

Submitter:	Catherine Biscoe
On Behalf Of:	Personal testimony but an ODOT employee
Committee:	Joint Interim Committee On Transportation Funding
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	LC 2

Part 2 and conclusion of testimony...

In the 23-25 Biennium, over 50 ESB certified firms were awarded contracts through the ESB Program, the majority from small towns such as these...many for the first time in public contracts, in total representing hundreds of small business employees.

With layoffs to essential regions and district staff ODOT and Oregon will lose decades of institutional knowledge, Oregon's small business construction communities will lose contract opportunities and mentorship relationships with ODOT, and families, business and local economies and communities will be adversely affected on a statewide scale...disproportionately our rural and remote communities. Further economic impacts will come to these businesses and small communities with gas tax increases, payroll tax increases, and DMV fees that will impact far greater than the \$100 per year talking points being circulated with current funding proposals. I encourage you to consider and support a bill to ensure ODOT maintenance and operations is adequately funded preserving ODOT's skilled workforce, while continuing to support Oregon's small businesses and rural communities.

Thank you.

Catherine Biscoe

PO Box 102

Philomath OR 97370

651-955-2842