

Submitter: Kathy Small

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Interim Committee On Transportation  
Funding

Measure, Appointment or  
Topic: LC 2

Please know that myself and MOST Oregonians adamantly oppose the transportation proposal being reviewed and voted on during this special session. This will be an unnecessary hardship to the hard working, middle class of our beautiful state. We all know that we are the ones paying for most everything the State funds out of State taxes. The lower class and less fortunate do not fund anything, and the wealthy have tax loops they can employ. I am watching our state over-tax us to the point of long-term citizens leaving for states that are more affordable. We do NOT have a revenue problem, we have a management/leadership problem.

ODOT might be financially struggling but it is NOT due to insufficient funds and/or tax dollars. They have grossly mismanaged this department over several years. They have continued to hire unnecessary administrators/execs at salaries way above the average citizen salary of Oregon. If there is a budget problem, layoff those personnel making above \$100K; not the actual workers.

Also, if the Governor can call a special session and our legislators have the power to raise taxes against the people's will; then you all have the power to change the legislation that allows for only a small % of tax revenue to be used for maintenance; prioritizing capital projects/development. Let's put all development/capital projects on hold until our basic transportation needs are addressed. This is just as much in the Governor and Legislative body's control as any of the plans being proposed.

It's time to stop harming hard-working, tax-paying Oregonians and reducing our quality of life and affordability.