

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

Strongly Opposed.

ODOT is already funded in the middle of the pack compared to other western states. Claims it is underfunded are misrepresented. Other states have higher taxes on vehicles, but those taxes don't go to DOT funding, rather they go to general fund. From a spending perspective, ODOT is inline with typical transportation spending. Therefore, it would be best to look at why ODOT can't manage with current funding levels which are sufficient for other neighboring states.

It may be that ODOT cannot move money around within its budget freely as needed because of earmarks or other restrictions. Fix that. Find out why ODOT can't manage with funding levels typical of western states. Don't just raise taxes.

This looks like an unjustified regressive tax hike that will impact low income Oregonians the most. It's bad policy and a lazy solution proposed by the governor and .should be rejected. If passed, the taxes will never come down, and the endemic underlying problems will resurface only to demand more money later.

ref: <https://www.oregonjournalismproject.org/road-spending>

-Kirk Brannock