

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

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Press Contact:

Daniel Moltke, <u>Rep.AnnessaHartman@oregonlegislature.gov</u>
Marcella Martinson, <u>Rep.CourtneyNeron@oregonlegislature.gov</u>
Will Worth, <u>Rep.JulesWalters@oregonlegislature.gov</u>

Legislators Release Statement Applauding Plans To Shelve Tolling

Reps. Hartman, Neron, and Walters led efforts to ensure community input was incorporated into transportation planning.

SALEM, Ore. - Today, Representatives <u>Annessa Hartman</u> (D-Gladstone and Oregon City), <u>Courtney Neron</u> (D-Wilsonville), and <u>Jules Walters</u> (D-West Linn) expressed their gratitude to the Governor for heeding the voices of their communities and canceling the I-5 and I-205 tolling projects:

"We're thankful for the Governor's decisive action yesterday. We worked hard to ensure that the voices of those in our communities were heard in public meetings, testimony, and advocacy. Our communities did not support shouldering an outsized burden for interstate infrastructure, and this tolling reversal means a lot to those who live and work here.

"We collaborated with regional elected leaders and staff to amplify our constituent's concerns. The proposals we saw would have placed an inequitable economic impact on the residents and businesses of Clackamas County and parts of Washington County.

"Now, we as legislators will work in 2025 to identify equitable solutions for a safe, modern transportation system, and seek community input every step of the way."

Last year, Reps. Hartman, Neron, and Walters introduced <u>HB3614 (2023)</u> to address their concerns. Governor Kotek later paused tolling plans while the legislature set up the <u>Joint Committee On Transportation Special Subcommittee On Transportation Planning</u> that traveled to impacted communities and listened to local feedback regarding the ODOT/OTC plans for tolling.