

Submitter: Anthony Martin
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Special Session Committee On Transportation
Funding
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3991

Supporting HB 3991

Chairs and Members of the Committee,

My name is Anthony Martin, and I respectfully urge your “yes” vote on HB 3991.

Oregon stands at a pivotal crossroads right now and we must act. The state must be committed to a well-maintained, equitable, and sustainable transportation system, and additional taxes are necessary to achieve that.

Our transportation network keeps our communities thriving: connecting families, supporting local businesses, and providing access to education, health care, and opportunity. Investment in transportation is an ongoing commitment at every level of government that has gotten more expensive to provide. From rural county roads to urban transit corridors, each segment of our infrastructure supports the daily lives of Oregonians and underpins our long-term economic prosperity. I appreciate the continuation of the 50/30/20 split in revenue to ensure that each level of government can keep that commitment.

The focus on maintenance of our existing infrastructure and transit is critical. While more is needed for programmatic investments, proactive upkeep of roads and bridges is far more cost-effective than allowing them to deteriorate until complete replacement becomes necessary. Every dollar invested today in preservation saves Oregon taxpayers many more down the road, while also reducing disruptions, delays, and hazards for all who use our system. It is also critical that this measure funds transit. We owe it to our children, elders, and neighbors to build and maintain a system that is safe and accessible for every user, whether they walk, bike, drive, or ride transit.

I appreciate the accountability measures and look for a continued focus on using funds in the most cost effective and efficient way. Transparency is a fundamental component for trust in government, and we owe it to everyone to show tax dollars at work.

This transportation package represents another positive step toward Oregon’s future—a future where our infrastructure supports innovation, growth, safety, and sustainability for generations to come. I urge you to pass this legislation during the special session, and commit to ongoing conversations about sustainable funding that will keep Oregon moving forward. We have a structural funding issue and need a sustainable long-term solution.

Thank you for your leadership and your commitment to the people of Oregon.