



Port of Vancouver USA

November 14, 2018

Susan Bladholm
The Frog Ferry
4430 SW Selling Court
Portland, OR 97221

Dear Ms. Bladholm,

The Port of Vancouver USA is a 106-year-old economic engine located on more than 1,600 acres along the Columbia River in Vancouver, Washington. Thanks in large part to our location at the intersection of river, road and rail, our operations support more than 20,000 jobs and provide \$2.9 billion in annual economic benefit to the region.

In addition to our marine and industrial activity, we are redeveloping our birthplace on the Columbia River as a regional gathering place to promote trade and tourism. Known as Terminal 1, the site could include a new hotel; commercial, residential and office space; and public spaces. It will also connect to downtown Vancouver, the Renaissance Trail and the new city of Vancouver waterfront park. When fully developed, we expect Terminal 1 to attract thousands of visitors to Vancouver's waterfront each year and support 800 new jobs.

Terminal 1 and the adjacent development, The Waterfront Vancouver, will be dense areas in a location with constrained freeway access, making multimodal transportation options particularly important to support residents, workers and visitors. Water transit has long been a staple in cities like Seattle, Boston, New York and Tampa—large, waterside metro areas that also require multimodal transportation to move people around the city and region efficiently.

In September, the port's Board of Commissioners unanimously approved our 2018 Strategic Plan. Included in this plan is a Community Goal to implement the vision of a destination waterfront at Terminal 1. Our strategy to "Support public enjoyment and tourism through activities such as river cruises and events at Terminal 1" is consistent with Frog Ferry's efforts to increase the vitality of Vancouver's waterfront.

There is great potential in a water taxi service in the Portland-Vancouver metro area, with benefits for both our communities and states. We appreciate and support Frog Ferry's efforts to connect the Vancouver waterfront to downtown Portland. We look forward to working with you and other partners to explore the feasibility of a water taxi service to support the continued connectivity and vitality of our region.

Sincerely,

Mike Bomar
Director of Economic Development