

OREGON HOUSE REPUBLICAN OFFICE

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Oregon House approves bipartisan transportation package

Salem, Ore. - The Oregon House today approved a comprehensive transportation package that will provide a decade of investments in the state's transportation infrastructure. The multi-year, \$5.3 billion investment plan will provide funding for congestion relief projects, seismic resiliency efforts and road and bridge preservation and maintenance. The package also includes a number of transparency and accountability features that will strengthen oversight over the Department of Transportation and the project contracting process, as well as modifications to the low-carbon fuel standard program designed to protect consumers from dramatic price increases and abnormal market behavior.

"This package puts us on the road to making much-needed and overdue investments in maintaining our city, county and state roads and bridges," said Representative Cliff Bentz (R-Ontario), who served as covice chair of the Joint Committee on Transportation. "We simply cannot afford to continue our pattern of disinvestment in our infrastructure. No bill of this size is perfect, but the provisions of this bill will go a long way toward addressing our state's most pressing transportation needs. This is a package Oregonians across the state can be proud of."

HB 2017, the transportation package policy bill, is separated into several key sections including:

- Accountability
- Highway Maintenance, Preservation, and Seismic Funding
- Multimodal Transportation
- Traffic Congestion Relief Program
- Public Transportation
- Transportation Generally
- Jurisdictional Transfers
- Zero-Emission and Electric Vehicle Rebates
- Clean Fuels Program Cost Containment

The transportation package is estimated to raise an estimated \$5.3 billion over the next decade through a combination of gas tax and fee increases and other revenue raising mechanisms. In addition to providing funding for the Safe Routes to Schools program and the Rose Quarter congestion relief project, funds raised by the package will be shared among the Oregon Department of Transportation, counties and cities according to the following formula:

50% - Oregon Department of Transportation

30% - Counties

20% - Cities

An eight-page executive summary of the transportation package can be viewed here. A more in-depth section-by-section breakdown of the bill can also be accessed here. To view a summary of the package as an infographic, click here.

The transportation packed passed the House on a 39-20 vote. The bill now heads to the Senate, where it is expected to be passed before the Legislature adjourns.

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