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I want a top-to-bottom rethink of priorities in the 2025 transportation package. Think about a transportation system that moves people and things and then make changes that will move us towards those goals in a way that achieves the state's climate targets. At the top of this list would be safety which means protecting people walking & rolling and slowing down the fastest drivers naturally by road design. At the bottom of the list of priorities should be increasing road width and widening highways which encourages speeding, increases deaths and injuries and induces more driving (which is much worse than congestion for moving us away from climate goals).

Right now our priorities are flipped with mega-projects sucking up all the budget (and then some – ODOT is operating in a way that will bankrupt it , and draw funding away from other underfunded priorities like education). If the legislators cancel the climate- & budget-busting megaprojects, it will be easier to prioritize safety and maintenance requirements that move us closer to the objectives of moving people and things safely and efficiently. If congestion remains an issue – start with Economics 101 and put a price on road use – and change state law to allow for the funding from this revenue for investments that reduce demand at peak times like making much more frequent and accessible transit service available.