

Dear Members of the Joint Committee on Transportation Preservation and Modernization,

I am writing to urge your support using the policy language in HB 3230 as the commitment to Safe Routes to School in the Transportation Package by:

- Removing the ten-year sunset on the program
- Expanding street safety funding to \$15M per year
- Funding in-classroom education with \$6M per year
- Including Title 1 prioritization for street safety projects
- Creating flexibility in local funding match requirement for Title 1 schools
- Expanding the radius for eligible projects around schools to 1 mile

Like many kids, my daughter (& obviously her classmates) attend a Title 1 school, but many children throughout the state would stand to benefit from this versus current HB 2017. I envision a day when our kids are aware of traffic, but aren't scared that their lives might be at risk in getting from one place to another.

Safe Routes to School is an initiative with a 12 year-long track record of success that combines street safety improvements near schools with education and encouragement programs to make it safe and accessible for kids and families to choose to walk, bike, and safely access transit to school. Street safety projects alone only increase walking and biking by about 20%.

Just as my own safety as a bike commuter improved with the advent of bike lanes, green ways & green boxes, this policy stands a solid, consciences chance of improving multi-use and school transportation.

When these projects are completed at the same time as education, community encouragement and environmental stewardship, everyone benefits. We can create the new social norm.

Thanks for your attention & continued consideration of how all kids in Oregon, urban and rural/private and public, get safely to and from school!

Sent from my iPhone