

Submitter: Nancy kylo
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Interim Committee On Transportation
Funding
Measure, Appointment or LC 2
Topic:

Dear Legislators,

I am writing to firmly oppose the proposed ODOT budget increases. These new taxes and fees are unacceptable and place an undue burden on Oregon families, workers, and small businesses who are already struggling with rising costs.

ODOT's track record does not justify additional funding without reform. The Abernethy Bridge project is a clear example — already massively over budget and behind schedule — raising serious concerns about mismanagement and waste. Until ODOT can prove it can deliver projects on time and within budget, it has no business demanding more from taxpayers.

I am also deeply concerned about the scare tactics being used in this debate. Pushing threats of massive layoffs and no winter road maintenance is a spin that gives local news a story, but do better. Oregonians deserve straight answers.

Where is the waste occurring, and what steps are being taken to improve efficiency? The right path forward is not higher taxes, but making the correct cuts, setting priorities, and working within the resources already available. I have to do this in my home and with my business. It's these kind of increases that are ruining our state. Any major gas tax hikes or extensive fee increases should not be decided by agency proposals or legislative maneuvering alone. Oregon voters deserve a direct say before being forced to shoulder such financial burdens.

Raising taxes without first addressing waste, inefficiency, and accountability is not leadership. It is simply shifting ODOT's failures onto the people who can least afford it. This proposal is the wrong approach, and I urge you to reject it outright.

Respectfully,
Nancy Kylo