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NEWS RELEASE

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SENATE SENDS \$5.3 BILLION TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN TO GOVERNOR

(SALEM) – The Oregon Senate gave final approval today to a \$5.3 billion statewide transportation improvement plan.

[House Bill 2017](#), which passed on a bipartisan 22-7 vote, will raise \$5.3 billion for infrastructure over the next 10 years. It will modernize and improve Oregon’s transportation infrastructure by addressing five of the priorities heard most consistently around the state: reducing congestion, increasing alternate transportation options, investing in maintenance and preservation, improving safety of existing infrastructure and ensuring accountability in how taxpayer dollars are spent.

It is the result of more than a year of work by a 14-member joint committee, appointed by Senate President Peter Courtney (D-Salem/Gervais/Woodburn) and House Speaker Tina Kotek (D-North Portland).

“Transportation is essential to the quality of Oregonian’s lives and the vitality of Oregon’s economy,” said Co-Chair Senator Lee Beyer (D-Springfield), who led the joint committee with House Co-Chair Rep. Caddy McKeown (D-Coos Bay), and Vice Co-Chairs Senator Brian Boquist (R-Dallas) and Rep. Cliff Bentz (R-Ontario). “For too long our system has been falling in to disrepair. The investments in HB 2017 will move freight more efficiently, reduce congestion in our cities, make our roads and bridges safer and expand mass transit options from border to border.”

“Oregon’s rural transportation system is crumbling and outdated while cities are clogged with congestion. This plan takes a smart, responsible approach to preserving our existing infrastructure and investing in a system for the next two decades,” Boquist said. “It’s not just enough to simply raise funds blindly. The accountability measures in HB 2017 seek to ensure that Oregonians get known infrastructure improvements and congestion relief for their investment.”

HB 2017 Beginning in May 2016, the Joint Committee on Transportation Preservation and Modernization. The committee met with community members and transportation stakeholders across the state, and held numerous public hearings throughout Oregon in 2016 and in the Capitol throughout the 2017 session. The committee incorporated that public input into the final transportation package.

An easy to follow [graphic](#) explaining the components of the plan is attached.