

**From:**

Emily Kemper

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

After living through the past 6 months of record setting warmth, in which every month since May was the warmest month on record, it is beyond my comprehension that we are still talking about widening Interstate 5 through the Rose Quarter. We need to start reducing GHG emissions, not creating more, and the I-5 expansion would be a personal invitation on behalf of Oregon state government for more cars to spew more emissions in the middle of a neighborhood that has already been devastated by decades of inequitable city planning. How many times do we have to ask for an EIS for this outrageously expensive project, when the answer to the question "how SHOULD we spend billions of dollars in transportation funding?" is already staring us in the face? We need to spend money on improving existing infrastructure and roads; on improving traffic, cycling, and pedestrian safety; and on public transit improvements. The I-5 expansion is a boondoggle, one which is anathema to a state that prides itself on environmental leadership, and if it proceeds as proposed without intervention by the legislature, will be a historic embarrassment to our great state.