

Hello,

I'm writing to urge you NOT to ask for more taxes and especially NOT to try to impose unfair tolling in Oregon and especially in the Portland Metro area. We already pay plenty for DMV fees as well as gas taxes. Transportation money already budgeted needs to be more responsibly administered and used. I repeat, TOLLS ARE BAD FOR EVERYONE! Don't go down this road!

Sincerely,

Sally Jo Browne I am really concerned that not enough funding is going into transit and safety investments, as well as the bike infrastructure that will be needed as e-bikes become an increasingly common way to get around. As a parent of small and not so small kids, we frequently get to school and activities in our e-bike and the roads allow drivers of cars and trucks to frequently threaten our lives or make our trip louder and more polluted than it should be.

Where does ODOT invest money? In that? Nope, in the past you've spent countless hundreds of millions of dollars not even building stuff. You are feeding the highway industrial complex of consultants so much money to build or widen highways that we don't need and can't afford, or projects that have clear reasons they won't be built (hello I-5 widening at the Columbia that violates Coast Guard high requirements and prematurely dismissed a tunnel option that doesn't widen the highway for the project's 5 miles!).

We need to focus on a transportation system that will move people and stuff efficiently and in a way that reflects the urgent need to move away from unsustainable mega-projects. ODOT is stuck in the 1950s world of bulldozing homes to widen freeways and trying to do that in North Portland and enable WSDOT to do it to Vancouver too!

Fund the things we need – alternatives to sprawl-enabling car infrastructure to support density in walkable and likeable cities. Stop funding and tax the things we don't want like congestion. If we need to replace a bridge, do that without widening it (and better yet move the cars and trucks out of sight and smell of neighborhoods like mine!). If we want to cap a freeway to repair past harms, do that without trying to widen the freeway. My kids deserve a future transportation than the one I have lived with. That needs a big change of priorities!

Blake Goud