

3/1/2017

Susan Thayer
20400 SW Teton Ave
Tualatin OR 97062

Thomas McClellan
DMV Administrator
ODOT
1905 Lana Ave NE
Salem OR 97314

Dear Tom,

As the Chairperson of the Oregon Dealers Advisory Committee (ODAC), I am writing to express ODAC's support to use Transportation Operating Funds derived from vehicle dealer and dismantler fees for the recruitment and hiring of an additional dealer investigator in the Business Regulation and Fraud Prevention Section.

At the January 26, 2017 ODAC meeting, ODAC unanimously voted to add an investigator who would focus their investigations on unlicensed dealers and dismantlers. We understand that even though the position would not be funded by state Highway Funds, ODOT would still need authorization from the Legislature for an additional permanent position because the governor's budget for 2017-2019 does not include any additional positions for Business Regulation.

We believe an investigator whose sole job is to investigate unlicensed dealers and dismantlers provides benefits to Oregon's vehicle dealers as well as to the state in its pursuit to curb unlicensed dealers who are not bonded or covered by liability insurance. There is no protection for consumers when they purchase vehicles from unlicensed dealers who cause harm to the consumer.

ODAC also supports the use of TOF to assist with the funding of computer upgrades related to DMV's Service Transformation Program (STP). We believe the upgrades are an effective strategy to reach the goal of minimizing unlicensed vehicle dealers in Oregon and will assist Business Regulation's progress and future viability.

Sincerely,



Susan Thayer
Chairperson, ODAC