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**Location:**

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

I have lived car-free in Portland, Oregon for the last 15 years. Not only does this help me do my part to minimize the impact of the climate crisis, it also saves me money. Despite the region's generally good transit and bicycling options (by US standards), I am painfully aware that our transportation system prioritizes the convenience of driving above all else. Whether it's long waits for transit with inadequate shelter from the elements, debris-strewn bike lanes with no separation from speeding cars and trucks, deteriorating or missing sidewalks, or land-use patterns that prioritize expensive parking lots over compact, pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods, I often feel unwelcome and shut out from life in our streets and other public spaces by virtue of earlier generations' transportation policy choices.

I would like to see more funding devoted to viable alternatives to driving. I want buses to run faster and more frequently. I want children to be able to experience the autonomy of getting around their neighborhood without needing to be driven by their parents. I want the region to be open to travel by those who cannot drive because of disability or low income. I want more compact neighborhoods that are affordable to live, work, and shop in instead of more suburban sprawl. Above all, I want our leaders to stop throwing good money after bad highway expansions, which do not fix traffic or reduce vehicle emissions according to the "fundamental law of highway congestion". Let's help Oregon live up to its reputation as a progressive leader on climate, transportation, and social equity by turning away from the failed policies of car dependency. Thank you.