

**From:**

Elizabeth W. Reese

**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?**

Dear ODOT,

Please record my public testimony regarding the I-5 Rose Quarter expansion project.

A full Environmental Impact Statement should be mandatory.

As a citizen activist and an affected nearby property owner for 25 years, I have provided extensive input, in writing and in person, to ODOT, PBOT, and AECOM, regarding the Environmental Assessment of this project.

I did not see evidence in the EA that my voice had been heard.

While I won't reiterate the details of all of my concerns here, I will mention that the effects of the current freeway and your plan to widen it, has a devastating environmental impact, in terms of air and noise pollution, on near neighbors like Harriet Tubman Middle School, Lillis Albina Park, the historic Paramount Apartments, the Leftbank Building, and the soon-to-be constructed Albina One affordable housing project.

Please craft a well-planned congestion pricing program and other Transit Demand Management strategies before proceeding with widening the freeway.

Please consider constructing buildable lids over the existing freeway, without widening it.

Please contribute to the surface street and land use improvements to help make this valuable, close-in, historic area the thriving walkable, bikeable, transit-oriented neighborhood that our city deserves.

Please help atone for past wrongs by providing the infrastructure needed to complement and support the Albina Vision for developing this area.

Thank you for taking my testimony.

Betsy Reese  
Resident, Southeast Portland  
Former Business owner, Paramount Apartments and Paramount Parking  
North Portland, Rose Quarter area

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