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

You and your colleagues need to find a better alternative to pay for public roads. Frankly, this community overspends for public transportation and what do the people who actually pay get out of it? Potholes, rude pedestrians, rude cyclists and all manner of non-motorized vehicles violating basic traffic rules whilst millions are spent on sidewalk ramps that are (were) perfectly serviceable and are hardly used anyway. Just look at the \$\$\$ spent on roundabout pedestrian walkways in Washington Co. Money spent and the sidewalk disappears into the weeds 20 yards later (Verboort/Susbauer)! Gross waste! You should be ashamed.

After the latest road tax and spend proposal fails in the regular session, Kotek goes back to the well in another tax and spend boondoggle that proposes to place future tax increases in the hands of ODOT - unelected and NOT VOTED for tax-by-fiat bureaucrats. That needs to be shut down now! Another shameful scheme by Kotek and like-minded government types who so quickly forget where the money comes from.

Take a hint from your last legislative session - Oregonians can no longer afford poor road management from this failing government! Figure out a way to keep roads navigable without punishing everyone in the state who owns a gas-powered vehicle whilst paying millions (even billions) for infrastructure that does nothing to improve traffic for those who pay the bills. Examples you ask? See above for the sidewalk boondoggle example. And How about the \$\$\$ spent to analyze the I5 bridge replacement and Tilikum Crossing?? Horrific wastes of MY tax dollars. You and your ilk should be doubly ashamed.

Koteks latest bad proposal ...

1. Gas tax increase of 6¢ per gallon
2. Registration fees doubling
3. Title fee increase from \$139 to \$216
4. Payroll tax doubling to fund urban transit
5. Road Usage Charge phased in for EVs & hybrids
6. Governor taking over appointment of the ODOT Director
7. *** Section 12 *** Will allow future gas taxes and truck fees to be raised

WITHOUT A VOTE by unelected ODOT bureaucrats!

o Every two years a study measures whether cars and trucks are "paying their fair share". If the Legislature doesn't act within 120 days, ODOT must step in and adjust fuel taxes and weight-mile rates by rule. No Vote. No Accountability to

Oregonians. This is a dangerous precedent. Oregon's Constitution requires a 3/5ths vote to raise taxes. This legislative scheme sidesteps that protection.

Stop patting yourself on the back and showboating your photo ops with your like-minded colleagues and sycophants. Try taking a listen to the 49% that vehemently disagree with your ideas and deplore your poor representation and 'leadership'. You are NOT making Oregon a better place - you are making Oregon a dysfunctional place.

Look at what Washinton county did to the taxpayers. After asking for a two-cycle additional fee on license tabs that voters approved for road repair the commissioners decided to make it permanent. I have done the math for most but not all vehicles and it's comes to 37,000,000 and you still don't see major improvements, however they seem to purchase new vehicles. STOP the insanities NOW..

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