

From: Jim Webber <jimwebber@sc.rr.com>  
To: Lt. Governor's OfficeLtGov@scstatehouse.gov  
Date: 3/20/2017 1:02:09 PM  
Subject: The State newspaper column March 19

---

Are you no longer a politician? You were a Senator from 2005 until 2017 when political posturing elevated (?) you to your current position. You apparently blame politicians and political policy for the condition of our roads and bridges.

There is some truth in this. The political policy of "no new taxes" is the primary reason our infrastructure has deteriorated to its current condition. Politicians from 2005-2017 have bragged about how much taxes have been reduced, while we citizens have watched our roads, bridges and our educational system deteriorate to its present deplorable state. We are now seeing the result of years of exceedingly shallow understanding of both economics and common sense.

As we used to say in business, "there ain't no such thing as a free lunch". We must be willing to pay for the things we want. Political talk is cheap, and it won't fix our roads. Raise taxes and fix the roads now. The things you see as needing change can be debated and decided by the legislature (or Governor) later. It's time for the needs of the people to be foremost, not blind adherence to some political line.

James T. Webber  
500 Dogwood St  
Columbia, SC 29205