

Submitter: Anna Kingery

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Interim Committee On Transportation
Funding

Measure, Appointment or
Topic: LC 2

Using scare tactics to extort more money from taxpayers because of mismanagement in the first place is unconscionable.

Economist Joe Cortright, testified in 2023 that ODOT has been misleading the public and lawmakers about its budget. Cortright pointed to ODOT's poor management of project costs, with major projects like the I-5 Rose Quarter expansion incurring massive overruns. In a 2025 interview, he reiterated his argument that the agency's budget woes are rooted in overspending on massive new projects.

Prioritizing megaprojects over maintenance, unreliable funding plans , risky expansion of debt, ignoring revenue trends and disproportionate taxes on heavy trucks are just some of the ways that show ignorance in management of ODOT.