

Release version 1, internal version 5
Latest version: See the link in the last section.

Portland, Oregon
Insufficient city management:
Real estate developers
want constant traffic.

*These observations and opinions are
the result of months of investigation.*

*Corrections or suggestions for improvement
are happily accepted.*

by Michael Jennings, **Futurepower**®, Inc.

History More than a year ago, when I learned that the Portland City government wanted to evict 2 very successful tenants from a building owned by the city government, I decided to do some research. I discovered that the city government had threatened eviction every year for 8 years. There were many other details that indicated a lack of good management.

Now, the Portland City government has said that there will be a renovation of the parking structure at 10th and SW Yamhill beginning in January, 2018.

The government has hired a contractor for \$1.2 million, FFA Architecture and Interiors, to do initial design. I would be very happy to see evidence that the contractor is competent, but I have found only evidence of lack of competence.

I have no opinion about whether renovation is a good idea. I'm only saying that there is insufficient management.

No response from city managers I have sent my reports of the lack of sensible management to more than 40 people in the Portland City government. In more than a year I've gotten no response.

Portland has 2 governments. When I try to understand the operation of the Portland City government, I arrive at the conclusion that there are really two governments. On the surface are the mayor and City Council. Their purpose is to make it look to the public as though Portland has a city government that considers the needs of its residents.

And sometimes that actually happens. It seems to me, for example, that Mayor Wheeler is more sensibly engaged than the previous 5 mayors.

However, to me, it seems that the real underlying government is the PDC, the Portland Development Commission, that recently renamed itself Prosper Portland. It seems to me that the real intent of the Portland City government is helping real estate developers make money.

No longer livable. I think that a good quick way of explaining Portland City management is to say that Portland is no longer a livable city. Now there are constant traffic jams and that has caused a lot more pollution.

It is apparent that real estate developers want constant traffic jams. Real estate developers want what's bad for everyone else. And in Portland they've been allowed to have that.

Real estate developers make more money if the traffic is terrible. That's because the jobs are concentrated downtown and people are willing to pay more for a place to live if it's close to their job. People don't like to spend large parts of their lives driving to and from work. A half-hour drive to work and a half-hour drive from work is 240 hours each year. That's the equivalent of 6 extra work weeks of doing something unpleasant and sometimes dangerous

Allowing real estate developers to have unhealthy control is extraordinarily destructive to U.S. society.

It seems to me that the Portland City government should allow no more increased concentration of businesses and residents until the many problems with traffic can be resolved.

This article is available online:

Available at the **Futurepower**® articles web page:
<http://futurepower.net/articles/articles.html>

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The author of this article is writing a book about how people use their brains.

Management of government is an important area of research. Some of the problems: 1) Often citizens are not allowed to know most of the details of how their governments are managed. 2) Also, people are elected who don't have the mental ability to deal logically with the enormous challenges of managing a government. 3) Elections in the U.S. require spending huge amounts of money given by people who hope to have hidden influence. 4) Elections focus on manipulation of voters; voters aren't given full details.

Release version 1, internal version 5,

Wednesday, August 16, 2017

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Parsons, Susan

From: Michael Jennings <mjennings@futurepower.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2017 4:03 AM
To: Parsons, Susan
Subject: I would like to be scheduled for August 16.

Tuesday, June 13, 2017

Susan,

Thanks for your quick answer.

I would like to be scheduled for August 16. I will speak about insufficient management of building contractors.

Michael Jennings
Futurepower®

On 6/12/2017 8:31 AM, Parsons, Susan wrote:

Hello Michael,

The time on June 28th is 9:30.

You're not scheduled for August yet. August 9th, 16, 23 and 30 are available. Let me know what works for you and we'll sign you up. Please also give a sentence or two about your subject.

Here is further information for you on the Communications portion of the agenda:

- You will have three minutes to address the Council and may also submit written material (please provide seven copies).
- We start the meeting at 9:30 and Communications are the first item on the agenda.
- Please note communications allow the Council to hear issues that interest our citizens, but do not allow an opportunity for dialogue.
- The Council meeting takes place at City Hall, 1221 SW 4th Ave., 2nd Floor, Council Chambers.

Regards,

Susan

Susan Parsons

Assistant Council Clerk

City of Portland

susan.parsons@portlandoregon.gov

503.823.4085

From: Michael Jennings [mailto:mjennings@futurepower.net]

Sent: Monday, June 12, 2017 5:11 AM

To: Parsons, Susan <Susan.Parsons@portlandoregon.gov>

Subject: SUSAN: Please review my times to speak at City Council meetings

Monday, June 12, 2017

Susan,

Please send me my scheduled times and dates to speak. What time on June 28, 2017?

I asked for a time in August, also. If that is not already scheduled, please schedule it.

Thanks very much for your help,

Michael Jennings

***Futurepower*®**

(971) 264-9080

Request of Michael Jennings to address Council regarding
insufficient management of building contractors (Communication)

AUG 16 2017

Filed AUG 08 2017

MARY HULL CABALLERO
Auditor of the City of Portland

By  Deputy

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz		
2. Fish		
3. Saltzman		
4. Eudaly		
Wheeler		