

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

Living on the East side of the state, we get overlooked often. We are very different here than in the metro areas of Oregon. But we work hard and are honest in what we do. Raising our taxes yet again will have a horrific impact on families and elderly people. Instead of continuing to raise taxes and create hardships, why don't you look at the top and work your way down on spending. There are so many areas where the State can tighten their belts to save money starting at the top instead of going to the bottom of the barrel for people who are barely making ends meet and increasing what they already have coming out of pocket.

On the East side, we don't have the luxury of "public transportation" the way the metro areas do. We have to go to where the jobs are. And where the jobs are, is usually too expensive for us to live so we have to commute. In order to commute, we need to have transportation. I understand your response will be, the more cars that are on the road the more money needed for infrastructure and repairs. But Oregon is making it so difficult for anyone to survive here or even want to be here.

I remember when I was younger and first moved to Oregon. It was a state I was proud to live in and call home. Now I am ashamed to say where I live. I work 3 jobs, I support my family and I am miserable because every time I get a pay increase the fees or taxes or something else goes up. I can't afford to buy a house because the prices are so high. It's time to give the citizens that work hard and pay their taxes to get a break and be able to make a semi-comfortable life for ourselves and actually enjoy life.