



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

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Clackamas-Area Democrats Score Big Win for Toll-Impacted Communities

Governor Tina Kotek pauses toll collections until 2026; new subcommittee created to oversee ODOT plans

SALEM, Ore - After months of advocacy, legislative Democrats representing the Clackamas County area scored a major victory for local communities facing the impacts of tolling on I-205.

In a letter today, the Speaker of the House, the Senate President, and the Co-Chairs of the Joint Transportation Committee have announced the creation of a Special Subcommittee on Transportation Planning to oversee and monitor the Oregon Department of Transportation's (ODOT) plans to mitigate the negative impacts of tolling on vulnerable communities. In order to make sure that any tolling program is carefully considered and incorporates the feedback from impacted communities, Governor Kotek is responding to the calls of the legislators and pausing all toll collections until January 2026.

"I know firsthand that our communities have not felt heard by ODOT, and that they feel their deep concerns were being ignored by the agency," says **Rep. Annessa Hartman (D-Gladstone)**, who has been appointed to serve on the newly formed Special Subcommittee on Transportation Planning. "Since being sworn into the legislature, I've advocated fiercely in the Capitol for our voices to be heard and for ODOT to pause, listen to our constituents and get this right. There is a lot of trust that needs to be rebuilt and I am proud to serve on this committee to give our districts a seat at the table."

The Subcommittee will meet through the interim to oversee ODOT's plans to ensure safety, mitigate congestion, support our economy, reduce pollution, and ensure that the needs of local communities are being heard and incorporated into planning.

"Families and local leaders in our communities have been justifiably frustrated with ODOT's behavior," says **Rep. Jules Walters (D-West Linn)**. "This committee will give a voice to those frustrations, and the pause will give us time to ensure the agency hears them."

"Our communities should not disproportionately shoulder the cost of interstate infrastructure. A flawed tolling program would harm working families, individuals on fixed incomes, and

businesses in my community. I don't believe a toll should divide someone from their own town." **said Rep. Courtney Neron (D-Wilsonville)** "We have an obligation to ensure community voices are heard, legislative sideboards are in place, and that ODOT cannot proceed without truly taking our needs into consideration."

Last week, Reps. Hartman, Walters, and Neron introduced [HB 3614](#), which would pause tolling until January 2026 and establish a committee to oversee ODOT's tolling program. The bill was co-sponsored by a bipartisan, bicameral group of 31 legislators.

"Today, we are grateful that our voices are finally being heard loud and clear." **said Rep. Annessa Hartman (D-Gladstone)**

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