

I am writing today to express support for the improvement of Oregon's public transit infrastructure.

The best thing Oregon can do is put funding into its communities through improving public transit, increasing road maintenance, and creating safer bike and pedestrian pathways. One in four Oregonians can't or don't want to drive and deserve to have safe, accessible, frequent public transit service to ensure equity and equality for all. Portland alone has seen a record high of vehicular violence as vehicles become bigger, heavier, and taller and pedestrian and bicyclists pathways less and less available and less protected. Roads and sidewalks are often unsafe to traverse due to their lack of maintenance, especially for people who have mobility issues and/or use mobility devices or mobility aids, and for bicyclists who often have no choice but to bike in roads with no protected bike lanes.

As the effects of climate change continue to become increasingly apparent, the last thing Oregon needs is another freeway expansion which will only add to the overall heating effects created by flat asphalt surfaces and hurt the most vulnerable of Oregon's communities. Oregon needs improved public transit, increased road maintenance, and safer bike and pedestrian pathways.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Zeke Pratchett