

**From:**

Nathan Berres

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

The investment of public tax dollars into the unsustainable, harmful and inefficient design of highways which puts even more dependency on cars is beyond backwards as to how we should be building up our transportation systems. With traffic deaths on the rise and cars becoming more expensive alongside killing the environment, there is no ethical reasoning behind putting money towards a highway expansion when we could use that money instead to improve the safety of our streets and the lacking statewide public transportation sector.

I hope the legislators can realize the short & long-term damage that will occur from implementing billions of dollars into a freeway. I encourage you all to think not only about the communities you serve today, but also the communities that will come in the future. I want a future that is not polluted by cars and highway maintenance, and I hope you all would want that too. As a life-long resident of Portland, highways have never been something I was proud of to see within my city, it is exactly the opposite. As a resident who wants to continue to support my city for the rest of my life, these use of funds could be used to increase public transportation capacity, reliability, and reach, creating a far more equitable and sustainable future for the city of Portland and the residents of Oregon. Please reconsider the use of public tax funds to expand highways.

– Nathan Berres