

Dear Committee Members,

I drive, and I am disappointed with the proposed transportation bill -- it focuses on the wrong issues and feels like a throwback to an earlier era. "Bottleneck reduction" is a seductive concept, but has a long history of failure. At best, the problem moves elsewhere, at worst it is a huge waste of money that could be better spent on a more visionary approach to solving our transportation problems.

Instead of expanding our highways further, we need to prioritize congestion reduction by improving alternatives to driving, such as better transit and more active transportation options. I realize these will not work for everyone, but they can work for enough people that the costs of increased traffic can be mitigated.

Finally, I would like to see an increased fuel tax as a way to reduce both congestion and transportation related emissions. As I driver, I am willing to pay a larger share of the true cost of my transportation choices, and it is not unreasonable to ask my fellow Oregonians to do the same.

Thank you,

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