



Co-chairs and members of the committee,

My name is Matthew Munz, I have worked for ODOT for 22 years.

As I advanced in the agency I became more and more aware of the funding struggles our agency was going through. Declining fuels tax revenue, increasing debt loads from bond sales, fees and taxes not keeping up with inflation, being asked to process and track ever-increasing financial and other transactions on a system (TEAMS) that was created in the early 1990's. I have been part of at least two scope of work audits to determine the feasibility and cost to replace our archaic system. Each time the audit was finished (and the ones I wasn't here for) we were told it would cost too much. I implore you to add money to this package to update our financial software so we can more reasonably process, track, and manage the funds the citizens of this state have entrusted us with, we always strive to be good stewards of the people's money, which is increasingly difficult with our antiquated software.

With that there are some thoughts I have on the funding issues facing ODOT.

- All taxes and fees should be indexed to inflation.
- If the apportionment has to stay then it should be adjusted to a more ODOT favorable split, 70-20-10 for example.
- Public EV chargers should have a phased in tax based on KW's charged.
- All fuels tax transactions should be mandated to be done electronically, including payment.
- A study should be conducted to see if the proposed software upgrade for CCD can be expanded to encompass the new taxation system, if it could then it would give us a head start on RUC tracking and billing as well as get us away from our current system (Avalara) that is unreliable and ill-suited to handle our needs effectively going forward.

As someone who has worked on the administration side of ODOT for these past 22 years, from an office specialist to an accountant I can tell you my co-workers and I are tired of being the targets of opportunity from the legislature, we provide a crucial piece of what ODOT does every day, and it is frustrating to have to hear from our elected officials that our efforts are not only unappreciated, but

expendable. With the historic and proposed cuts to our administrative staff you are asking more and more from a smaller pool of people, a recipe for burnout and an increased chance for errors and inefficiency. Just like I assume your ability to effectively do your job would be hampered by a significant cut to your administrative staff, so too is ODOT's mission hampered by not having enough administrative staff to pay the bills, prepare and oversee contracts, and many other daily tasks that keeps ODOT running. Our contributions to ODOT and the state are important and vital to ODOT's mission, it is time they are recognized and valued just as importantly as the crews on the road by our elected officials and funded accordingly.

Thank you for this opportunity to express my opinions.

Respectfully submitted

Matthew J. Munz