

DEPLETION DENIAL

EW's article "Legalizing reduction with a bill to cap and cut Oregon's carbon emissions" (1/29) had math errors. The article quoted State Sen. Doug Whitsett, claiming he dismissed local environmental efforts since Oregon only has ".0000057 percent of the global population." Whether he used this figure or *EW* misquoted him, it is off by a factor of 10,000. Oregon has about four million people and the world has over seven billion, so we're about .0005 of the world (.05 percent).

A bigger math error is the pretense that we're going to decide emission limits "for the next 35 years." I realize it's politically incorrect to discuss fossil fuel depletion, but in 2050 the Alaska Pipeline will be long abandoned, the fracking bubble will be over and we will be lucky to have any fossil fuels to worry about restricting.

Oregon's Constitution requires that motor fuels taxes must be dedicated to highway construction. Therefore, the carbon tax under consideration in Salem would have to allocate any new tax on gasoline, diesel and other motor fuels for more bypasses and highway widenings.

It is theoretically possible to remove this constitutional restriction. But who would champion this cause? Oregon's environmental groups ignore Gov. John Kitzhaber's nearly \$20 billion of highway expansion. See peaktraffic.org.

Living on our solar budget would power a much smaller, steady state economy not based on endless growth on a finite planet. Depletion denial is more popular than climate denial. Peak energy and climate chaos are two aspects of overshoot; neither can be mitigated without the other. See peakchoice.org.

Mark Robinowitz
Eugene

QUALITY OF LIFE

I was stopped at a light on 6th Avenue and noticed some pedestrians getting ready to cross the street. What caught my eye was the look of worry and trepidation on this woman's face as she guided her child, holding both hands, through the valley of steel. Both of their eyes were fixed on the five lanes of huge trucks and cars that waited momentarily to resume velocity. The difference was that her face registered fear, and the innocent child whom she sought to preserve's eyes shone big and trusting, not realizing, as she did, that one false move would squish them.

I, and others, love trees. Tibetans preserve worms when building. Could we not have a transportation plan that preserves trees? LTD sent out a giant postcard promoting the tree killing on 6th and 7th avenues. In it they say "New plants to help clean streams; and more room to grow, in better soil." Didn't the old trees help clean streams even more than new trees, and are they going to change the soil and actually give them more room (not so in the pictures on the other side which show the new trees planted in narrow squares).

Every picture is a before and after of an area devoid of trees and then planted with new trees. Who would object to that? I object to the clearcut that is taking place every night of all the established trees that have miraculously honored us by growing, some for over 100 years, to make way for "progress." Couldn't it be designed to accommodate the trees? Who made that decision and why?

Our lives are eroded in big and small ways as we struggle to live, and we seem powerless to stop it.

Jean Denis
Eugene

EDITOR'S NOTE: Some information on the decision process and the tree-planting beds can be found in our Oct. 2, 2014 story at wkly.ws/1xv.



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of Lane County

From Friday, February 27, 2015 at 8:30 AM through Friday, March 6, 2015 at 4:00 PM,

the Housing And Community Services Agency of Lane County (HACSA) will temporarily open its Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list to low income families through an on-line (Internet) application process. All pre-applications received during this period will be eligible for a random drawing where applications will be selected for the waiting list.

No paper applications will be accepted.

To apply, go directly to <https://www.waitlistcheck.com/OR649> or, for additional information and a link to the on-line application, go to our web site at www.hacsa.org or call 541-682-7417.

Si usted desea escuchar esta información en español, por favor llame a la Agencia de Viviendas (Housing Agency) 541-682-2603. HACSA does not discriminate on the basis of handicapped status in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its federally assisted programs or activities.

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