



Offices of Representatives Annessa Hartman, Courtney Neron, and Jules Walters

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Oregon Legislators Demand Pause on Tolling

SALEM, Ore - On Wednesday, Representative Annessa Hartman (D-Gladstone & Oregon City), Representative Jules Walters (D-West Linn), and Representative Courtney Neron (D-Wilsonville) introduced [HB 3614](#), which would place a two-year moratorium on tolling and convene a legislative task force to protect their communities from harmful impacts to struggling families and neglected neighborhood streets.

Despite letters from the cities of Gladstone, Oregon City, West Linn, Tualatin, Lake Oswego, Canby, Sherwood, Wilsonville, and more, city leaders have received no response from the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) about their concerns.

In remonstrances on the House floor today, the representatives sharply criticized state transportation leaders for ODOT's I-205 tolling plan.

"I know what it feels like not to be able to afford an extra \$12 to \$25 a day, and I can imagine how this tolling plan might burden a single, working mother who may drive all day doing a variety of service-industry jobs just to get ahead," **said Representative Annessa Hartman (D-Gladstone & Oregon City)**. "ODOT has not demonstrated that they won't overburden vulnerable people, like older Oregonians, communities of color, or struggling families."

"For the five years I served as a city councilor, mayor, and now state representative, I've attempted to work with ODOT and provide feedback about how this plan will negatively impact my district," **said Representative Jules Walters (D-West Linn)**. "My constituents are already feeling the dangerous effects of traffic coming off of both I-5 and I-205 and overburdening our neighborhood streets. ODOT has not demonstrated how they plan to mitigate the costs to cities, local businesses and residents associated with that diversion."

"My office hosted a Tolling Forum in the Charbonneau community, and we had 350 attendees from all parts of the region," **said Representative Courtney Neron (D-Wilsonville)**. "An ODOT tolling study found that between August and October 2020, ODOT received 4,600 survey responses, the majority expressed opposition to the current proposed plan, and we have yet to hear a response from ODOT. We need the two-year pause and task force in [HB 3614](#) so my community can have the meaningful engagement they deserve."

Despite the tolling program being implemented first in Clackamas County, Clackamas residents make up only 6% of ODOT's tolling equity committee (EMAC), 7% of its Regional Toll Advisory Committee, and 13% of its local transportation commission (Region 1 Area Commission).

[HB 3614](#) is co-sponsored by Representatives Annessa Hartman (D), Courtney Neron (D), Jules Walters (D), James Hieb (R), Janelle Bynum (D), Daniel Nguyen (D), Ben Bowman (D), Khanh Pham (D), Anna Scharf (R), Charlie Conrad (R), Farrah Chaichi (D), Jeff Helfrich (R), Zach Hudson (D), Bobby Levy (R), Ricki Ruiz (D), Emerson Levy (D), Werner Reschke (R), and Tawna Sanchez (D) and Senators Mark Meek (D), Aaron Woods (D), and Daniel Bonham (R).

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