

Submitter: Jeff Church

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

I'm writing to express my opposition to HB 2025, the proposed \$11 billion, 10-year transportation funding package.

As someone who works closely with contractors, tradespeople, and small business owners in Portland, I see firsthand how fragile the current economic environment is. Inflation, permitting delays, fuel costs, and tax burdens have already slowed down projects and forced many people to scale back or walk away. This isn't the moment to pile on another long-term tax commitment — especially one with this kind of scope and vague project list.

Ten years is a massive commitment. Yet we're being asked to greenlight it with only a few days' notice and little public visibility. Why not fund these priorities over two years, like the rest of the state budget — and evaluate based on real-world outcomes?

We also need to be honest about ODOT's performance. The agency has struggled with mismanagement in the past. It hasn't consistently delivered projects on time or on budget. Before we funnel billions more into its control, we need audit follow-through, transparency, and a clearer sense of what will actually get done.

I'm not against infrastructure investment. But I am against blank checks — and HB 2025 feels dangerously close to one.

Respectfully,

Jeff Church