



January 16, 2018

To: Mr. Ted Wheeler, Mayor
Ms. Chloe Eudaly, City Commissioner
Mr. Nick Fish, City Commissioner
Ms. Amanda Fritz, City Commissioner
Mr. Dan Saltzman, City Commissioner

Re: I-5 Expansion Project Through Eliot Neighborhood

To Whom it may concern-

We ask that you please remove the I-5 expansion project from your Central City Comprehensive Plan.

The air quality in Eliot is already very bad. We have the highest concentration of diesel particulates in Multnomah county. We are also home to Harriet Tubman Middle School, and we are very concerned about the air quality for students when the school reopens this year. By adding more lanes to the freeway that cuts through our neighborhood, there will be more cars, traffic, and the air quality will only get worse.

The local street changes are also not a sufficient enough improvement to warrant the increased air pollution we'll receive. The removal of a Flint Street bridge and addition of a Hancock bridge will make a very popular bicycle route less convenient. Also the lids that are proposed over the Williams and Vancouver bridges do not improve the neighborhood since they aren't big enough for parks and cannot be used for buildings.

Finally, adding urban freeway lanes has never reduced traffic congestion, so the project will not meet its most basic goal.

In conclusion, we ask that you please remove the I-5 expansion project from the Central City Comprehensive Plan.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Eliot Neighborhood Association