

Thank you Co-chairs McLain and Gorsek and Transportation Committee members for your important work and for listening to citizens.

As a bicycle commuter, I appreciate the dedicated lanes to bicycles and other wheels in Eugene. I especially like the East Amazon lane buffered by concrete strips.

At a time when rugged individualism is running amok in our nation and threatening a sense of community from libraries to highways, I have a proposal.

I suggest we build community by enforcing laws on oversized truck and auto mufflers designed to bring increased noise with increased speed, bringing gratification to the driver but no one else. The proliferation of such vehicles has grown dramatically in recent years and presents a significant quality-of-life issue. Sit at any outdoor café, walk in any park, and rest your head on any pillow within a mile of a street with a long straight stretch (or even a short one), and you hear the roar of racing mufflers.

We do not have enough police to watch for these speeding vehicles and make arrests. I suggest making it illegal for autoshops to retrofit cars and trucks with double-down, double-up mufflers.

Quieting the race cars may encourage more people to walk, stroll, or bike for commute or pleasure.

A visitor to a national park has a one in 667,000 chance of dying in an accident. A pedestrian has a one in 485 chance of dying in a traffic accident.

Let's slow the speed and slow the noise for the community.

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