



JACKSON COUNTY

Oregon

Roads and Parks Administration

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Joint Committee on Transportation
Co-Chair Senator Chris Gorsek
Co-Chair Representative Susan McLain

RE: HB 3362 Public Hearing, 03/04/2025

Dear Co-Chairs, Vice-Chairs, Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express my opposition to House Bill 3362 on behalf of Jackson County.

Our transportation funding issues are severe, as you heard from many local governments on your tours across the state this past year, of which I am very grateful for your efforts to convene. During these tours and associated public outreach efforts, it was made abundantly clear that our pavement conditions across this state are declining. This is a fact at all levels of government and, if left unaddressed, will place an unfair burden on future generations as they are forced to bear the costs to reconstruct our roadways at a much higher cost, not due to their actions, but due to our inability to adequately fund road maintenance.

Given the severity of our current funding scenario, I urge this committee to maintain the diligence to develop and approve a comprehensive transportation package that adequately funds operations and maintenance of our transportation infrastructure. A piece meal approach led by separate initiatives will only lead to failure at addressing our historic needs.

Additionally, across the state and through coordinated workgroups, the Committee heard loudly from local governments for the need to maintain the 20/30/50 historic split amongst the State Highway Fund. Consequently, the Committee has voiced their dedication to maintaining this funding ratio on the record on multiple occasions.

By siphoning off funds for specific initiatives and not dedicating tax revenues, such as those HB 3362 proposes to the State Highway Fund, the bill weakens our ability to maintain city, county and state roadways and is not in the spirit of the 20/30/50 split. In my opinion, there is nothing more directly related to pavement condition than tires. If incorporated into a comprehensive transportation package, these funds should be used to address our failing pavement.

Sincerely,

Steve Lambert
Director