

Where is the accountability for electric car users? Are they being given a free pass and not be required to pay for specialized infrastructure like already exists for bicyclists where the bike lanes and other bicycle infrastructure is being paid for by their neighbors who drive?

President Biden keeps saying he will not increase taxes on the middle class for his huge infrastructure proposal. Increasing electricity rates on households and small businesses are already too high. Paying an additional charge on those bills for vehicle charging stations is no different than adding or increasing a tax. With SB 314, obviously what Biden is preaching is all a big lie.

Furthermore, households that have clean electric heat are already being discriminately penalized due to a previous legislative mandate that requires power companies have a reverse rate structure. There is no way usage can stay within the lowest price block of power during the cold days of winter. Housing costs, partly due to soaring property taxes, are already too high in Portland. Hard working class Oregonians are already financially subsidizing too many politically motivated causes. Additionally, motorists are continually being fleeced as if they as if they are inexhaustible ATMs to pay for the privileged and specialized infrastructure that freeloading bicyclists utilize and always want more of. Equity is totally absent!

The primary underlying condition as it applies to climate change is unsustainable population growth and the over population of the planet. The financial recovery for vehicle charging infrastructure should be made when an electric vehicle is plugged in to the charging station. Charging stations for electric vehicles all need to have credit/debit card readers. Not only should the drivers of electric cars purchase the power they utilize, but they also need to be charged a road tax and pay for the power delivery system just as drivers purchasing other motor fuels pay a roadway use tax along with the costs of both refining the fuels and the delivery systems. Adequate off-street parking also needs to be required with all new urban housing, both single-family and multi-family, which also includes accessibility to power that small vehicle charging systems can be connected to.

The public needs to be represented as a whole. Not only should the drivers of electric vehicles accept accountability and pay their own way, but so should bicyclists starting with bicycle license/registration fees of not less than 60 dollars per year. If electric vehicles and bicyclists are subsidized, then too should all homeowners that have electric heat be subsidized.

Respectively submitted,

Terry Parker
Northeast Portland