

Dear Senator Gorsek and Transportation Committee Members,

It's obvious that Oregon's transportation system is badly in need of an overhaul. Last year's hasty transportation package, now heading for the dumpster, was clearly not the solution. I believe that a stepwise approach that requires ODOT to set priorities for maintaining and improving our transportation system, while being transparent about the costs of its operations, is the best route forward. ODOT's practice of prioritizing new debt-financed construction projects over maintaining current roads and public transportation systems is clearly a major part of the problem, and new approach is necessary. In my view SB 1542 and 1543 provide a way towards ensuring that we have a transportation system in Oregon that meets our needs at a cost that we can afford. Please move these bills forward.

Sincerely,

Gary Reiness