

Multnomah County District 3

August 29, 2025

Joint Committee On Transportation Funding
900 Court St. NE, Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Support for HB 3991 Transportation Funding

Co-Chairs Wagner and Fahey, Co-Vice Chairs Bonham and Drazan, Members of the Committee,

I am writing today to ask for your support of House Bill 3991. This legislation is an important transition funding measure that will allow Multnomah County to continue current maintenance services and operations, and it will support our statewide transportation system, economy, and community. HB 3991 is also supported by the Association of Oregon Counties, and the continuation of the traditional 50/30/20 Highway Fund Distribution formula is appreciated.

Without additional and stable revenue, Multnomah County roads will deteriorate and become more dangerous. Maintenance is a critical safety issue for Multnomah County roads. Particularly in East County, the road maintenance needs continue to mount and have not been adequately funded for decades. Many of the County's rural roads are 40-50+ years old. Once a road deteriorates to a certain point, performing maintenance no longer extends the life of the road; it only makes it temporarily drivable. With funding from a new transportation package, County crews will be able to chip away at the maintenance backlog and repair and replace some of our failed roads.

It is critical for the Legislature to act during this Special Session. Maintenance workforce layoffs would be devastating at the state level, and local governments would also need to make service and staff reductions if the Legislature does not act. Additionally, it is essential that the Legislature's work continue to ensure ODOT's spending is accountable, transparent, and focused on the state's most critical transportation infrastructure's needs.

HB 3991 is the right step towards addressing these needs, stabilizing statewide transportation funding in the short-term. It is also crucial that Oregon have a modernized, sustainable, and long-term transportation funding plan, which Multnomah County looks forward to informing and supporting.

Regards,



Commissioner Julia Brim-Edwards
Multnomah County, District 3; East Portland