



June 5, 2017

Joint Committee on Transportation Preservation and Modernization  
Co-Chairs Beyer and McKeown  
900 Court Street, NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Support for HB 2017 – 3

Dear Co-Chairs Beyer and McKeown and Committee Members:

Last September this committee visited Hillsboro as part of your statewide tour to learn about the transportation needs and priorities of communities across our state. During the hearing you heard a clear message from our city and from other elected leaders in Washington County that a transportation funding package should be robust, multimodal, and account for the needs of the transportation system throughout Oregon.

It is our belief that the bill before you today encompasses those critical elements by making game-changing investments across all modes of transportation and we stand in strong support.

Washington County has history of leadership when it comes to prioritizing and investing in transportation infrastructure, and our voters have consistently demonstrated a willingness to fund those investments. Transportation infrastructure is the backbone of our economy and has enabled and sustained significant economic growth that has benefited our region and our state. It has also been a key factor in promoting community livability and a high quality of life in our area. However, our city, county and our region cannot build the future transportation system that we need to continue recruiting and retaining world class companies and promoting a high quality of life for our citizens without improving our state and regional transportation system.

Our region is mired in congestion that will only worsen exponentially in the future absent bold state action. As you know, congestion on our freeways, highways and arterials presents the same economic challenge for business across the state as it presents to those located in our region. In that respect, and in others, this issue affects us all.

This legislation establishes a bold vision for a partnership between our region and the state to invest in and improve key choke points in our transportation system and we strongly support that partnership.

We have two choices: we can take action now, or let the challenges deepen as the needed fixes get more expensive. There is no easy solution when it comes to raising sufficient revenue to sustain the level of investment in our transportation infrastructure contemplated in this legislation. Every road, every transit line, and every bridge we use today exists because past generations made a choice to take action and invest in transportation infrastructure.

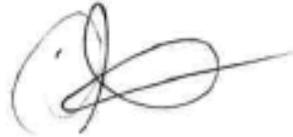
Now is our time to lead and invest in the maintenance and improvement of our transportation system. That's why we support increasing fuel taxes, registration fees and the other revenue raising measures identified in this legislation as a way to fight congestion, help our families live better and to help our employers stay competitive.

We sincerely thank this committee for all of your hard work over the last year and your commitment to assembling and passing this generational investment in our state's transportation system.

Sincerely,



Steve Callaway,  
Mayor



Olivia Alcaire,  
City Councilor



Kyle Allen,  
City Councilor



Darell Lumaco,  
City Councilor



Anthony Martin,  
City Councilor



Fred Nachtigal,  
City Councilor



Rick Van Beveren,  
City Councilor