

Hello,

My name is Patrick Carlman. I am a voter in precinct 51, having lived at my home, here in Milwaukie, for 30 years. Being a single-earner household it has been difficult covering all the bills, paying for rising taxes and fees everywhere. I had a good job, and we don't have expensive tastes, but sadly I buy a lot from Amazon, rather than local small businesses, or even Walmart. We can't keep up with the absurdly rising costs of gas, electricity, water/sewer, property taxes, gasoline, internet, cell phones and groceries. I was laid off 2 years ago. Social Security income started this month, June 2005. It does not increase at the rate of basic costs.

And now you want to increase the gas tax by how much??!!

I'd love to get out and enjoy my annual parks permit. Or get to the coast once a year. Or run errands. But this state Congress wants to raise my gas taxes by how much??!!

Yes, tax the EVs and hybrids for the mileage. Tax the bicycle riders – they contribute nothing to the roadways that they need, and take over from cars. Equity would be having them pay for their own roads.

Oregon already has one of the highest gas prices in the nation. [AAA Fuel Prices](#), and the 10th highest gas tax in the country. [2024 State Gas Tax Rates | 2024 Gas Taxes by State](#). By the condition of the roads I'd say the taxes are not going towards building or maintaining roads. Somebody is getting rich. Costs are not projected correctly – how often do projects come in at budget? (Abernethy bridge budgeted for \$662 million, now coming in at \$815 million, and delayed.)

Do not raise our taxes! Fire ineffective state workers. Hold contractors accountable for their work and costs.

Sincerely,

Patrick Carlman