

Hello,

I want to start this message by saying we don't need to widen freeways anymore. Induced demand dictates that adding lanes only leads to even more congestion. It is a fool's errand. I am a driver. I would much prefer money be spent on vastly expanding robust public transportation in Portland and the metro area. This means more MAX lines, more streetcar lines, more BRT lines, more bus lines, and more frequent service for all of this. I want to be able to access my city without having to drive all the time. Driving is stressful, and for many it is deadly. It is more dangerous to be behind the wheel of a car than it is to ride on public transit, even when people are harping on and claiming the opposite! I very fortunately live close to frequent bus lines, the 35 and the 75 in Portland. They also connect me to the yellow MAX line, which is fantastic. However, if I had a streetcar on Lombard connecting me to St Johns, I would go there so much more frequently and pump my money into the local economy. If I had that same streetcar connecting me to a MAX yellow line that crossed the Columbia into Vancouver, I would also be pumping more money into their local economy. And that's ignoring how much vast expansion of our transit system would take me all over the city to do the same. With my car, I drive by places and don't stop when I might see and hop off a train or bus much more readily. By keeping our city so reliant on cars for transportation, you are doing our local economy a disservice! Please change the course of public funding toward expanding public transportation. Yes, improve infrastructure so bridges and roadways aren't crumbling. But don't expand freeways (personally, I think they should be removed in my city of Portland to allow dense housing and public transportation to take their place). As a driver, I want more trains and busses!

Thank you,

Jonathan Greenwood