

OREGON STATE SENATE

Barry,

Can you please explain to us all if Gov. Kotek, as her letter states, is going to suspend I-205 tolling indefinitely, why then does the bill still have a \$30M dollars per year allocation to the tolling program under this language on Page 84 of the -28 amendment up for consideration today in committee:

"(iv) The implementation of the toll program established under ORS 383.150" and then when you go to ORS 383.150 it describes quite clearly that the tolling program is in part a tolling plan for I-205?

https://oregon.public.law/statutes/ors_383.150

If Governor Kotek is serious about language that "suspends tolling indefinitely on I-205" please explain the following:

- 1. why are we still collecting the funds under the bill;
- 2. where the money goes and how will it be used if not as directed by the language in the bill to implement tolling under ORS 383.150; and
- 3. why we aren't just reducing the cost of the transportation package by \$30M per year for working class drivers and removing this portion of Section 78 of the -28 at all?

It feels a bit disingenuous to send out a letter like this with that language still in the bill and when such a letter is not binding on the Governor as the only way to ensure the Governor is bound by such a promise is for this body to remove the language or let the voters vote no in a referendum.

Please explain.

Sincerely,

Sen. Hayden

Cocke Kas Hand

Sen Hayden

From:

Pack Barry

Sent:

Thursday, June 26, 2025 2:08 PM

To:

- Senate Democrats; - Senate Republicans

Subject:

Letter from Governor Kotek

Attachments:

06.26.25_HB 2025 Tolling, Governor's Letter.pdf

Senators,

Attached please find a letter to the Presiding Officers from Governor Kotek.

Barry Pack Chief of Staff

Oregon Senate President's Office

M: 503-806-3670



June 26, 2025

The Honorable Rob Wagner President of the Senate 900 Court Street NE, S-201 Salem, OR 97301

The Honorable Julie Fahey Speaker of the House 900 Court Street NE, H-271 Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 2025 Tolling

Dear Senators and Representatives,

On March 11, 2024, I directed the Oregon Transportation Commission to end all work on the Regional Mobility Pricing Project and delay any additional expenditures for implementation of tolling on I-205. The work on I-205 tolling has since been paused indefinitely. I will not direct the Commission to toll I-205 and will not support standalone tolling on I-205.

Section 78 of the -28 amendment to HB 2025A includes conforming language related to HB 2017. This language is necessary to remove references to tax increases and reporting requirements from past legislation that are now obsolete. It does not impact or change my direction to the Oregon Transportation Commission related to tolling on I-205.

Sincerely,

Governor Kotek

Tim Kitat