

To: Members of the Special Session Committee on Transportation Funding
From: Elaine Woods
Re: Proposed Taxes to fund ODOT

Honorable Members of the Special Session Committee on Transportation Funding:

I am adamantly opposed to the proposal to give ODOT any increase in funding. ODOT cannot manage their funding in any area! I prefer the proposed Republican plan to not raise any taxes in to cover needed expenses,. Instead the committee should decide to take the funds needed from the Emergency fund that receives millions of dollars every year. Eliminating workers and maintenance facilities would cause an emergency.

ODOT has proven that it cannot manage their funds well:

- This past year ODOT discovered they had a billion dollar shortfall that they couldn't account for because they didn't know where the money went.
- August 20th The Oregon Catalyst stated that the Oregon and Washington are planning to start a bridge project next year that will probably top 10 billion dollars, although they have no money budgeted for it. They will probably want to raise billions of dollars by raising taxes, just as Gov. Kotek and many legislators want to. I say ABSOLUTELY NOT!!

A project with no planned funding should NOT be started! Put the money budgeted for ODOT as well as what's needed from the Emergency Fund towards salaries for workers and the repair and maintenance of roads. Plan ahead and save up for your road projects – we as “common citizens” have to do that and so should you as our elected officials.

You're supposed to manage our money responsibly, not bleed us dry!

We keep losing friends who move out of Oregon because of our high taxes and the corruption in our government. Stop the bleeding and be more responsible for the money you get from our taxes! Otherwise you will not have any businesses left or anyone to feed your tax hunger because we won't be able to afford to live in Oregon!

Sincerely,

Elaine Woods
Beaverton