

How would the Cost of Tolling and it's suppression of movement, that includes massive diversion, flooding less safe, side streets, roads, highways and bridges that are not designed nor have the capacity to safely handle all of this diverted traffic and what will be the subsequent effect on those with limited income?

It is foreseeable that Clackamas County would be hit the hardest, in the Tri-Counties of Greater Portland. How many companies will just have to shut their doors and go out of business? When their customers and equally the supply chain cannot reach them, what options will they have? When those with limited income cannot afford to go to work and go home, it becomes foreseeable that there will be a major breakdown in society.

When it become less practical for the supply chain and their customers to reach them, what happens? This foreseeable hit in how people live and work in Clackamas County with this suppression of activity will result in significant cuts within economic activity, subsequent cuts revenues, and employment, all as a result of the suppression movement. hold.

There is this need for greater understandings of how poverty impacts a significant numbers of residents of Clackamas County.

The attached "Community Needs Assessment Report" was presented to the Clackamas County - Community Action Board and it provides a September 2023 update review of regional and city specific demographics on poverty in the county.

Poverty touches all aspects of life, leaving low-income families struggling to remain safely housed, often working low-wage jobs and moving frequently in search of affordable rents. When they can't make rent, some stay with family or friends or are couch surfing and when those options run out, many live in their cars.

The children coming up and living in these conditions go to our schools often hungry, as the parents struggle, with an inability to afford what it cost in today's world to have a roof over their heads, and to fund the basic needs of a healthy family.

These families and their children are at risk and unable to fully concentrate in schools and their parents in pursuit of how to lift themselves out of poverty. Without an adequate education and/or training, the task is much more difficult for those who live in poverty to achieve their full potential. Families and their children experiencing some level of poverty, will have a propensity to not achieve the needed education, thus the conditions and the cycle of poverty are perpetuated.

How can we become pro-active and collaborate within doing what we can, to allow the next generation to reach their full potential, and to me this is critical.

My hope is that this information/report is widely shared, discussed, and action plans are created where we identify how we can do our part in reducing the conditions that bring about this cycle of poverty and its effect on the future generations.

***Paul Edgar,*** Member of the Clackamas County - Community Action Board & Veteran's Advisory Council

PS: The collective cost in public funds/monies within creation affordable housing

units and than the cost of sustaining the majority of the people who live in them, can be seen as an unsustainable obligation.

The on average the cost to develop affordable housing units, in Greater Portland is now in the range of \$450K. When government and their actions like using Tolling, which will reduce available jobs, and thus reduces their ability to fund their basic needs. Sixty percent plus, of all families in Clackamas County as a result of the inflation factor are now going paycheck, to paycheck and what does that mean?

The Governor advances a request to the legislature, to fund the creation of a greater number of affordable dwelling units, but what should they look like and where should they go?

In my opinion, we need new house finance programs, that can target the working poor. We as society must extend opportunities where people with limited incomes have the ability to have a piece of the American Pie. \$450K housing units in high density residential towers, to me precludes the great many from seeing and ever knowing, the America that we grew up in. We cannot make it worse!