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Paul Romain		· .	
Argument paid for by:			
Oregon Fuels Association PAC	F-Mail- P	romain@theromain	group.com
Name of person or organization paying for arg			
Phone: Cell:	Work: (503) 226-8090	Home:	
Contact information for authorized cha	anges:		
Paul Romain	_{E-Mail:} p	romain@theromain	group.com
Name of person authorized to make changes			
Phone: Cell:	Work: (503) 226-8090	Home:	
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Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet

Measure # 25 - 173 (Order #____)

Maximum 325 words/numbers.

VOTE NO ON THE PORTLAND 10-CENT GAS TAX

- The Portland Gas Tax is unfair in that it taxes fuel for cars, but not other very large vehicles that use Portland's streets.
- The Gas Tax is another regressive Portland tax. For a city that prides itself on being progressive, the City Council sure likes to load taxes on people of low to middle incomes. Those people are already struggling with Portland's skyrocketing housing prices.
- The Portland Gas Tax would be double the highest current city gas tax in Oregon. More than 90% of the cities in Oregon don't have a city gas tax at all.
- Portland already receives 80% of the revenue from Multnomah County's 3 cent per gallon gas tax, on top of a share of Oregon's 30-cent per gallon gas tax.
- If the Portland Gas Tax passes, most Portland residents will pay a total of over 61 cents per gallon in gas taxes, about one-third of current fuel prices in Portland.
- The Portland gas tax would not impact drivers from the suburbs who fuel up outside of the city but drive on Portland streets.
- The City of Portland says that revenue from the gas tax will be used for street maintenance and safety projects. But they said the same thing about water and sewer funds that city officials illegally used to fund toilets and political campaigns.

VOTE NO ON PORTLAND'S 10-CENT GAS TAX.

Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet			
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Phone: Cell:	Work: (503) 226-8090	Home:	
Contact Information for authorized char	nges:		
Paul Romain	E-Mail: P	oromain@theromai	ngroup.com
Name of person authorized to make changes to			
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Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet

Measure # 26 - 173 (Order #____

Maximum 325 words/numbers.

As a wife, mother and a City of Portland small business owner, I am asking you to please vote NO on Portland's 10-cent gas tax for the following reasons:

<u>The 10-cent Portland tax would be the highest fuel tax in Oregon</u>. Coupled with the Multnomah County tax of 3-cents per gallon, those who fill up their tanks in Portland would pay 13-cents more per gallon than those who can fill their tanks just outside of the city. Portlanders making middle class wages or on fixed incomes, yet needing to use their cars to get to work, pick up children from school, and meet their everyday needs are impacted the most.

The 10-cent tax would be added to over 51-cents in other county, state and federal fuel taxes, making the tax on a gallon of fuel over a third of the cost of the fuel.

<u>The city can and should maintain our streets without a new tax</u>. The City of Portland has a \$20 million surplus, which should be used to fix the roads. The City has given us one excuse after another for not maintaining Portland's roads. The Utility Fee imposed in the 1980s was supposed to be used to fix roads. The City diverted that money away from roads. The roads need repair because the City has neglected them for over two decades.

The city has misused our tax money in the past, and continues to do so. Remember the Water Bureau fiasco. The city has been ordered by the Courts to repay millions of dollars.

<u>Higher gas taxes hurt people who are struggling with Portland's high cost of living</u>. With soaring housing prices, the last thing many families need is to pay more to fill up. We should not be raising taxes on Portlanders who are struggling to make ends meet.

Tell the City Council to prioritize fixing our streets. Vote NO on the 10-cent gas tax.

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A Coalition of No-Street-Fee Activists Recommends voting NO against this gas tax, No on 26-173

First, heavy trucks and other big rigs are exempt from this new tax even though such vehicles cause large amounts of damage to our roads. Car drivers will pay for the damage caused by heavy trucks.

Second, automobile drivers will pay more while getting less. Nearly one-third of this gas tax will <u>not</u> go to fixing our roads, but instead go to green ways, bike paths and other such amenities (City's own estimates). Meanwhile, road lanes are being reduced, with Foster and Powell both targeted for being reduced to one lane each way. "Sharing the road" is fast becoming "stealing the road."

Third, the City once dedicated a portion of utility franchise fees to repairing our roads but this funding was raided by City Council for other nefarious purposes.

Fourth, the Portland Transportation Bureau has a tattered history of management. Several years ago the City reportedly sold its street paving equipment and stopped paving the streets.

Fifth, the City routinely wastes millions each year, in amounts equal to this gas tax measure. For example, the City spent about \$5 million cleaning up hazardous waste left behind by private parties even while it gave these same parties even more valuable development rights (Oregonian 2/11/2016). Then most recently the City is paying \$17 million more for a developer's property than its estimated market value (Oregonian 3/6/16).

Sixth, the City now seeks to reward its employees with more lavish quarters with a \$200 million plus proposed rebuild of the Portland Building.

Even though this tax is temporary, it is very possible the City will repeat its past behavior; and short basic road maintenance in subsequent years, wasting it instead on pet projects.

The City needs to reorient itself towards fiscal prudence, and not more taxes.

Bob Clark, Economist; Active member of the No-Street-Fee gang (2014)

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Jason Williams	E-Mall: DICYONWORDday@GMoil.am			
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Taxpayer Association of Oregon says

No on Measure 26-173

Portland is going to hurt you with a \$60 million gas tax because they can't control their spending...

\$70 million wasted on contract overspending according to City Auditors (KOIN 6 TV 5-8-14)

\$50 million misspent by City Water Bureau on failed, questionable and unrelated projects

\$49 million City surplus 2015 (Oregonian 8-11-15)

\$21 million over-spent on City software upgrade (Portland Business Journal 10-1-08)

\$7 million over-spent on Morrison Bridge repair (KOIN 6 -TV 7-7-14)

\$6 million over-budget for Greenway project the media calls "pathway to nowhere" (Oregonian 2-11-16)

\$5 million City surplus in 2014 (Portland Tribune 1-2-14)

\$3 million over-budget on City permit system (Oregonian 4-22-15)

\$2 million over-spending on City Managers cost (Oregonian 3-5-14)

NO Vote on 26-173

More news at OregonWatchdog.com