

Submitter:

Brett Baylor

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Transportation

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4126

As the gas tax continues to decline and State Highway Fund revenues fall we clearly need alternative methods to fund road and bridge maintenance, whether on State highways or local/county roads.

But currently we have no demonstrably accurate means of knowing what the total costs will be during each biennium. A transparent and responsible methodology would be provided by HB 4126, which would require ODOT, in coordination with city and county data, to provide budget costs so that we could begin to better repair our infrastructure, much of which is becoming dilapidated and dangerous.

Once we have this information we can begin to rationally plan how to meet these needs, no matter the method we might fund them.

A road user charge might be a fair replacement for the gas tax in that it includes vehicles of all types and weight into account, and also distance needs. To do this we need the total miles travelled per year or biennium.

Any changes to the RUC fee would have to come from the legislature.

ODOT should be able to provide this information with minor costs.

I urge you to support this rational approach.