



August 16th, 2025

Honorable Governor Tina Kotek
Honorable Senate President Rob Wagner
Honorable Speaker of the House Julie Fahey
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Governor Kotek, President Wagner, and Speaker Fahey,

On behalf of the Portland Metro region's diverse business community, we are writing to convey the urgency and importance of including the continuation of funding to keep ODOT's freeways and other visible infrastructure clean, safe, and welcoming.

Thanks to your leadership over the past year and a half the Portland region has made great strides restoring cleanliness, public safety, and livability. We still have a long way to go, but the progress that can be clearly measured in the meaningful decrease in violent crime, the consistent cleanliness of our freeways, and the continued growth of foot traffic into Downtown Portland.

We write today to urgently request that you adopt a transportation infrastructure package that is focused on deferred asset maintenance, including continuing to keep our freeways clean from graffiti, trash, and unsanctioned encampments. We were deeply concerned to learn that the failure to adopt a transportation package resulted in [the abrupt end to the ongoing work to keep our freeways clean](#).

As you are aware, the region's freeways were riddled with illegal graffiti tags, trash, and encampments until 2022-23 when, thanks to your leadership, \$20m in funds were dedicated to cleaning up these unacceptable conditions.

We are deeply concerned that conditions are already deteriorating on ODOT roadways due to the termination of the work. Not only would this result in a waste of the successful efforts and funds spent to date, but it would also bring back what became a symbol of decline in the Portland region.

We certainly do not want travelers to arrive at Portland's newly renovated airport only to drive through our community seeing these unacceptable conditions that became all too familiar to residents and visitors during the pandemic.

Oregon's future as a region of opportunity depends on transportation infrastructure that works. We stand ready to work with you on a solution that delivers for all Oregon residents and businesses. For these reasons we implore upon the legislature to continue the program that keeps our freeways and rights of way clean and welcoming.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AH' with a stylized flourish.

Andrew Hoan
President & CEO, Portland Metro Chamber