

Hello,

I learned this evening that ODOT is presenting to the legislature tomorrow on the cost to complete the Rose Quarter freeway expansion project. I also learned that there is not an opportunity for the public to provide comment tomorrow. I am a resident of Portland and am employed just 600 meters from the site of the proposed freeway expansion and have great concerns about this project. Specifically, I am concerned that:

- ODOT's costs continue to spiral out of control and the agency has an abysmal track record with accountability and transparency
- this project is overwhelmingly opposed by advocates of so many stripes
- 2000 public comments were submitted in opposition to this project in the public comment period
- the public made it extremely clear before the December 17 OTC meeting that we demand a full Environmental Impact Statement to further study the social, environmental, carbon, and transportation impacts of this enormously expensive project
- as a young person, I am extremely aware that ODOT is proposing half a billion dollars on fossil fuel infrastructure when 40% of Oregon's carbon emissions come from transportation

When I am your age, I want to know the planet has a future. In order to guarantee that, I need you to take action now and that means not building the same destructive infrastructure we have been creating for decades. Anything less is climate denial and intergenerational theft.

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