

Honorable Committee Members,

It is depressing to me that I need to submit testimony to you regarding this legislation for several reasons:

1) We face an existential crisis due to climate change as exhibited by last years fire season and they will only get worse. Since 40% of carbon emissions come from transportation, instituting a a blank check to ODOT to increase road capacity instead of reducing our reliance from single occupancy vehicles will only serve to decrease the amount of time our planet is viable.

2) With ODOT and the OTC's unique blend of corruption and incompetence, they are the last agency that should be given the blank check this legislation creates, particularly when the bill will come due on my children who will suffer the gravest consequences of this legislation. On time and on budget are not part of ODOTs vocabulary. ODOT has been caught lying about the Rose Quarter Expansion Project multiple times and continues to do so to this day. Both OTC Commission Chair Bob Van Brocklin and and ODOT Director Kris Stricler have handed lucrative consulting contracts to their spouses.

3) Adding lanes does nothing to reduce congestion. It has never worked and never will. If you believe it does because ODOT has told you so I have a bridge to sell you. Visit LA, Houston, Dallas, Atlanta or any other city that has tried to pave their way out of congestion and you will learn that "if you build it, they will come".

The solution to our congestion problem lies not with building more lanes but giving people alternatives to making trips in cars, making it safe to walk or bicycle, reliable and frequent mass transit and pricing road capacity to make single occupancy vehicle trips a less attractive option. If you provide funding for alternative to SOVs the road capacity for freight will magically appear.

Thank you for your time.

Brian O'Grady