



March 19, 2025

To: Joint Committee On Transportation

RE: Support for HB 2963 establishing an e-bike rebate program

Dear Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLain , and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to express Forth's strong support for **HB 2963, which would establish a E-Bike Rebate Bill**. This legislation is a crucial step toward enabling more equitable access to electric bicycles in Oregon. Micromobility is an essential component of decarbonizing our transportation system, and by helping more Oregonians adopt low-carbon transportation options, we can reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build healthier, more connected communities.

Forth is a nonprofit organization that works to advance clean and equitable transportation systems to move everyone and everything by bringing people together to create solutions that reduce pollution and barriers to access. Forth works in partnership to build lasting program and policy models that significantly expand equitable access to electric transportation in the U.S. and beyond. Forth's membership includes auto manufacturers, electric vehicle charging suppliers, utilities, local governments, non-profit environmental organizations, and community-based organizations.

E-bikes are a zero-emission mode of transportation that offer a practical, healthy, and efficient way to move people, goods, and services while decreasing the number of cars on the road. While Oregon has a strong cycling culture, traditional bicycles are not a viable car replacement for many individuals, including older adults, people with disabilities, those who commute long distances, and families with children. E-bikes provide a reliable and flexible transportation option for these communities and others who cannot or do not drive. With car ownership expensive and transit sometimes unreliable, e-bikes can serve as a lifeline. Cost remains the most significant barrier to e-bike adoption. Many e-bikes cost thousands of dollars, placing them out of reach for individuals and families who struggle to afford any mode of transportation. By establishing an e-bike incentive program, HB 2963 will make this clean, efficient, and accessible transportation option available to more Oregonians, particularly those who stand to benefit the most.

We urge your support on HB2963 as it will help advance Oregon towards a clean and equitable transportation future.

Sincerely,

Avery Morris, Program Manager
Forth