

**From:**

Matt Tuckerbaum

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

To members of the Joint Special Subcommittee on Transportation Planning – I am a Portland resident, a father, and a user of all types of transit: I drive when I must, but try to bike, bus, or walk whenever I can. I am deeply concerned about the plans that ODOT has for the Rose Quarter project, and I implore you to act on behalf of citizens like myself to right-size their work and their priorities within the context of what Portland and Oregon needs.

The latest revelation that ODOT's actual plans make space for significant expansion of I-5 through the Rose Quarter is shocking. It seems that ODOT is working from an antiquated paradigm, one that prioritizes car and truck traffic through our inner city without any regard for the environmental, health, or safety impacts on those who live, work, and play in this area. This paradigm also assumes and enables unabated growth of auto traffic, and deploys a significant portion of our state's scarce transportation resources towards a project that will increase emissions and pollution, put further stress on our urban growth boundaries, and undermine the integrity of our transit and human-powered transportation networks.

I strongly support the plan to cap I-5 in the Rose Quarter, in order to restore lost land and street fabric that can revitalize the Albina neighborhood, in line with the Albina Vision Trust's plan. Beyond that work, any effort to expand the highway would be an enormous mistake, fiscally and environmentally. If this work were to go forward, it is not hard for me to see a time near its completion, where my son and his peers would be outraged and hurt by the fact that we would have saddled them with this enormous environmental and infrastructural debt to be maintained for their lifetime.

So, I formally request that you demand a full and transparent EIS from ODOT related to this Rose Quarter project, and do everything in your power to change the current planning paradigm at ODO. Please, get them to prioritize investments in transportation options that will create a better future for our kids by creating a more livable city with safe streets, climate-friendly transit options, and fewer highways carving up our city. Our future depends on you.