

To Members of the Joint Committee on Transportation

Thank you for accepting comments regarding the statewide funding package.

I agree with the countless members of my community and throughout OR that it is high time we secure adequate funding to address the numerous transportation related needs our state and its citizens are faced with. We need to rapidly scale up public transportation options to reduce vehicular miles driven, and to improve the safety of existing roads and highways, particularly our bridges.

To create a standard of safe streets for all community members, including cyclists, pedestrians, youth, seniors and those who have mobility impairments is overdue. To address the need to rapidly reduce greenhouse gas emissions is a critical need. The necessary changes require adequate funding.

It is time for Oregon to devise a fair tax to address how there is a huge variation among the users of transportation services. Large, oversized vehicles expel the most emissions throughout production and use, and place the greatest wear and tear on our roads (and our environment and health). Oregon must initiate a luxury vehicle tax on vehicles based on weight and emissions to be fair across the broad range of vehicles driven and for those who do not use vehicles on our roads.

Thank you for assessing public sentiment. Citizens must at long last learn that rights only exist with responsibilities, and that we each must pay our fair share for public goods and services.

Kim Davis  
97306