

Submitter: Matthew Smith

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

Dear Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of modernizing our transportation system to help Oregon progress toward a future that is safer, more sustainable, and more equitable. It is an investment that benefits us all. HB 2025 as it stands today will largely help with these issues.

My family lives in Corvallis, and we do not own a car. We are sensitive to the challenges faced by people who want or need to travel car free. Uncomfortable or dangerous situations are difficult to avoid when cycling and walking, especially with children. Transit (both in and between cities) runs infrequently which limits our options to get around. There are many who can't afford to or are not able to drive, and they face these challenges and more.

We need investments in programs that create safer streets for all users, including fully funding the Safe Routes to School and the Great Streets programs. We also need investments in transit so that programs can grow.

Two changes that I would request for HB 2025:

1. Add funding for the Oregon Community Paths program. This program helps make off-street connections that make a huge difference for people using active and alternative transportation methods.
2. Modify Section 160. Motor vehicle traffic lanes through towns and cities should not have a mandated minimum width of 12 feet. It has been found that the number of crashes on a street with 12-foot lanes is significantly higher than on streets with narrower lanes.

Thank you,  
Matthew Smith