

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?

EV's are a greenwashing consumerist centered, greed based pseudo-solution that also (along with ICE vehicles) destroy the environment by releasing greenhouse gases through resource mining, manufacturing processes pollutants and ultimately going to the landfill in mass droves. The pollution they cause is simply unnecessary as is the amount of urban space squandered on parking and other paved over autocentric wastes. They also perpetuate urban sprawl, physically reinforce redlining, the food deserts invariably caused by it, along with cities that are not navigable as a pedestrian or bicyclist and are, in fact, inhospitable to humanity along with being horrendous towards animals. Isn't it ironically sad that streets divide us more than connect us and impede us from trying to get to where we're trying to go? EV's add to traffic congestion.

Commodification of societal necessities and normalization of trying to substitute rampant consumerism where we need standardized, regulated and uniform public utilities doesn't work. It's especially insidious considering the planned obsolescence that the auto corporations preemptively ruin their products with. Even nefarious bad actors such as the Kochs profit from EVs (Molex etc.) along with the turncoat auto industry who destroyed our job earned taxpayer dollars funded interurban routes, streetcar grids and trolley lines through privatization and premeditated neglect, sabotaging our infrastructure, and through bribery of our elected officials by their treacherous lobbyists. This is the same industry that abandoned us to move out of country for profits leaving Detroit and other cities a nightmare and who we repeatedly bail out only for the corporate executives to pocket our taxpayer dollars again through stock buy backs and other illicit means.

Putting the financial burden of transportation inefficiently and directly on the individual citizen is simply not wise or fair and hasn't been the norm for even 80 years. The fines, fees, road subsidies, permits, tickets, tolls, insurance and more that go into paying for an automobile is a colossal boondoggle strangling the nation from citizen to citizen with that ridiculous albatross hanging around their neck. To form the bone structure of walkable places we need to invest in commuter rail that's properly implemented as it typically is overseas. A commuter rail system is an engineering marvel while buses are just buses. The most reliable predictor of a neighborhood being impoverished is if it has no commuter rail connection (which Robert Moses intentionally famously forced to happen by having overpasses for cars too low for commuter rail to continue to run beneath them along with a ton of other disgusting ploys).

The American people are apathetic through decades of disenfranchisement and a lot of that marginalization (eg Robert Moses's racist urban renewal) is through divestment of public infrastructure, utilities and programs to help the American people. How many special places were destroyed fated to become mere parking lots? How many lives were wrecked as entire communities and cultural centers of minorities were wiped off the face of the world as though an atomic bomb had been dropped on it in order to force through highway robbery highways were pushed through the wreckage and rubble of

razed annihilation that those same victims now in atomized diaspora had to then help subsidize which is often the case with the rapid onslaught and constantly rupturing outbreak of mediocre monstrosities being raised all over the place currently, looming gloomily over neighborhoods they've doomed as ugly tombstones in the special spaces and places of what was demolished for them to be erected.

We're past the point of car dominated transportation being anything better than a tragic hindrance or an outright travesty. Public works materially improving life for the taxpaying citizenry will bolster civic pride. Transcontinental High Speed Rail should integrate seamlessly with commuter rail networks so it can evenly function as one cohesive system and this will convert flyover country back into a thriving heartland by functioning as an artery of commute and commerce which will reduce clustering on the coasts. Similarly, wholly integrated circuits of commuter rail blended with interurban routes, light rail lines, street car grids, subways, and even trolleys along with electric ferries functioning together as a comprehensive series of interwoven systems would prevent people from having to live on top of each other in city centers in order to have quick access to urban cores and downtown areas so this would stimulate our local economies and prevent gentrification from demolishing cherished heirlooms of our historicity, destroying our classic neighborhoods, shredding the fabric of our communities and toppling our civic landmarks and architectural heirlooms along with other social capital such as venerable culture generating venues.

Numerous studies show that built environments of homogenously bleak and bland duplitecture dreck made from extremely toxic and highly flammable petrochemicals that profiteering developers push on us for their privatized gains to our public loss for the riches of themselves and price gouging corporate slumlords not only cause homelessness from being financially inaccessible to most Americans, but also cause depression from creating such a devastatingly sterile, cold, unloving urban habitat that's too congested and overcrowded to work properly as a correctly engineered built environment. Car-centric sprawl and the miserable failure of the automotive city have caused the US to be a congealed hellscape of unwalkable communities hostile to life lacking in social capital and public spaces/town squares. Violent busy roads ironically create walls and we're further cut off from sensible mobility by divestment in commuter rail infrastructure. We're an atomized society suffering severe anomie strain and that leads to poor mental health and the social ills which immediately follow and further worsen as people are impacted in a ripple effect as consequences tumble across our cities like falling dominoes. We're social creatures by nature and all interconnected. Our roadways are overcrowded and no amount of widening them and adding lanes will do anything to help it because it just leads to induced demand that inevitably grinds to a halt at snags and bottlenecks down the road. Shouldn't American cities be thriving centers of culture and character rather than austere and chintzy morasses of mediocrity?

I believe that we can design the cities of our nation to reflect a future that embraces humanity and that we also must for America to have any sort of a bright future ahead of it. Right now we are mired in the destruction of our cities from the inward attacking neocolonial oppressors who weaponize their clout of wealth against the nation for their own off-shore un-American gains of privileged, parasitic, private profits. This greed fueled anti-social exploitation is present day feudalism driving us into another gilded age. Tons of new brutalist "luxury living" housing units remain empty serving only as financial assets in investment portfolios of hedge fund and permanent capital firm cretins sheltering dubiously acquired wealth instead of as direly needed shelter for humans. We deserve a landscape we can be proud of and country should come first before corporate looting and exploitation. Legacies are important and live on forever.

With space opened up in our cities we could rebuild beloved structures gone from economic and environmental disaster utilizing new technologies such as hempcrete and 3-D printing. We could create vertical agriculture farms etc. on spots currently now just serving as paved over squares and nothing more. We can extend democracy into offering the taxpayer residents democratic say in what their city consists of, how it looks and how it operates promoting civic engagement and participation.

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