

Submitter: Christian Inchaustegui

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

I want to see: funding for more frequent bus service in Portland and Oregon. (12min cannot be "frequent enough", get us to 3-5min intervals), more dedicated bus lanes especially on "orphan highways", and grade separation for the MAX through downtown. Also, complete the 40-mile Portland loop! If we do this, we will become a world class city. I urge you to divert funding from highway expansion projects and car centric infrastructure and direct it to transit funding.

My wife and I share a single car. She works in a hospital that's easily reachable by the MAX, but getting to the closest MAX station from our house by taking the bus more than doubles her commute time. If the buses connecting to the MAX came more frequently, and the train didn't have to slow down through the Steel bridge and downtown, we could easily get to Hillsboro in the 35min it takes to drive there and essentially ditch the car or only use it for sporadic weekend getaways outside the city. This is the story of many Portlanders who would make a different choice if they had the chance. Help this city become car-free. Help people use transit and thus make it safer and a priority.

I'm privileged in that I can bike to work. But crossing the orphan highways of Cesar Chavez is always unnerving. Crossing Powell is always a gamble. People continue to die in those streets and we need to traffic calm them down by taking lanes away for dedicated bus service.

Cars pollute our air (even EVs with their tire particle emissions), main and kill our neighbors and children, create hypertension-inducing noise pollution, and take away valuable space from our community. We need to regulate them more if we aim to get Portland back on track. For every dollar you invest in this, we will get greater returns.