



Dear Friends of Frog Ferry,

As an Oak Grove resident living within walking distance of the Willamette River, and as a member of the Friends of Riverville Park, I find the river central to my life—as so many of my neighbors do—for an experience of nature and for the river scenery. To be able to travel on the water in a quiet ferryboat would be a wonderful new way to be connected to the river.

A group of us in Oak Grove presented the general idea of a ferry system at the Milwaukie Farmers Market last fall in 2019. We did not know how receptive people would be. So we were delighted by the overwhelming support for a ferry that we heard that day. Many people recounted with enthusiasm their ferry-riding experiences from other parts of the country.

We are quite excited by the prospect of Frog Ferry providing service to the greater Portland area. There are many benefits a ferry system will provide. Perhaps first and foremost is the fact that riding a ferry is a pleasing way to go somewhere. It will be popular with residents and visitors alike.

Another big advantage of a ferry system is its adaptability. It can be expanded to add more boats, more docks, and more frequent runs to match demand. Adding new docks can be accomplished in a very short time without huge cost, without lengthy construction noise, and without a large carbon footprint.

There is no question that with increased population in the area and the urgent need to have alternatives to driving a personal car, a ferry system is becoming a necessity. In our Milwaukie/Oak Grove vicinity, a ferry will serve the needs of the large demographic of seniors. It will serve the cyclist community and commuters on both sides of the river.

The Frog Ferry system will add to the transportation mode diversification needed for the Metro region to prepare for a major earthquake. It will be a valuable part of emergency preparedness in our area.

I am happy to add my voice to the many others supporting Frog Ferry in bringing water transportation to the Metro region.

Sincerely,

Anatta Blackmarr
Friends of Riverville Park