

Senators and Representatives,

I am writing to urge you to please focus your efforts on changing the way we think about transportation in this state.

Our focus on cars as the sole mode of transportation is bankrupting our state, killing it's citizens, and damaging our environment.

Please, make the focus of our states' future one where it is safe for someone to walk or bike in their community. We need not allow deaths and serious injuries to be the cost of doing business for our department of transportation.

Please ensure that our children are not burdened with a crippling road maintenance bill. ODOT sent out a panicked message that they would not be able to do basic maintenance without more funding, however they are still moving ahead with major highway expansions. This is irresponsible, and poor management of public funds.

Please ensure that our children's future includes our great outdoors, and natural environment that is not destroyed by the pollution that cars cause.

I ask this committee to think big.

Support complete streets, support improved public transit, support vision zero, support our communities, and support our future.

I understand that some measures may not be politically popular, but the hard decisions in history rarely are. Things like tolling are an unfortunate necessity if we want to adequately fund our transportation system.

The ideas that shaped how our transportation system got built came from the 1960s and 1970s, and have brought us to this decision point. Please do not continue down the same destructive path that got us here.

Respectfully,

Ian Grant
Voter, walker, driver, bike rider, transit user