

I was in Salem last week and met with various representatives about gaining support for SB 694 which would allow lane filtering of motorcycles. I reside at 7840 SW 51st Ave. Portland, OR 97219 with my wife and two young kids and this is my brief synopsis of why I'd like your support for SB 694.

I grew up in Colorado, made my career in NYC and that's where I met my wife. Judiaann (who works for Travel Oregon now) grew up in Tigard and when we had kids suggested we move to Oregon to raise our family. I was skeptical but fell hard in love with Oregon and Portland on my first visit and we moved months later and I have adopted this state as my home. *Everything* about Oregon is better than NYC (including the food!) and even better than Colorado.

Except for *one thing*... the traffic!

Holy cow, the traffic here is horrible. *It's NYC bad*. I think that SB 694 could help make a dent in what is an intractable problem for such a fantastic city. Here's my breakdown of benefits:

- It is NOT the California model that doesn't have speed limits.
- This would allow motorcycles to filter through stopped or nearly stopped traffic (traffic can be going *no more* than 10mph)
- This would only be allowed on 4 or greater lanes (two lanes in the same direction and not the shoulders)
- The motorcycle would *only* be allowed to go no greater than 20mph (about the speed of a bicycle)
- Motorcycles get between 40-60mpg, scooters get between 70-100mpg - *significantly* better than cars
- Motorcycles are far less damaging to the road surface
- Motorcycles take up a fraction of the parking (considerable in a city with such limited parking)
- This model is allowed in *all* European countries and *all* developed Asian countries.
- A California study showed that removing the motorcycle from stopped traffic significantly improved it's safety. This despite the fact that in California the speed differentials are higher than the SB694 model. Our model would be safer still.

Portland's traffic isn't going to get better - it's going to get worse as more people discover how amazing it is. A progressive and forward thinking approach such as has been taken with bicycles (but without needed infrastructure changes) is something that would encourage more people to make use of a much better transportation option, increase the safety to motorcyclists and reduce the impact on roads and parking.

Thank you,

Gregor



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