

From: [Pete Lee](#)
To: [Exhibits JSCVR](#)
Subject: Public comment re: JSCVR meeting on 3/18/2020
Date: Wednesday, March 18, 2020 5:02:45 PM

Dear Co-Chairs Roblan and Holvey:

I respectfully request your committee's consideration of the following comments, as well as its inclusion into the public record for the March 18, 2020 meeting of the JSCVR. Out of respect for the urgent work you are doing, I will keep my comments brief.

I was especially heartened to hear the update from the Oregon Health Authority: despite many ambiguities and a lack of perfect vision, I am confident that OHA and its pandemic response coalition partners are appropriately postured for the most effective response possible.

While it is impossible to plan an emergency, it remains necessary to study tactical action and strategic solutions through the lens of effectiveness and equity.

1. Are we ensuring that public health response fully engages and leverages local civic infrastructure, from public safety organizations to local government?
2. Does economic relief address the needs of everyday, working-class people, especially communities that are marginalized throughout Oregon? Have we built the engagement infrastructure necessary to ensure that coalitions that represent these communities are asked about solutions that will work with respect to their specific needs and contexts?
3. Are we addressing the needs of people and small businesses who do not have the capacity to access a constellation of tools available to private equity groups and large corporations? While I think it's reasonable to be flexible with things like taxation payment timelines, I find it especially distasteful that we would consider forbearance or waiver of certain kinds of taxes (such as CAT) when there is active dialogue at the federal level for providing this class of wealthy and large corporate entities with tax relief and access to nearly zero interest short-term financing vehicles.

Please let me know if I can provide any further details or clarification related to the comments above.

Sincerely,
-Pete Lee
Vice Chair, Democratic Party of Oregon