

Submitter: Frank Hiebel
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5006

Dear Co-Chairs Lieber and Sanchez and Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means,

I'm writing to express my strong support for state investment in the Salmonberry Trail. This project represents an exciting opportunity to create an 82-mile, safe, and accessible trail connecting the Oregon Coast and the Willamette Valley. This new rail to trail will connect with the very successful Banks/Vernonia rail to trail and will catapult this area into a premier hiking and biking hub!

The Salmonberry Trail will bring a range of benefits to Oregonians—boosting local economies through increased tourism, promoting public health through active recreation, and improving transportation safety for those who currently lack safe alternatives to busy highways. It also creates equitable access to the outdoors, especially for rural communities that have historically seen less investment in recreational infrastructure.

As the state considers funding priorities, I urge you to include the Salmonberry Trail. This is a smart, future-focused investment that will serve Oregon for generations to come.

Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,
Frank Hiebel
Hillsboro