

From:

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Location:

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Submitted written testimony to the Joint Committee on Transportation for the 6/4 Roadshow Hearing:

First, I support the comments from No More Freeways (NMF) dated June 1, 2024.

Second, my wife Susan and I have been active participates in matters concerning transportation and education in Portland since 1968. In the 1970s, we worked with others in NE neighborhoods to stop further construction of the Rose City Freeway which would have linked the Fremont Bridge to I 205 with a major freeway running diagonally from the bridge to NE Prescott St then to I -205, taking out hundreds of affordable housing units in NE Portland.

In 2012, I served on the North/Northeast committee, which was part of Central City Planning effort for 2035 and included participation with ODOT regarding its proposed expansion of the I 5 corridors at NE Broadway and Weidler. Along with 4 other members, I voted no on the ODOT proposal, a minority position. This was 12 years ago, and now ODOT is still pushing this overly expensive and poorly planned expansion, which is also opposed by NMF.

Subsequent to the 2035 panning effort, we again joined with residents of NE Portland to fight the first iteration of the Columbia River Crossing new bridge proposal and major expansion of the lanes and exchanges on both sides of the river. This first effort also failed but is now back again for a second try. We support building a replacement bridge, one with 6 lanes and mass transit, but with no expansion of lanes or exchanges.

Climate change, polluting gas-powered cars, cost overruns, poor fiscal management, etc, require new thinking about these issues.

Dean and Susan Gisvold