

Submitter: Robert DeHarpport  
On Behalf Of: Governor Kotek and members of the House and Senate  
Committee: Joint Interim Committee On Transportation Funding  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: LC 2

Governor Lotek and members of the House and Senate,

The proposed legislation to increase taxes and fees to supposedly plug a funding gap within the ODOT budget is as insane and as ludicrous as many of the ODOT project overruns in recent years. For instance the Wickiup Junction flyover and the huge boondoggle of the bypass project near Eddyville, two projects among many where the taxpayers money was needlessly wastes do to the ineptness and lack of accountability within ODOT. Inexcusable.

Furthermore, we are tired of being lied to. Record tax revenues are never enough here in Oregon. There is always a cry for more taxation or we will all suffer. We don't appreciate public safety being used to extract and or extort more tax from hard working Oregonians. In this case the Governor threatened that snow wouldn't be plowed on some Oregon Highways and has placed 500 ODOT employees who actually keep our roads safe on notice that thier jobs would be cut IF money isn't extracted from those that the Legislaure, Governor and all state employees WORK FOR.

It's time to audit ODOT and all agencies, we are not falling for more lies, threats and cries of being broke. Make common sense cuts in administration or dip into reserve funds that have been identified. Citizens must wonder if Oregons government is trying to beat California in the race to the bottom. We are well on our way to make the race of circling the drain a close race with California. Look at the many stats and tell tail signs! More of us are and will leave if this irresponsible governance continues. Oregon will be left with those who can't afford to move to other states if common sense and responsible budgeting continue to elude. I for one look at homes in other states daily. I can assure you that if this BS attempt to bleed more taxes and fees from my household, we will be gone and will never return. I'm a fourth generation Oregonian saying this. The time is now to get a grip and quit the irresponsible ways that our tax dollars are spent. Prioritize, we all do it with our personal budgets.

Sincerely, Robert DeHarpport, Crescent Lake, Oregon