



Office of Mayor Ted Wheeler
City of Portland

February 12, 2021

Susan Bladholm
Friends of Frog Ferry
902 SW Shaker Place
Portland, OR 97225

Dear Susan,

Thank you for continuing to explore a passenger ferry service to connect the city of Portland with communities up and down the Willamette and Columbia rivers.

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, Portland faces significant economic, safety and livability challenges. As we get our economy back on track, a passenger ferry system provides an exciting opportunity to honor a history of innovation that helped make this city both an international tourist attraction and a desirable place to conduct business.

Social and climate equity remain critical priorities for the region. A ferry service could help reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions while increasing transportation options and providing first responders and residents a means to cross the river in the event of natural disasters.

I appreciate the due diligence you have done to evaluate the feasibility, cost-effectiveness, and carbon-reduction potential of the proposal. I am glad to hear that you are working closely with Commissioner Hardesty and our Bureau of Transportation on your FTA Passenger Ferry Fund grant application to help fund a pilot project proof of concept.

The idea of an electrified ferry fleet in our community is innovative and exciting. I hope that you will continue working with your many partners, including City bureaus, and that you will keep us informed of your progress.

With appreciation,

Ted Wheeler
Mayor