

**From:** Michael Andersen  
**To:** [HTP Exhibits](#)  
**Cc:** [Sen Dembrow](#); [Rep Smith Warner](#)  
**Subject:** opposing HB 3231  
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Los Angeles, Houston, Atlanta and Phoenix make it crystal clear: more urban and suburban freeways do not reduce congestion or speed traffic for more than a year or two. They just subsidize longer commuting, creating ever-longer commutes and the associated social, financial and environmental costs.

As our region grows, we do need to increase the capacity of our transportation network. The way to do this is to gradually shift away from a mode that gets less efficient as more people use it (the low-occupancy car) and toward a mode that gets more efficient as more people use it (mass transit).

I expect Portland liberals to oppose HB 3231 and other freeway expansions on fiscal, environmental and economic grounds. Unlike numerous metro areas that have yoked their futures to endless sprawl, the Portland region's freeway-lite economy is thriving. It does not need to be fixed with an fresh stripe of asphalt.

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