

Dear Representative Sanchez,

I have deep concerns about the current state transportation funding bill. Its prioritization of highway expansion and its regressive tax on bicycles will encourage even more traffic, sprawl, and pollution. This is especially upsetting now, when it's becoming ever more important for states like Oregon to lead the fight against pollution and climate change. Instead, this bill uses a 1950's Robert Moses mentality that ignores the realities of climate change and the damage done to communities by highways car-culture.

As a constituent on Rosa Parks Boulevard near Interstate 5, I am personally upset about the increase in traffic that a wider highway will bring. When I am on bike or on foot, the aggressive driving from people entering and exiting the highway is frightening. The roar of cars is deafening. The emissions from all that traffic is carcinogenic, asthma-inducing, and nauseating — let's not make it worse!

If we want to reduce traffic and improve our communities, we need to discourage driving and encourage other modes.

I hope that the bill can be adjusted to remove the highway expansion provisions and the regressive bike tax. Instead, let's invest in a better future by improving our transit, bicycle, and pedestrian infrastructure. We can pay for it with increased parking revenue, traffic enforcement, and — most importantly — tolling and congestion pricing.

Thank you so much for your consideration. I look forward to seeing the progress on this bill.

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