

Testimony: Lyft's impact on senior mobility

Good afternoon Chairman Holvey, and Members of the House Business and Labor Committee. My name is Carol Perez and I'm a Community Affairs Organizer at Lyft.

Today I want to talk to you about transportation for older adults, and the positive impact that Lyft is having on senior mobility across the country, which could come to Oregon with the passage of HB 3246.

Access to transportation plays a key role in the lives of older adults and those who care for them. Of seniors (65 and older) who no longer drive, the risk of poor health outcomes, food insecurity, and social isolation is significant. According to AARP, this group makes:

- 15% fewer trips to the doctor (missing or postponing appointments due to limited mobility)
- 59% fewer trips to shop or eat
- And 65% fewer trips to visit family or friends

Over just the past year, Lyft's Elder Mobility and Healthcare program has partnered with many of the nation's largest senior living communities and hospital networks to bring safe and affordable transportation to older, low-income and at-risk adults. Through these deliberate partnerships, we've brought transportation options to a population not traditionally thought of as part of the ridesharing economy.

An important element to the success is that the senior doesn't even need a smartphone, thanks to our Concierge tool, which allows an authorized individual to request a Lyft on their behalf from a computer. Now, caretakers or staff at a hospital or senior living community can request a Lyft for a resident or patient.

Getting safe, affordable, and convenient rides to the senior population has been an enormous success in the places our partnerships have already been launched. One partner, Brookdale Senior Living, has 1,100 communities across the country, with 35 in Oregon. While we have active pilots with Brookdale in 30 communities across several other states, we'd like to unlock the ability to expand our senior rides here as soon as possible, so we thank you in advance for voting yes on HB 3246.