

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION REINVESTMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 20, 2025

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Critical Transportation Safety Investments, ODOT Accountability Measures Advance Out of Committee

After more than a year of work, the Oregon Transportation Reinvestment Package (HB 2025) is heading to the House floor

SALEM, Ore. – Today, historic and desperately needed investments to improve the safety of Oregon's transportation system were approved by the Joint Committee on Transportation Reinvestment, a key step in the Legislature's efforts to improve Oregon's roads, bridges, and transit options this session.

The Oregon Transportation Reinvestment Package (<u>House Bill 2025</u>) is focused on repairing the state's aging roads and bridges, investing in city and county transportation systems, completing major projects critical for the economy, and holding the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) accountable for delivering investments efficiently and transparently.

"The Oregon Transportation Reinvestment Package represents a transformative investment in the roads and bridges in every city and county in Oregon," said **Sen. Chris Gorsek (D-Gresham)**, co-chair of the Joint Committee on Transportation Reinvestment. "These investments mean potholes can be fixed, roads can be plowed, bridges can be stabilized, and drivers and pedestrians can get around more safely."

The public process for Oregon TRIP began last summer with a 13-stop statewide listening tour where lawmakers heard and saw first-hand the need for investment into the safety of Oregon's roads and bridges. It continued with public work group meetings in the fall for legislators and stakeholders to figure out the possible policy and funding solutions to the problems seen on the tour.

This session, HB 2025 has received six hearings where members of the public were able to share their thoughts on the legislation and legislators were given time to seek technical information and changes.

"This package strikes a balance after a years-long process, including a statewide tour and public hearings that brought real concerns — and real solutions — to the table," said **Rep. Susan McLain (D-Hillsboro)**, co-chair of the Joint Committee on Transportation Reinvestment. "The result is a strong bill that supports rural and urban Oregon, honors past commitments, and begins to fix the way we fund our roads and bridges in a changing world."

The bill now heads to the House for a vote next week. For more information and to track the bill's progress, follow HB 2025 on the <u>Oregon Legislative Information System</u>.

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