

**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?**

Global warming is accelerating faster than predicted and there is substantial evidence that freeways continue to contribute to this disaster along with all the ill effects on human health from air pollution to pedestrian deaths. The Rose Quarter expansion is also projected to go through a predominantly Black neighborhood, continuing to contribute to racist government policies. Finally, there is substantial evidence that expanding freeways does nothing to alleviate traffic congestion. ODOT should focus on improving current roadways via repair, centering pedestrian/bicyclist safety, and improving public transit. Stop wasting ever-inflating budgets, using taxpayer dollars, on an issue with demonstrably cheaper and saner solutions.

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