

House Committee on Transportation

Support for HB 4126: Get the Data for a Better Road User Charge

February 11, 2026

Chair McLain, Vice Chairs Gamba and Boshart Davis,

I urge your support for HB 4126, which will create a rational method to set a Road User Charge (RUC) to pay for the full costs of maintaining and preserving our roads and bridges. That cost, divided by the number of miles Oregonians drive, can then provide a basis for ODOT to recommend a rate for the per-mile road usage charge that would raise sufficient funds to cover these costs.

The ODOT will calculation of projected costs will apply to state roads and also city and county roads which receive half of the funding from the Highway Trust Fund.

It's been known for years now that Oregon needs another revenue source besides gas taxes to maintain our roads and bridges because that revenue is steadily declining due inflation as well as increased fuel efficiency and electric vehicles.

A Road User Charge is the fairest and most efficient way to pay for maintaining our roads, and HB 4126 bill establishes a data-driven pathway for developing a fair and sustainable Road User Charge.

Other projects, such as widening roadways, should be paid for in a separate budget and a different funding source.

Sincerely,

Dr. Pat DeLaquil
President
Clean Energy Commercialization
Gresham, Oregon