

Submitter: Rob and Michele Dempsey
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Interim Committee On Transportation
Funding
Measure, Appointment or Topic: LC 2

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We are disheartened to read about the governor's ploy to increase taxes and fees on Oregonians without a vote of the people in a special session on the Friday before Labor Day to put a band aid fix on ODOT'S budget shortfalls (aka: fiscal mismanagement).

The last legislative session overwhelming rejected this plan which makes this effort even more out of touch.

When we as a family don't have the money to do the things we want or need to do, we simply do not do them. ODOT must live within its means and do the same. Road maintenance and providing essential services in inclement weather must be the highest priority. Laying off the workers who keep our roads functional while keeping highly paid administrators on the payroll is a slap in the face to common sense and smart business practices that would reduce costs and find efficiencies when times are tough.

We have always planned on retiring in Oregon, but as the cost of food, gas, energy, and housing skyrockets (not to mention the incredible gridlock that continues to worsen in the metro area) we are beginning to question whether we will stay here.

The State must start showing results on how state dollars are being spent before MORE and MORE and MORE money is demanded or just taken. Why aren't you listening to Republican legislators who have a strong solution for transportation that doesn't raise taxes on Oregonians in these already tough times? Thousands of Oregonians are submitting testimony against LC2 and it will be simply unacceptable if this is pushed through against the will of the people, with no vote given to voters.