

March 25, 20205

Dear Representative Fey, Ranking Member Barkis and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft transportation budget. We recognize the difficult decisions facing the transportation committee as you work to balance the budget. This joint letter comes from Transportation Management Associations, Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) jurisdictional implementers, and transportation advocates from across the state, urging you to maintain current funding for the Commute Trip Reduction program in Washington State.

CTR is a cornerstone of Washington's efforts to reduce congestion and air pollution, directly supporting the state's goals under the Clean Air Act. For over 30 years, this program has provided a proven, cost-effective way to reduce single-occupancy vehicle trips and increase access to reliable, affordable transportation. Cutting CTR funding by 60% would severely undermine the state's ability to leverage this long-standing, successful program — diminishing our ability to meet state environmental and transportation goals and compromising the effectiveness of a law that has served Washingtonians for decades.

More than just reducing traffic, CTR makes the lives of working Washingtonians easier. Transportation is the second highest expense for families. When workers receive transit passes, access to bicycle facilities, or vanpool subsidies, it puts money back in their pockets and expands access to opportunity. A 60% funding cut would harm working people and communities — not just in the Puget Sound region, but across the state — by making commutes harder, less efficient, and more expensive.

CTR also provides critical data through the commute trip reduction survey, giving the state valuable insights into commuting patterns and effective behavior-change strategies. Tools like transit passes, parking pricing, and incentive programs only work when there is staff capacity to educate workers, conduct surveys, and deliver programs. Gutting this funding would render the program ineffective by stripping away the staffing and infrastructure needed to make it work.

As more employers implement return-to-office policies, the demand for sustainable, affordable commute options is growing. CTR ensures that Washington's largest employers provide employees with congestion-relieving options like transit passes, bike parking, vanpools, and transportation education. These programs are more critical than ever as workers return to in-person work.

Investing in Commute Trip Reduction is a cost-effective way to strengthen Washington's transportation network and improve the quality of life for all residents. We urge you to restore full funding to this program and protect a vital tool that has served Washingtonians well for over 30 years.

Sincerely,



Katie Mangle, VP and Principal,
Alta Planning + Design



Andrew Singelakis, Transportation Director,
City of Bellevue



Thomas McLeod, Mayor,
City of Tukwila



Lon Pluckhahn, City Manager,
City of Vancouver



Angie Coulter, Executive Director, Community
Transportation Association of the Northwest



Alex Hudson, Executive Director,
Commute Seattle



Christopher Randels, Director, Complete
Streets Bellevue



Laura Svancarek, Interim Executive Director,
Downtown on the Go!



Michelle Rasmussen, Director, Eastern
Washington University



Michael Schmieder, Director,
Everett Transit



Richard de Sam Lazaro, Senior Director,
Government and Corporate Affairs,
Expedia Group



Larry Leveen, Executive Director,
ForeverGreen Trails



Karen Rodriguez La Paz, Vice President of
Community Affairs



Callie Bendickson, Director, Corporate Social
Responsibility, Itron

**Move
Redmond**



Kelli Refer, Executive Director,
Move Redmond



Dr. Yahya Suufi, Executive Director, Muslim
American Youth Foundation



Seattle Children's

Randal Rutledge, Interim Director of
Transportation, Seattle Children's Hospital



**Seattle
Department of
Transportation**

Bill LaBorde, Council and Government Relations
Manager, Seattle Department of Transportation



Matt Ransom, Executive Director, Southwest
Washington Regional Transportation Council



Marc Daily, Executive Director, Thurston
Regional Planning Council



Katie Wilson, General Secretary,
Transit Riders Union



Kirk Hovenkotter, Executive Director,
Transportation Choices Coalition



Matt Trecha, Board of Directors Chair,
Washington State Ridesharing Organization

Individuals

Adam Le Doux

Ahlam Khaleefa

Ahmed Abdullahi

Aileen Pongnon, Advocate

Alessandra Gonzalez

Alon Bassok, County Planning Manager,
Pierce County

Amanda James, Program Manager

Amanda Koerber, Transportation Systems
Manager

Andrea Figueroa-Guerrero, Project Manager

Angela Akoto

Anna Carragee

Anusha Gan Chowdhury

Ayanle Abdi

Bonnie Chiffelle, TDM Specialist

Brooklynn Galeno, Research Associate

Crystal Culbertson, Administrative Associate,
Kitsap Transit

Crystal Perez, Duwamish Valley Youth Corps
Program Manager

Denise Moyle, Smart Card Project
Coordinator, Kitsap Transit

Dr. Anne Fruge

Edward Davis

Emily Nguyen, WA Resident

Emma Calvert

Emma Thordsen, Coordinator

Erin Cawley-Morse, Senior Vice President,
C+C Social Marketing & PR

Fadil Jema

Faile Kula, Stay at Home Mom

Fatuma Omer

Goran Stefanovic, Building Director, Muslim
American Youth Foundation

Grant Lin

Habinullah Mazra

Halma Abubakar

Hamdo

Ileys Omar

Jade Miller, Engineer

Jama Jama, Bus Driver

Janell Edwards, Graphic Designer

Joshua Hall, Vanpool/Vanlink Coordinator,
Kitsap Transit

Kim Stolz, TDM Outreach and Employer
Specialist, Bellevue Downtown Association

Laren Barulich

LeAnn Yamamoto, TDM Manager, Spokane
County

Lesly Ramirez

Lindsay Kuiphoff, Commute Trip Reduction
Administrator, Kitsap Transit

Majida Mohammed, Program Supervisor

Mary-Margaret Greene

Melissa Rosales

Mohamed Jeite

Muna Mussa, Healthcare Worker

Nafisa Abdulle

Olivia Harber, Transportation Planner at
Seattle Children's Hospital

Shama Farag

Spencer Garrison, Senior Research
Coordinator

Stanley Roper, Commute Solutions
Specialist, Kaiser Permanente

Stephanie Frans

Suleman Ibrahim Hassan

Thuy Luu

Tommie Lorene, TDM Program Manager,
Bellevue Downtown Association

Tommy Fernandez, Vanpool Coordinator,
Kitsap Transit

Varadha Anandakumar

Wan-Lin Tsou, Reduced Fares Program Lead

Xanthe Supita, Accounting Specialist / ETC

Zemzem Beshir