

Working Waterfront



April 25, 2018

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


Dear Susan,

Thank you for your work to address Portland's traffic congestion issue through researching the potential for a sustainable river-friendly passenger ferry service in the Portland metropolitan area. The Portland Harbor is an economic engine, a freight hub and a source of jobs for the Portland metropolitan area. Over 50 industrial marine businesses support more than 29,000 local jobs bringing more than \$1.8 billion in personal income to the region's economy. One of every nine jobs in the Portland/Vancouver area is located or supported by the work done in Portland's harbor industrial district. As our metropolitan area's population grows, the region faces more transportation bottlenecks that create longer and more difficult commutes for employees, and slow the movement of freight. We support looking to new and innovative ways to move through and around the Portland metropolitan area.

In addition, as businesses that are located along Portland's working waterfront, we are keenly aware of the river and how it is used. As a city that was founded on the benefits of being located along a river, we encourage looking for ways to enhance and embrace the river as a remarkable local resource. We support your efforts to sensibly leverage the river as a natural highway and alternative choice for employees to commute to and from work.

We appreciate your vision and look forward to a successful outcome so working waterfront employees may have the choice to commute by river ferry in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ellen Wax". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ellen Wax
Executive Director

Established in 2005, the Working Waterfront Coalition, with its extensive knowledge of harbor industry needs and active industry participation, is dedicated to working with its partners to ensure an appropriate balance between environmental concerns and the needs of river-related, river-dependent employers. Portland's Harbor is a vital employment area: home to thousands of valuable high-wage, high-benefit jobs. In addition, WWC members are conscientious stewards of the environment, making significant investments in the harbor consistent with state and federal laws.