

Sue Comis

The number one action Washington should take is to promote public transportation.

I would like to see Washington promote public transportation in rural areas as well as cities. There are many good ways to promote public transportation, but the main approach is to improve frequency of trains and buses. Many other approaches are well known and based on research and expert opinion that exists in Washington state.

I would also like to see Washington promote zero emission vehicles.

The main program to promote zero emission vehicles needs to be addition of fast charging stations throughout the state. More Level 2 charging should also be made available in locations where people would have the time to charge--this would be at all hotels, for example, thus easily accommodating overnight charging. I own a zero emission electric vehicle. However, I cannot take it on long distance trips to more remote areas of Washington, for example, Winthrop, since there are no fast chargers in that town. Please recognize that most ZEV owners have the ability to charge at or near home, so their main concern is the ability to travel outside of their immediate county.

This current lack of chargers is prohibitive for most car owners.

Another necessary program is the provision of accurate information on charging stations. Some of the excellent apps that show all stations have inaccurate information--for example, PlugShare. The problem is that over time some charging stations stop working! There are also stations that don't work that are still sitting out there that you might think are available to you so then you go there and find they are non-functional. They should be removed or at minimum have correct easy to read signage that they are defunct.

Subsidies are necessary for the initial purchase of new ZEVs. They are more expensive than gas powered vehicles so prohibitive for most people.

Good luck!