seeking out new funding sources to help fund rail improvements and provide Oregonians with more sustainable transportation alternatives that help us reduce air pollutants and meet our climate goals. However, we are disappointed in the bill's failure to allocate funding to prevent and mitigate tire-related air pollution, in addition to the water pollution covered by the bill.

Tires are a significant source of not only water pollution, which is highlighted and addressed in this bill, but also air pollution. As modern cars become more fuel efficient and lower emitting, tires are now the leading [source of emissions](#) from new vehicles. This is because as cars are driven on roads "tire wear particles", a form of particle pollution, are [emitted](#) into the air.

A growing number of experts believe that these small tire particles pose a [unique health risk](#) because they are small enough to pass through lung tissue into the bloodstream and then cross the blood-brain barrier. From here they can cause a wide range of health issues. According to a [recent report](#) there is a growing amount of evidence linking tire wear particles to negative health outcomes including heart problems, lung illnesses, developmental and reproductive issues, and cancer.

Despite this mounting evidence pointing towards the significant health concerns associated with tire emissions they remain difficult to monitor and remain [unregulated](#). If Oregon is to pursue a tire tax, and use revenue raised to address tire pollution mitigation and prevention, it would be a



significant oversight to not use a portion of this revenue to monitor and address the significant public health issue of tire emissions.

We appreciate the work that has been done on HB 3362 in looking at funding mechanisms for rail improvements and tire pollution mitigation, and hope that moving forward these efforts will also seek to address tire emissions and the serious issue that this air pollution poses to our public health.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our input.

Sincerely,

Mackenzie Springer  
Transportation Advocacy Manager  
Neighbors for Clean Air