



GREATER PORTLAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
111 SW COLUMBIA ST, #1170, PORTLAND, OR 97201
GREATERPORTLANDINC.COM
503-445-8065

September 10, 2021

Susan Bladholm
Founder and President
Frog Ferry

Dear Susan,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a letter of support for Friends of Frog Ferry. As the federally designated economic development district for the four-county Greater Portland region, Greater Portland Economic Development District (GPEDD) is pleased to offer its support for this commuter service.

The GPEDD board of directors recently adopted the region's next five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy which presents a vision of the Greater Portland region as an equitable, innovative, resilient, and forward-thinking economy that fosters upward economic mobility for individuals and prosperity for businesses. We believe that Frog Ferry will implement on that vision as it provides an efficient mode of transportation for our region's commuters by connecting several communities and industries, specifically prioritizing underserved and underrepresented neighborhoods.

Furthermore, Friends of Frog Ferry's commitment to a fully-electrified fleet aligns with the CEDS values of a sustainable environment and developing resilient regional investments. The goals of Frog Ferry, including reducing gas emissions, building resiliency and emergency response, and providing low-cost means of connecting underserved and underrepresented individuals with jobs, are in direct alignment with the CEDS. More specifically, supporting our region's ability to compete in the river economy through multimodal connections is one of the strategy's recommendations to support the goal of building a resilient region.

Innovative solutions like Frog Ferry make our region especially attractive, and I applaud your effort to make Greater Portland a happier, healthier and more efficient place.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Monique Claiborne".

Monique Claiborne
Executive Director
Greater Portland Economic Development District