

From:

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Why do you want legislators to demand ODOT conduct an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed \$1.9 Billion Rose Quarter Freeway Expansion? Why should legislators on the Joint Special Subcommittee on Transportation Planning instead direct ODOT to prioritize investing in transportation options like repairing existing roads, improving traffic safety, and tackling climate change with transit investments?

I am strongly in favor of demanding an environmental impact statement as a condition of significant changes to I5. There are an enormous number of questions about the Rose Quarter freeway expansion that the public deserves to know, and I strongly suspect the answers would not be flattering to proponents of this multibillion-dollar megaproject. I highly doubt negligible safety improvements and marginal improvements to rush hour car commute times come anywhere close to justifying this enormously expensive proposal, and the lobbying of ODOT and contractors to avoid asking important questions is because the proposal will not hold up to any reasonable scrutiny.

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