

February 14, 2025

To whom it may concern:

The proposed House Bill 2738 by Representative Nelson deserves the bi-partisan support of all legislators. It is needed to rectify a grossly unfair poisoning of the citizens, wildlife and land of the greater Kenton area near the Portland International Raceway (PIR).

From the Environmental Protection Agency website (EPA.GOV) on 2/17/2025:

What are the effects of lead on human health?

'...lead distributes throughout the body in the blood and is accumulated in the bones. Depending on the level of exposure, lead can adversely affect the nervous system, kidney function, immune system, reproductive and developmental systems and the cardiovascular system. Lead exposure also affects the oxygen carrying capacity of the blood. The lead effects most likely to be encountered in current populations are neurological effects in children. Infants and young children are especially sensitive to lead exposures, which may contribute to behavioral problems, learning deficits and lowered IQ.

The City of Portland (the lessors of PIR) and the operators of PIR have decided:

- It's okay to poison the people of the greater Kenton Area with lead.
- The amount of poisoning is acceptable because people who like to drive on the racetrack deserve their recreation.
- The level of poisoning is acceptable because it's "not too much" despite that "no amount of lead poisoning is without serious health risks" (hence lead based paint is banned nationally since 1978).
- It is okay to deny the residents of Greater Kenton relief from these circumstances because "business as usual" is easier than taking actions to shut down the racetrack.

I personally think House Bill 2738 does not go far enough. I would:

- Force the City of Portland to terminate the lease of PIR.
- Use the land for a low cost village for housing indigent people and RV parking, making the racetrack their driveway.
- Hold a ceremony to apologize to the people of Kenton who have endured the misery of PIR noise pollution, air pollution, and negligence of government that PIR has promulgated.

Thank you for considering these points, and for your public service.

William Collins
3370 N. Baldwin Street
Portland, OR 97217