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On Behalf Of: Diamond Lake Resort
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Funding
Measure, Appointment or
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I just moved from Diamond Lake to Sutherlin for my husbands' health. I still have a daughter and a grandson that lives at the resort. I had lived there over 8 years and planned my routes around the plowed roads in the winter. Those guys work extremely hard and do not get enough credit.

I have traveled over Crater Lake Summit when it was not plowed with my front bumper pushing snow. Year after year there are trucks getting stuck or jack knifing because of no chains. My husband and I have even picked up a few stranded motorists along the route from 138 to Highway 97 and pulled a couple cars out of the ditches.

Now, think about this if the roads are not plowed at all during the winter:

The snow plies up to 16 feet (a low to average snowfall winter). It will take ODOT longer to open the roads for spring (if at all). It could do more damage to the equipment than the cost of maintaining the roads in the first place. Not to mention the manhours and overtime the state is complaining about right now. The increase of fatalities because people will not stay off of the roads, closed or not. There would not be access for emergency services. The damage to our forests because of the lack of snow removal. How would you remove the snow and ice to get down to the roads? Where would you put the snow and ice? What about the wildlife?

Now for the people who actually live at Diamond Lake Resort and the areas around Crater Lake and Prospect. How will they survive.? Moving to a winter home is not an option. Could you do it? Think about it. The residents face the possibility of no access to food, fuel, or maybe electricity because if something happens to the lines, there would not be a way to get to them. If the power company finds a way, there is more danger to their crews and equipment.

ODOT crews are responsible for more than just the roads. What can and cannot be done by them effects many, many more Oregonians than people and politicians realize. City people cry because of potholes or "rough" roads. City folks are not the ones who depends on the roads for life; however, they will jump into their vehicles and enjoy winter activities just as much as the summer. What if they do not get to go get a tree for Christmas, go snowshoeing, or snowmobile riding during winter breaks? Or worse yet, what if they do go to the closed mountain roads?

The money in question is not the problem. It is how it is spent. Administrators would rather have a fancy keyboard, or new computers and office equipment, and let's not forget more money for their pockets. Have them shovel snow and ice if they will not allow the trained, hardworking men and women who have done it in the past. They have been the ones in the blizzards and storms. The office staff have not. Let them switch places. How about all you politicians do the shoveling. You don't mind

bringing your snowmobiles and fancy side by sides up in the snow. How about plowing the roads first?

This insane proposal is not a solution. It is not an occasion where many are paying for few, but too few are paying for all. The big cities get the bigger percentages (do they really need that much?) Yes, they have more city blocks, but do they have the expenses of the smaller rural cities and towns than have elevation and more snowfall than the couple of inches in the city? How do you justify the expense? Cities get advanced weather warnings and need to plan for it. The rural areas have access to the same information, but they have the common sense to plan for it. They plan for it months in advance.

People wake up. Stop trying to avoid work and do what is right. Everyone needs ODOT and their services. Spend the money where it is needed most, not where the most are.