



July 19, 2018

TO: Elissa Gertler, Director of Planning, METRO  
FROM: Linda Weston, Rapporto, LLC  
RE: Regional Transportation Plan

As you consider the regional transportation plan, I urge you to give serious consideration to including the development of a ferry system, both across the Columbia between Portland and Vancouver, and across the Willamette at various points between the East and West sides.

As traffic in the metro area becomes progressively more choked and untenable, the addition of a ferry system would help to alleviate the increasing congestion.

The United States has experienced a resurgence of ferry transportation, with nearly 600 ferry operations in the United States alone. About half of these systems are government owned and operated, while the other half are split between privately owned and public/private partnerships. The fastest growing segment of the ferry market has been small (less than 150 passengers) people only ferries. The technology for ferries has been racing ahead providing low wake, high speed, and low emission options at a reasonable cost.

Frog Ferry has done a great deal of research and work towards development of a plan to implement such a system. This seems like a reasonable way to add transportation alternatives without building new freeways or other road systems. I support Frog Ferry, and I urge you to support it as well.