

Submitter: Maria Fernanada Gutierrez

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

Presidents, Vice Presidents and Committee Members

My name is Maria Gutierrez, and I am a resident of Aloha, Washington County, a diverse and growing community.

I am testifying today because I support a 2025 transportation package that works for ALL Oregonians and reflects our shared values of safety, affordability, equity, and climate resilience.

One of the most serious problems we face is the lack of sidewalks, adequate street and avenue signage, and lighting for pedestrians and cyclists, in addition to the limited frequency of buses during off-peak hours and on weekends. Many routes, such as Routes 52 and 88, operate every 30 to 60 minutes, which is neither efficient nor reliable for those of us who rely on public transit.

There are numerous new residential areas and low-income communities that are not well connected to bus lines or MAX service, creating isolation and limiting access to job, medical, and educational opportunities.

Improvement Proposal:

I urge state and local legislators to prioritize traffic improvement and pedestrian safety projects, including the construction of more sidewalks, well-marked crossings, public lighting, and bicycle lanes.

Aloha urgently needs investment in infrastructure that protects its residents and encourages the use of alternative and sustainable transportation modes by improving the frequency of public transportation service, especially in the areas most in need. A more efficient and equitable transportation network would have a direct impact on the quality of life for thousands of families across Oregon.

The "Moving Forward with Oregon" campaign is pleased to see the progress made on the transportation package. It is a testament to the efforts of so many community members who came together to ensure a safe, clean, and affordable transportation package. But our work is not done. We need to ensure that electrification and off-street trails are not left behind.

We look forward to your support; thank you