

Submitter:

Rebecca Green

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3402

My name is Rebecca Green and I am a resident of Hillsboro. I write to oppose the tax increase represented in HB3402 that aims to support what seems to be a mismanaged ODOT, but what is actually a 3rd version of this bill to steal from those working to support themselves, their families, and their communities. And make no mistake, the people earning those dollars are the best ones to decide how to use them to serve their communities.

Has anyone done an audit of ODOT's scope and process effectiveness, and a start, stop, and continue analysis on its last few years' operations and projects? Is there a report out there that the legislature's looking at, if not the public? If more money is applied to a broken system, the system will *continue* to be broken with more waste, and that will cost the people even more in trust of their representatives and executive, because those dollars will be spent against the will of the public.

To sustain ODOT for now, pull from unspent or discretionary funds from the state highway fund, and repurpose general fund surpluses excluding the kicker. Get ODOT operating more effectively and efficiently over the next two years with capable infrastructure and people management, then celebrate the outcomes, and revisit what funding shortages may exist. Once these fees and taxes are levied, they will *never* be reduced or rescinded. You have better options that leave resources in Oregonians hands to care for themselves during uncertain times.

I'm hearing Tina Kotek is telling the legislature to pass this bill that creates an ODOT slush fund with zero accountability, and she threatens to block other spending. Now who's overreaching their branch of the government? The legislature has listened to the people and chosen to support their need for the money they earn in the current climate. Now it's the governor's turn to listen: Leave this bill behind, and in so doing, support all Oregon residents.

Regards,
Rebecca Green
Hillsboro