

With this new legislative session that Tina Kotek is having at the end of August to try and ODOT funded I am writing to say NO, No and NO. We said no to HB 2025 and no to this as well. ODO is top heavy, doesn't balance their budget and have departments that are unnecessary (DEI). In 2017, ODOT had a 10-year, \$5.6-billion road tax package. Now ODOT is claiming they have had *inadequate funding* for decades. Where is all the money going or where has it gone? There must be some accountability democrats. Come on!!!

Seriously, how can ODOT be underfunded when:

1. Oregon has the #10 highest state gas tax in the nation.
2. The Oregon Gas tax was raised +5% just last year (2024).
3. Oregon has the Nation's only state wage (transit) tax. The transit tax alone is very harmful to businesses and causes more to close or flee the State.
4. Oregon has the Nation's only state bike tax.
5. Oregon Legislature approved I-5 bridge toll this year.

I just heard about a plan that attained no consideration in the legislature this last session, which would not have **NOT** had any increase and would have returned ODOT to its core function. That's what must be done. **ODOT needs to be audited** and held accountable. They need to focus on their core mission to build and maintain roads.

When you convene on August 29th, please stand up for your fellow Oregonians and absolutely DO NOT PASS an increase in the gas tax or any additional transportation fees on tires, vehicles, ect.

THANK YOU for your ATTENTION to this very important matter!