

Re: HB3065
From: Tony Jordan
Date: 5/11/2021

Members of the Joint Committee on Transportation,

I am writing to oppose this bill which would burden our state with more debt in the service of building climate killing highways. As a member of Portland's Pricing Options for Equitable Mobility Committee, I have spent the last year reviewing strategies and policies for advancing our climate and equity goals through transportation pricing. I SUPPORT tolling and user fees. I founded a non-profit, the Parking Reform Network, to advocate for better parking management including higher parking fees. But I cannot support instituting tolls with the aim of widening, expanding, or building new freeways.

Tolling should be used to manage demand on our freeways, not to pay for more traffic inducing lane miles. Revenue from tolling would ideally be used in progressive ways, like cash rebates to low income households, multi-modal and transit infrastructure, and transit service expansion. Given the limitations imposed by our Constitution, we can't yet to the best thing with these revenues, but tolling to create a slush fund for ODOT highway expansions is absolutely not the right thing to do.

This bill is not worth amending or further work, other approaches to tolling and revenue expenditure are being pursued and those should be left to run their course in the public process.

Thank you,
Tony Jordan
Portland, OR