

Submitter: Gerald Fox
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3453

I am writing to urge support for a long overdue passenger rail service between Portland and Salem, and eventually Eugene.
Driving I-5 between these cities must be the most boring way to spend time, and yet many of our most talented citizens and officials are required to do this every day. Imagine how much potentially useful time is being wasted in traffic or staring at the road ahead !!

We are fortunate that there exists a secondary rail route partly used by WES that could be upgraded to accommodate such service without impacting Union Pacific's main freight route.

I hope that a lesson from the WES project will be not to overdesign this rail line, thereby keeping the costs more reasonable. The rail line can always be further improved once service feasibility has been established. But if the initial project is over priced, and therefore not built such an opportunity will be lost.

Procrastinate no longer. Go for it. Future generations will thank you

Gerald Fox