

Submitter: Paul Anderes
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Interim Committee On Transportation
Funding
Measure, Appointment or Topic: LC 2

Senator Nash, Representative Levy, President Wagner, Speaker Fehey,
I want to let you know my thoughts on the transportation package.

I differ from Association Of Oregon Counties Position on LC2. I have long supported the 50/30/20 split of Oregon's gas tax. As important as the division of the gas tax is, it should not be the sole focus of Counties.

Other important considerations include the payroll tax doubling, lack of transparency & accountability of the management and leadership of ODOT and keeping a sustainable safe maintenance operation within ODOT.

The doubling of the payroll tax has no fiscal basis. Please consider a moderate rate hike bases upon need and ridership if any at all. This directly effects the working people in Union County. Union County has 43% of its population under ALICE*. These people are struggling and LC2 adds another full percent of tax burden on these working families.

ODOT has long suffered from a lack of credibility in leadership. ODOT at the State Level is an embarrassment. Our local ODOT folks do an incredible job serving the people of Union county and Oregon. My suggestion would be to find new, strong leadership. Perhaps this new leadership can come up with a plan to do something other than ask more & more of Oregonians.

The threat of not plowing or maintaining road, and bridges is an insult. Maintenance and operations are and should be ODOT's core function.

Thank you for considering my position on LC2.

Paul Anderes

Paul M. Anderes

Union County Commissioner

1106 K. Ave

La Grande, OR 97850

panderes@union-county.org

541-963-1001

*Asset Limited, Income constrained, Employed

*as reported by the Ford Family Foundation's Oregon by the numbers