

## From the Offices of THE HOUSE SPEAKER AND SENATE PRESIDENT

November 30, 2023

The Honorable Tina Kotek Office of the Governor 900 Court Street NE Suite 254 Salem, Oregon 97301

Governor Tina Kotek,

Thank you for your November 14 letter expressing your concerns about the safety of Oregonians traveling on our roadways during the winter months. We share those concerns and remain committed to ensuring all Oregonians have access to a safe and reliable transportation system to get to school, to work, or to enjoy the many activities our state has to offer.

We are committed to allocating \$19 million to the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) in the 2024 Session to continue winter maintenance services without interruption, make safety-focused improvements, ensure necessary fleet procurement, and manage vegetation as identified in your letter. Our understanding is that the agency has enough resources at this time to pay for its critical work ahead of the 2024 Session.

In the meantime, please work with the Legislative Fiscal Office to identify the resources ODOT will need for necessary winter operation and maintenance, and any additional requests deemed critical to maintain safe roads that arise as we approach the 2024 Session.

As the Legislature works toward a comprehensive transportation modernization funding package in the 2025 Session, we know a variety of factors have negatively impacted ODOT's budget, such as the changing transportation revenue landscape. We are committed to ensuring Oregonians have a transportation system that meets their needs and keeps them safe for generations to come.

We look forward to continuing the partnership between the legislative and executive branches as we work to maintain and modernize our state's transportation system and keep Oregon roads safe and functional.

Sincerely,

House Speaker Dan Rayfield

Senate President Rol/Wagner