

**From:**

Ashley Trumps

**What do you want to tell legislators about the proposed \$1.9 Billion Rose Quarter Freeway Expansion and Oregon's transportation system?**

I moved to Oregon from Texas not only to escape right-wing legislature, but to also live in a walkable, accessible neighborhood, of which Portland has many more options than Austin. I feel safe walking biking, and even driving on smaller streets, and it makes me feel more like part of a community. I've held onto the hope that things will stay like this, and industrialization won't continue with the false notion that more lanes is the solution to increased traffic. In my experience with cities full of wide-lane traffic, it sucks the joy out of the city and contributes to noise and pollution that makes me wish I lived somewhere else. I also love riding the bus here, and would ride it even more were money invested to maintaining the bus routes and even adding more high speed transit if possible. Additionally, black and brown communities are typically the first to suffer with freeway expansion, as their communities are often sacrificed and fragmented to accommodate these noisy, unsafe streets. I don't want to live in a community who is willing to make these sacrifices so that white people can be more comfortable. Please demand an Environmental Impact Statement and direct ODOT to prioritize investment in our public transit, increasing bike and pedestrian safety, and preserving the sanctity of this historical black neighborhood. Consider working with the Albina Vision Trust to reimagine the roadways there and improve the community. Thank you for your consideration.