

Submitter: Hal DeShow

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

Dear members of the Joint Committee on Transportation Reinvestment,

My name is Hal DeShow, I'm a teacher and father and I live in Bend, Oregon. As a daily bike commuter, I urge you to increase funding for the Oregon Community Paths program in HB 2025. Allow me to explain. Every day, I hop on my bike and navigate through a disorienting assortment of bike lanes, sharrows, roads with bike lanes that suddenly disappear, and the occasional stress-relieving protected bike lane with a physical barrier. Because I have been doing this for 20 years, I'm comfortable with it. But my kid lacks such experience, as do all the folks in our fine state who want to bike because it is cheaper and healthier than driving. We need a simple system of bike paths where novice riders do not have to contend with deadly cars and ever-changing traffic conditions.

We know that our communities will be less congested, have better air quality, and be happier healthier places to live with more people walking and biking. We need to build the infrastructure to support our kids, grandparents and everyone in between being able to safely move themselves around our towns. Please increase funding for Oregon Community Paths.

Thank you
Hal DeShow