



April 26, 2021

Dear Transportation Leaders,

Our St. Johns Neighborhood Association wants to see visionary and alternative modes of transit to improve our collective quality of life and economy. We need to approach our transportation issues with systemic improvements that better connect communities to communities and challenge the status quo of road expansions. The rapid population growth our region is experiencing calls for courageous and innovative ways to move people and free up our highways for better freight mobility. Our residents in St. Johns often sit in dense traffic during commuter hours, on roadways that hug the Willamette River, which provides the capacity for passenger ferry transit.

River cities worldwide have found that ferries are fast, reliable, and a relaxing commuting option. The river provides an uncongested transit corridor where people can move at a reasonable speed and safely get to work or home while enjoying Wi-Fi and a good cup of coffee. We need to connect districts and neighborhoods that are constrained by overwhelmed travel corridors such as I-5 and the St. Johns Bridge. Currently, 85% of our residents commute to work in single-occupancy vehicles.

Our community strongly supports the goals of equity, diversity-and-inclusion, and we have many low, and medium-income housing, a strong senior community, and 47 percent of our population identifies as non-white.

A passenger ferry stop at the Cathedral Park dock will improve our St. John's Neighborhood residents' quality of life and provide a new transit mode to get commuters out of their cars and onto a refreshingly clean, green, safe, reliable, and relaxing mode of public transit.

We endorse pursuing the concept of initiating a pilot project proof of concept from the Cathedral Park dock to OHSU and ask that you keep us apprised of your progress.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jose Alamilla

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jose Alamilla", written in a cursive style.

Chair

St. Johns Neighborhood Association