

Dear members of the Joint Committee On Transportation,

I am deeply concerned about the huge price tag on the Rose Quarter highway expansion, both in dollars that could be better used in other ways, and in carbon and particulate emissions that directly threaten my children's lives.

The project claims to be motivated by reducing fender-benders and the resulting spikes in congestion, but 1) without pricing use of the road, congestion is the only thing that encourages people to find transportation options other than personal cars: reducing congestion just increases driving until congestion comes back to its original level. 2) The fender-benders on this stretch of I-5 are far from the most severe collisions on roads that ODOT owns. The at least \$750M that ODOT wants to spend here could save many more lives if spent elsewhere.

Please don't let ODOT simply push this project through, against the wishes of the people who have to live with the consequences.

Thank you,
Jeffrey Yasskin
2632 SE Salmon St, Portland, OR 97214