

My name is Jodi Grossman. I'm a leadership coach based in Bend, and a volunteer with Central Oregon LandWatch. I was not called to testify at the Warm Springs hearing on Friday, so I'm submitting my testimony herewith.

I moved to Bend five year ago from the Front Range of Colorado, and my testimony is influenced by what that region has experienced over the 45 years I lived there. I urge you to prioritize investments in housing-related infrastructure, multimodal transportation, and wildlife crossings in the 2025-2027 budget. These aren't just policy priorities; they are the foundation of community well-being and resilience.

Across Oregon, infrastructure gaps are stalling our ability to build homes people can afford. We know that without adequate water, sewer, and transportation systems, even the best housing plans go unrealized. That's why I strongly support full funding for House Bill 3031, which would establish dedicated, programmatic support for the infrastructure **cities** need to deliver more housing – without causing the sprawl and loss of open space I so sadly watched happen on Colorado's Front Range.

Similarly, when we invest in multimodal transportation options—like Safe Routes to Schools, Oregon Community Paths, and Great Streets—we improve safety, reduce isolation, and support mental and physical wellbeing for Oregonians of all ages.

Finally, I urge you to prioritize funding for wildlife crossings. These investments protect drivers **and** wildlife, and they remind us that human security and ecological health can absolutely go hand-in-hand.

In my work, I see every day how stress negatively impacts people both physically and emotionally, and how important community connection and safety is for productivity and a thriving quality of life. The choices you make in this budget cycle can help make every Oregonian feel safe and connected to their communities.

Thank you for your service and for your consideration of this testimony.