

Submitter:	Charlotte Gerken
On Behalf Of:	Myself and my family
Committee:	Joint Interim Committee On Transportation Funding
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	LC 2

Decreasing the amount of money working citizens of Oregon take home hurts us all. As taxpayers we can't keep giving our hard earned money to the government through taxation without true representation. I know there are many other avenues that can be taken to find the money needed without increasing taxes and fees. If I know this, I know darn well the people sitting in the peoples building in Salem know this as well. There are a lot of Oregonians that are barely making ends meet as is, so every penny the government takes from us it makes it harder for us to make it month to month and just live. Increasing taxes and fees to the same people over and over is not the answer but it seems to be the go to for government all the time. It has to stop and I'm asking to look at all the other means of cutting cost and increasing revenue before you tax the same people again. There are a few complete departments within the ODOT agency that could be eliminated because they have nothing to do with moving people or product on a road (such as the DEI Unit, Climate Change Unit). Make bicyclists pay a registration fee every 2 years like cars to pay for all the bike lanes and bike paths ODOT is forced to build from road money. Make EV pay their share now (which they should have been paying all along). ODOT spent lots of money on the pay per mile study for years but yet it's still not implemented, what a waste there.

Bottom line is there are several other things that can be done by thinking outside the box and stop doing the same old thing. Stop the increase of taxes and fees on us taxpayers.

I oppose the increase of taxes and fees for this budget in this manner.