

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION REINVESTMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Press contacts:

Connor Radnovich, <u>connor.radnovich@oregonlegislature.gov</u>
Jill Bakken, jill.bakken@oregonlegislature.gov

Legislators Hear Strong Public Support for Urgent Transportation Investments, Agency Accountability

Committee will hold additional public hearings on the Oregon Transportation
Reinvestment Package this week

SALEM, Ore. – Today, the Joint Committee on Transportation Reinvestment held a public hearing on the Oregon Transportation Reinvestment Package (<u>House Bill 2025</u>), which focuses on repairing the state's aging roads and bridges, investing in city and county transportation systems, completing major "anchor" projects, and holding the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) accountable for delivering those investments efficiently and transparently.

"We heard a wide range of perspectives — from environmental concerns to the critical need to fund rural highway projects — but one thing was clear: there is broad agreement that we must fix Oregon's roads and bridges urgently and complete the major transportation projects that drive our economy," said **Sen. Chris Gorsek (D-Gresham)**, co-chair of the Joint Committee on Transportation Reinvestment. "At the same time, we must ensure that every public dollar is spent wisely, with strong oversight and accountability at every step."

A full recording of the hearing can be found on the Oregon Legislative Information System.

"From day one, this process has been about collaboration and listening to stakeholders and constituents from all parts of Oregon," said **Rep. Susan McLain (D-Hillsboro)**, co-chair of the committee. "This public hearing underscored that Oregonians are ready for action — not just to improve safety and mobility, but to ensure that the investments we make truly serve every community in our state. No matter where you live or what party you belong to, one thing is clear: we can't afford to wait. Oregon's transportation system needs investment — and accountability — now."

The hearing drew a broad range of voices, some who had previously provided input during the 13-stop statewide listening tour last summer or during previous public hearings this session, along with new participants looking to shape the final package.

The committee will have two additional public hearings on the Oregon Transportation Reinvestment Package (Oregon TRIP) this week:

Wednesday, June 11, 4 p.m.

Public Hearing: Transit, rail, bike, and pedestrian safety

Thursday, June 12, 4 p.m.

Public Hearing: Operations, maintenance, and preservation

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