I am writing to express my concerns about the transportation bill HB 2017. Please do not support the bill as it stands!

This bill contains provisions for widening highways at great expense.
This has been proven time and again in cities around the globe to only increase congestion. We do not want our highways widened!

This bill introduces a sales tax on bicycles to fund bike and pedestrian infrastructure, which seems fair. But the reason we need this infrastructure is to keep people safe from cars!

Bicycles and pedestrians do not damage the roadways, cars do. Cars, trucks, and studded tires do thousands of times more damage to the roads, and should be taxed commensurately. In addition, cars and trucks damage the environment (not just emissions, but brake dust, noise, etc.) and do not pay their share of road maintenance nor of increased health costs, highway patrol, ambulances, ER costs, etc. The list of negative externalities is tremendous and unfunded.

Why tax bikes when we are trying to encourage their use? Bicycling helps congestion, keeps people healthier, and does not damage the roads, so we should encourage it, not discourage it through taxes. Raise the gas tax and find other ways to discourage car use!

Ben Salzberg
4841 SE Sherman St.
Portland OR 97215

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