

January 15, 2022

Susan Bladholm, President Friends of Frog Ferry

Willamette Technical Fabricators would like to share our enthusiastic support for Frog Ferry. We applaud the thorough research studies that the Friends of Frog Ferry have conducted to prove the cost-effective feasibility of this project, and the evidence-based selection of the proposed stops to ensure that they meet the greatest demand and have the greatest impact. It is impressive to see the widespread support of over 1700 stakeholders and advocates, many of whom have contributed millions of dollars in probono work to help see Frog Ferry come to fruition. Using the successful models of other river cities and leveraging their best practices and lessons learned, we feel confident that this project can be a huge success. We see Frog Ferry as essential to improving access to underserved communities, reducing congestion and reliance on carbon-heavy modes of transport, fostering a greater sense of river appreciation that will promote conservation and stewardship, and educating residents and visitors alike about our region's indigenous past. It is rare to see a project so closely aligned with our values.

Willamette Technical Fabricators is a woman and minority-owned fabrication business focused on river infrastructure and transportation, including locks, dams, and marine craft. We have facilities in Clackamas and NW Portland, directly across from the proposed Frog Ferry pilot launch point in Cathedral Park. Frog Ferry would provide a much more efficient and desirable form of transportation between our offices and the dispersed metro-area communities that our staff call home, helping us improve collaboration and the quality of life of our team. The project also represents an excellent opportunity to create high-skill, high-wage, and high-demand manufacturing jobs for the region. While we look forward to the opportunity to support Frog Ferry in a variety of capacities, including fabrication of the clean diesel and hybrid-electric boats at the heart of the project, construction of the passenger and fueling docks, and ongoing maintenance, repair, and overhaul of the fleet, we extend our unconditional support for this project regardless of the outcome of a competitive bidding process.

Sincerely,

Alicia Chapman, Owner and CEO