

To the Joint Committee on Transportation:

Please keep ODOT accountable to the children of Harriet Tubman Middle School, the Albina neighborhood community, and the Portland community as a whole, including all our children who will be living with the effects of climate change in the decades to come. The costs of this project are ballooning, while failing to address a variety of pressing issues:

- 1) The safety of our most vulnerable road users, who are dying on state roads. Safety improvements should be applied in those areas before they are applied here, where the main issue is fender-benders.
- 2) Congestion on freeways has never been solved by building extra lanes. At a minimum, ODOT should try congestion pricing before expanding the freeway.
- 3) Climate change is real, and expanding I5 will encourage more traffic with more carbon emissions, not less

Please do not spend ever-increasing amounts of our tax dollars on this project. Instead, listen to the voices of the Portland community and request that ODOT perform a full Environmental Impact Statement to study the very real effects that this project will have on our community and our environment.

Sincerely,

Claire Vlach
97214