

Submitter: Tonsina Wells

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

The use of public funds for pet projects and special agendas in Oregon is absurd beyond belief.

It is no secret that the so called representatives in the state represent nothing but their own interests.

Taxing nearly everything and where there isn't a tax, there is a fee, a permit or an expense tacked on, causing everything to be more expensive in the name of "climate change" and skewed bought and paid for studies that prove an agenda, not science. Oregon legislature regularly driving out business, commerce, small businesses and increasing every household expense from bread and milk, to garbage pickup and electricity, to the cost of buying or building homes, putting in small additions and making it punitive to improve properly in any way.

The recent changes in our local area to "improve" traffic for bike lines that some have deemed a "road diet" are inefficient and benefits only individuals that do not even pay taxes or into the public transit system in any way.

Those that are affected find it harder to get to work, with decreased mobility, longer drive times causing them to choose alternate routes, ultimately driving business OUT of downtown areas that should be thriving while NEGLECTING areas that need improvement.

I would additionally like to bring up the fact that the planning into these so called improvements are ill-timed and poorly advised, disregarding any additional projects for expansion when they could coincide.

I have witnessed multiple occasions where a major road project has been undertaken to repave, expand, reline and adjust a major stretch of roadway, only to have crews come in, tear it up for the purpose of accessing public works, expanding access for pipeline or electricity or gas. Then to have the previously well paved, smooth and fully functional roadway, patched over poorly effectively restoring it to its previous state PRIOR to the paving project with the benefit of additional potholes being formed and uneven driving services. Alternately, the use of chip and seal in rural areas, which is never appropriately pressed down or filled in, causes immediate divits and grooves in the roadways, effectively changing nothing and requiring additional maintenance that never gets done until 3 years later when they come through and "repave" again.

There are adequate funds within our general fund that need to be appropriately earmarked, assigned and assessed to go to specific improvements throughout the state and things need to be better coordinated and better maintained, not taxed higher.

We. See. You. Stealing our money, ineffectively managing the state and becoming millionaires while the rest of us pay into your coffers.