

To the Joint Committee,

I completely support the idea of tolling. A solution has been put off for too long, and our transportation system is obviously in need of major investment. It's only fair that we Oregonians pay to improve our aging, inadequate infrastructure. Our family has lived in other regions of the country with tolling plans, and people will get used to them.

My concern is not with tolling, but that the existing ODOT tolling plan is inequitable, one-sided, and unworkable. ODOT's approach has not taken into account the reactions of those of us in Oregon City & West Linn who will bear the brunt of this plan. Our Cities' mayors sounded the alarm, and after doing research I see that their criticisms are very valid. They are also right that they are not being listened to by state officials.

In each phase of the rollout going back years, we local residents continue to bear the crushing burden of the entire regional plan. The only benefit West Linn residents would see in this tolling plan has always been the 3rd I-205 travel lane that tolling would pay for. Until recently, when ODOT announced the only toll gantry would be in West Linn, and also that there would be no extra travel lane!

The only public transit here is completely inaccessible from where the majority of our towns' residents live. Our daily commutes and errands are completely dependent on our surface roads being accessible

Please spread the burden more equitably on the motorists of the Portland metro area, so that it does not fall squarely on us, the residents of Oregon City & West Linn. Our local roads, already burdened by diversion traffic, will see even worse daily traffic jams. I ask that the Subcommittee and ODOT communicate better, and work more effectively with our elected local officials to improve the existing tolling plan in order to achieve these goals. Thank you.

Matt Brown  
West Linn