

April 7, 2023

Dear Mayor Ted Wheeler and Commissioners Dan Ryan, Carmen Rubio, Rene Gonzales, and Mingus Mapps,

As a lifelong Oregonian and Portlander, I am writing to express my strong support for Frog Ferry and to ask you to include Frog Ferry in your fiscal year 2023/2024 budget. As someone who grew up along the waterfront as the child of parents who were vendors of the Portland Saturday Market for more than 36 years, I have seen firsthand how the Portland Waterfront has been a destination for tourists and locals and a focal point of our beautiful city. We must invest in our waterfront and follow the lead of other cities across the world and make our waterfront a place that is accessible to all.

I believe that Frog Ferry will help build on this tradition by providing a new and exciting way for people to get around the city and enjoy the waterfront. As someone who has spent many memorable hours along the waterfront, I know that Frog Ferry will be a welcome addition to our city.

Portland needs a win and Frog Ferry will help revitalize our waterfront and bring new energy to this important area. By providing a fast, safe and efficient way for people to get around the city, Frog Ferry will help attract visitors and locals alike and create new opportunities for businesses and vendors. I also see the benefits it provides for disaster preparedness, creating more accessibility for seniors and literally bridging north and south Portland through this new means of transportation. As a mother of a PPS student I also invite new and creative ways to bring our kids to the river and look forward to the educational opportunities Frog Ferry will provide to children throughout the region.

Let's change the headlines! Invest now in something bold and innovative and include Frog Ferry in your fiscal year 2023/2024 budget. By doing so, you will help build on the proud tradition of the Portland Waterfront and ensure that this area remains a destination for generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jessica Elkan

Portland Resident