

Spring 2023 Newsletter Celebrating 6 Years: Issue 18



Success! Commissioner Mingus Mapps is including Frog Ferry in The City's Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Constrained Project List. Being included on the list is a requirement in our region to receive federal funding. The list is updated every five

years, and this is the "update" year. What's Next? The City will need to vote to partner with Frog Ferry on a Federal Transportation Administration Passenger Ferry Grant and help come up with a local

match funding for the project that includes: building out docks, building a boat, planning (ticketing, marketing, scheduling, crewing, regulatory needs, etc.) and one year of operations (one vessel operating between Cathedral Park and RiverPlace docks). The total 3-year project cost is \$11M. Portland City Council has not included Frog Ferry in the draft FY 23/24 Budget, citing that there is no funding available for any new projects. However, the City providing use of existing docks could be considered as a match.

If the City of Portland and Frog Ferry successfully apply for Federal Transportation Funding this summer, and match funding is secured, we can put a boat on the water in 2025. We have the opportunity to return to the FTA for funding year over year to grow a ferry service featuring more vessels (goal of seven 70-100 passenger vessels) and more docks (up to 10 between Vancouver, WA and Oregon City, OR). **Support From Commissioner Mingus Mapps**

Commissioner Mingus Mapps City of Portland May 2, 2023 Dear Oregon Leader,

outlined funding opportunities to bring a public passenger ferry service to the Portland metropolitan region and put a vessel on the water in 2025.

"Thank you to Frog Ferry supporters for your continued advocacy

history will extend beyond the transportation and climate benefits that

public passenger water taxi service provides - the Frog Ferry will foster

river stewardship, get people back downtown, and build our community

resilience in the process."

a nonprofit grassroots effort, has raised funds, conducted some preliminary studies, and has

As the Commissioner-in-Charge of the Portland Bureau of Transportation, I recognize the need to build our community resilience, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, provide affordable and efficient transit, and revitalize our downtown core. The six-year Frog Ferry effort, comprised of

for this project. Despite the delayed City Council vote, the Frog Ferry will still be a part of the City's submission to the constrained list for the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). This inclusion is a critical step for the effort to be eligible for federal grant funding over the next five years. To ensure the project meets the RTP's requirements, we'll be working with other Council offices to adopt the Frog Ferry Operational Feasibility study later this summer. Embracing our rivers at this moment in Portland's

2017-2018: Completed • Ferry Operation Research • Community Outreach

• Home port plan/design/

• Ticketing/Marketing Plan

City Funding Match Unlocks:

• State/Local grant funds

Corporate sponsors

partnerships

Federal funding

Foundations

—Commissioner Mingus Mapps Read the full letter on our site. FRENCE FERRY Frog Ferry needs a Portland City Council partnership.

• Best Practice Case Study Report • Demand Modeling Study 2019-2020: Completed Operational Feasibility Report Finance Report/Plan River Reconnaissance Report Emergency Response Report 2021-2022: Completed Community Outreach Pilot Project Plan: Cathedral Park to RiverPlace Community Benefit Plan • Regulatory Agency planning interface OHSU Employee Survey 2023: Pending Need City Council partnership for FTA grant Add to RTP Constrained List Need cooperation across 7 City Bureaus Locate Home Port 2023-2024: Pending • Dock upgrade/construction · Vessel designed/RFP/ordered • Ferry Operator RFP

2025: Pending

Create jobs

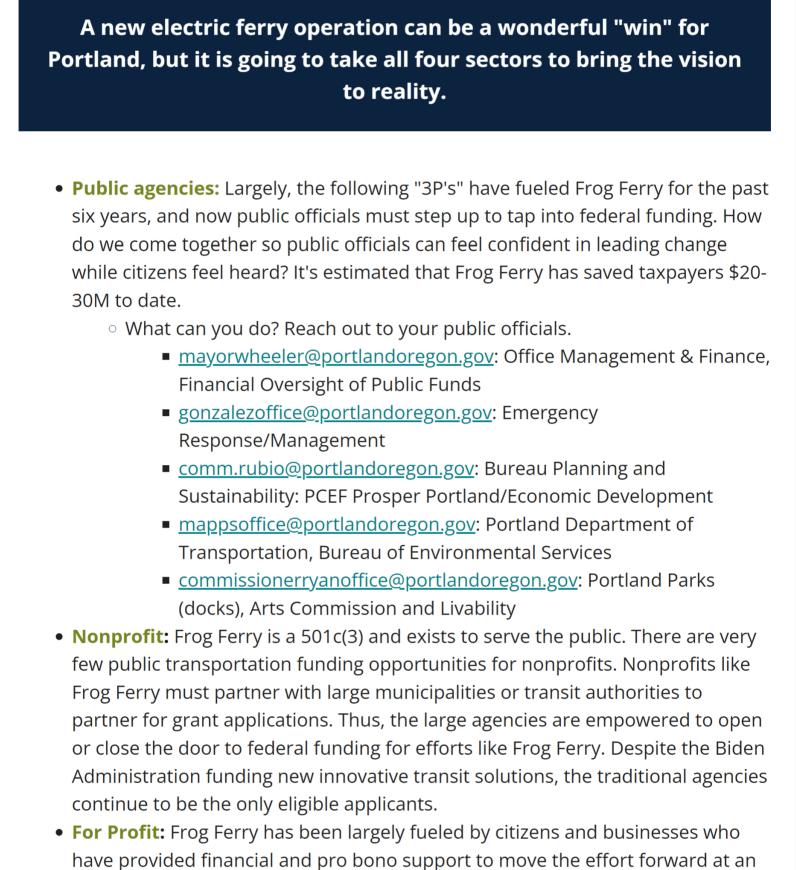
• Put boat on the water to:

underserved communities Build community livability Foster water safety

• Reduce CO2 emissions

Provide transit for

• Increase community resilience



estimated value of more than \$10M. The Blue Economy (the sustainable use of

ocean and river resources) is building around the world and private Portland-

based companies provide opportunities to partner, including Photon Marine

• Philanthropy: Frog Ferry would not exist without the initial contribution by MJ

Willamette Technical Fabricators (vessel maintenance and dock enhancements).

individual donors. Foundations see the need to do more with their funding and

(electric outboard motors to share shoreside charging infrastructure) and

Murdock Charitable Trust, Travel Oregon, and the many contributions by

act quickly, particularly to aid marginalized communities. Now, we look to

And, after a year-long hiatus of asking for contributions from the public, Frog Ferry is

grant application.

RANGER

asking Portlanders to consider making a donation.

leading regional charities, to ask them to help fund the match for the federal

- There is no question that there are huge amounts of money being made available to municipalities across the country to foster green transit solutions. *There is no question* that river cities are building their ferry operations across the country because they are in demand and affordable. • See the research that has been conducted, including the Operational Feasibility Study. • Learn about one of the many federal funding opportunities (that provides an 80-20% federal to local match). Read a letter of support from Portland City Commissioner Mingus Mapps.

Frog Ferry celebrates every event with "Frog" cookies with Naureen Khan, social media; Sorin Garber, transit planner; and Haley Schulberg, volunteer.

A Letter From Our Founder Our team doesn't believe we have the luxury of just talking about the need to rebuild Portland—but is actively working on planning and funding solutions in a positive,

constructive, and community-focused way. Frog Ferry is making slow but steady

progress and our strength comes from partnerships as well as the passion and

transportation infrastructure, brand building places, and emergency response,

natural tendency and familiarity for me of finding like-minded individuals and

2. Ferries get people out of cars and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

3. Ferries build community resilience in the event of an emergency.

to the downtown core for good jobs in less time and at less cost.

said, "Frog Ferry checks all the boxes":

1. Ferries are a desired transit mode.

6. Ferries allow people to live car free.

With appreciation, Susan, Founder/President

10. Ferries are fun!

passengers about the river ecosystem.

8. Ferries activate waterfronts and connect communities.

expertise of an army of Frog Ferry volunteers. In looking at the arc of my life—from

being born and raised in Portland, to my 35-year career in economic development,

securing public-private-nonprofit partnerships have been a central pattern. There is a

organizations with which to partner and learn. As one transportation leader recently

4. Ferry operations are modular, with dock locations variable based on demand.

5. Ferry operations can serve underrepresented communities and provide access

7. Ferries provide educational experiences such as narrated tours about Native

9. A new passenger ferry will remind all of us that Portland can do big things again.

American tribes that once lived along the riverbanks or tours educating

Our founder, Susan Bladholm, leads a tour of key stakeholders including PBOT staff, City Council staff, Park Rangers, and citizen supporters on a river run.

Nina Byrd, a Frog Ferry board member, speaks to Portland media about needing visionary projects to rebuild the City.

Press Conference & River Run: April 20th, 2023

Passengers set out on April 20th to "Run the River" via Pilot Boats to approximate a

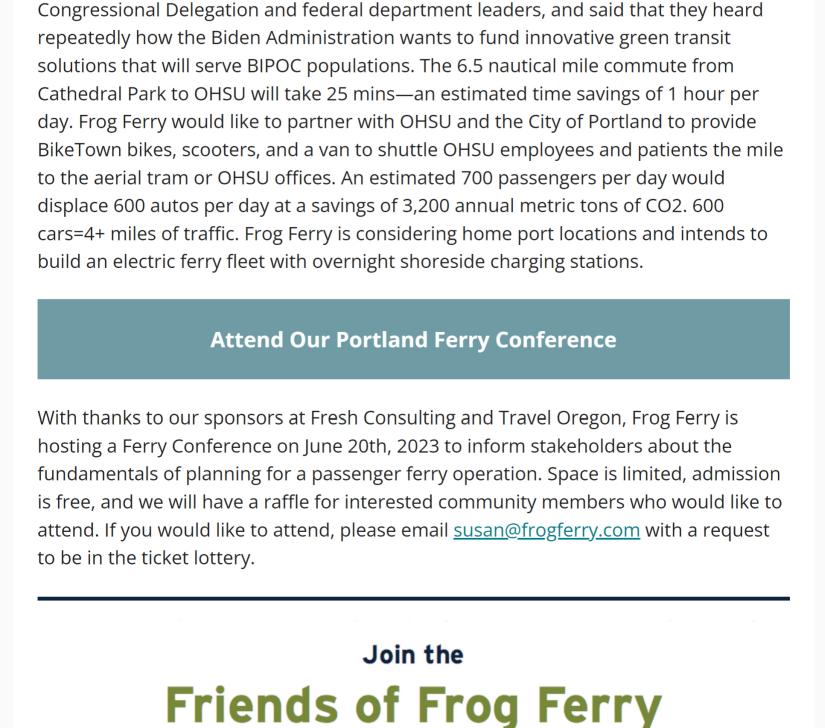
OHSU commuters for a one-vessel "pilot project." Despite a drizzly day, supporters,

elements and were thrilled by the speed and experience of being on the water. One

passenger had recently returned from Washington D.C., having met with Oregon's

commute from RiverPlace Marina to Cathedral Park, with an emphasis on serving

City Council staff, business leaders and St. John's Community Leaders braved the





communities to central

emissions; get out of your

great airflow, reducing

car for your commute airborne viruses workplaces Build community resilience; Provide access to the river to foster stewardship; when was the last boats on the water are a valuable emergency response tool time you got out on the water? Consider making a tax-deductible donation today. Contributions over \$170 receive a baseball cap. Head over to our website at frogferry.com for more information.

To make a donation, go to frogferry.com/support/donate. To share a letter of support, email: susan@frogferry.com.

Donate

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