

Dear Co-Chairs Sen. Beyer & Rep. McKeown, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB 2017-3. While I appreciate the effort toward addressing a multimodal package, I urge you to address the following concerns:

- Highway and roadway expansion does not help us toward a more climate friendly, and less congested future

- . Increasing freeway lanes will only increase demand from people driving, quickly bringing congestion back to its current state, or worse.

Please further fund biking, walking, and transit to ensure that transportation options are available to all Oregonians.

We must make these options more attractive for more people to keep our cities and communities across Oregon safe and livable.

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I am against a tax on new bicycle sales. Bicycle infrastructure and safety projects are extremely cheap compared to any road improvements for automobiles. Bicycles cause almost no deterioration on the roadways compared to autos, too, so it is unfair to impose a new tax on a mode of transportation that helps to increase public health, decrease road congestion and does not harm air quality.

And, of course, most bicycle riders also drive and so pay for roads through the current gas tax. I support a higher gas tax so that the vehicles that are actually using and damaging the roadways are also paying for them.

- Include language in the bill that commits to creating more accessible transit for low-income riders

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- Ensure that youth across Oregon have safe and accessible transportation to school, work, and play. Include the components of HB 3230 into the transportation package, and pass HB 2693 as a complementary bill to this package - which creates a grant program for youth transportation.

- Clearly invest in meeting the state-identified goal of Vision Zero - zero deaths on our roadways

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which currently goes

un-addressed in this package.

- As we plan for the future with congestion pricing and transfer of roadways to local jurisdictions, clearly define HOW we will ensure that these new programs are funded

and how the benefits and burdens are distributed equitably.

Thank you for
considering my comments.

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