



TECHNOLOGY
ASSOCIATION
OF OREGON

May 15, 2020

Dear Susan,

We believe that a culture of innovation, green tech, and researching best practices helps communities to be resilient and thrive. Activating our riverways by implementing a public passenger ferry service would help people move around our region and a new mobility mode will help build our economic recovery.

We need a transit system that works—to optimize employee travel time, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, to get cars off of roadways and to help better connect our communities throughout the region. Our smaller communities are becoming more siloed due to traffic congestion and we need to turn that equation around to ease our ability to move throughout the region.

A public passenger ferry is considered a best practice and there have been many innovative, scalable, and sustainable new practices in the past decade that will help with the operational requirements of the Willamette and Columbia rivers. We can learn from the technologies coming out of Europe, and being implemented on the U.S. West Coast to help reduce carbon emissions, handle river debris, clear the low bridges, maintain a low wake, and shorten the board and debarking time through ticketless travel.

Portland is the last major metropolitan river city in the U.S. to have a water-based transit mode, and it's time we take a hard look at this opportunity to better our community. We wish you and the Friends of Frog Ferry luck as your work progresses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Warren 'Skip' Newberry".

Warren "Skip" Newberry, President & CEO

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