

Date: August 23, 2017
To: Portland City Council
From: Donna Cohen, Barbara Quinn, Shamus Lynsky, Lisa Erenyi and Curt Schneider
Topic: Construction Timeframe - Fessenden / St Louis safety changes - St Johns Truck Strategy, Phase II

We are 5 of the 6 original community members of the Stakeholder Committee that created this Plan - which met from 2011-2013: Barbara Quinn, Shamus Lynsky, Curt Schneider, Lisa Erenyi and myself.

It has been 16 years since the creation of the St Johns Truck Strategy, Phase I plan, and 4 years since approval of the St Johns Truck Strategy, Phase II Plan. In 2018, the city is to implement the construction phase of this plan.

Suddenly, in June, with no warning - even to the neighbors who served on the Stakeholder Committee - PBOT unilaterally eliminated key safety treatments for the Fessenden / St Louis corridor. 17 months of hard work on the part of the community thrown out. So much for the public involvement process.

Since PBOT's announcement the community has rallied and with the support of Commissioner Saltzman, we are told those key treatments are back. However, we have no commitment as to when the treatments will be completed other than - if not in 2018, "following the completion of the larger St Johns Truck Strategy Phase II improvement." [Per a letter from Leah Treat yesterday]

There is NOTHING that has changed in terms of technical requirements for the pedestrian signals in the plan. The same guidelines from the Federal Highway Administration exist now, as existed in 2013. I, personally, have been in communication with the Federal Highway Administration - in D.C. and in Salem - and ODOT. The requirement for the RRFBs - the yellow pedestrian signals - essentially rests on PBOT supporting them - which they did in 2013 when approved for funding. The HAWK - the red pedestrian signal - was also approved in 2013.

The initial attempt to eliminate these treatments, combined with wavering now on when they will be done, raises suspicions in the St Johns community, especially, since delaying these treatments until after the rest of the project is complete would be more expensive. At the same time, the project has gone from \$3.3 million - the best cost estimate for any project that Metro received during that funding cycle - to over \$7 million now. We'd really like to know how that happened and why the city feels it's acceptable to spend this \$7 million while at the same time taking away crucial safety improvements to St Johns.

Public trust is a valued commodity to city government. We expect our City Council to hold PBOT to its original commitment to the residents of St Johns - a commitment we all worked hard to achieve - and to provide us assurance that *all* the safety changes to Fessenden / St Louis will be completed in 2018.

The construction phase of the St Johns Truck Strategy, Phase II Plan should take place, as scheduled, in 2018, with all its components - including the changes to Fessenden / St Louis!

Safety can't wait.

Thank you.

PS We have requested the attached documents from PBOT but have not had a response. Please help us get ~~one~~ them. Thanks.

D Cohen

From: D Cohen <dcohen@hevanet.com>
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2017 1:58 PM
To: 'Newlands, Rich'
Cc: 'art.pearce@portlandoregon.gov'; 'leah.treat@portlandoregon.gov'; 'Grumm, Matt'; 'Shamus Lynsky'; 'Curt Schneider'; 'lizuka@comcast.net'; 'Barbara Quinn'; 'Commissioner Saltzman'
Subject: Documents requested

Rich,

We understand that you may be requesting an Amendment from Metro due to scope/cost changes. There are three documents that were required for PBOT to submit to Metro. ODOT and Metro both say that we need to go to PBOT to get these documents. Would you please forward them to us?

They are:

- The “traffic engineering assessment”
- The “socioeconomic study”
- The preliminary PCR [Project Change Request]

Thanks.
Donna

Donna L Cohen, MEd, MLIS
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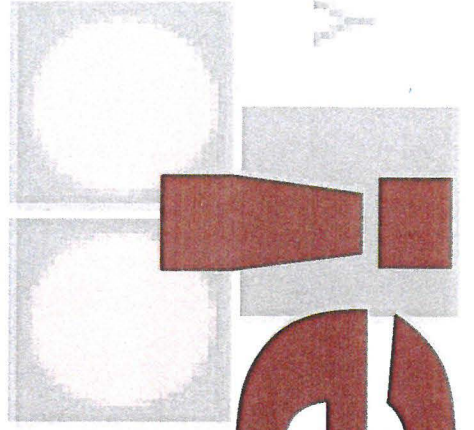
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It's

About

Time!



SR

SR

Y

Waiting for -

Safety



Safety



Waiting for -

since 2001!

Moore-Love, Karla

From: D Cohen <dcohen@hevanet.com>
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2017 9:11 AM
To: Moore-Love, Karla
Cc: 'Barbara Quinn'; 'Curt Schneider'; 'Shamus Lynsky'; 'From: Rachel Hill'; 'Scott Bricker'; 'Denis Theriault'; 'Beth Preciso'; lizuka@comcast.net
Subject: Hello - spot in Communications

Hi Karla,

When is the next open spot for Communications?

I would like to come and speak about proposed changes to the St Johns Truck Strategy, Phase II, Plan, as well as the process for how the changes were determined and presented to the community.

Thank you,
Donna

Donna L Cohen, MEd, MLIS
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Davis, Meghaan

From: D Cohen <dcohen@hevanet.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2017 1:11 PM
To: Davis, Meghaan
Subject: RE: City council communications

23rd sounds good!

Thanks,
Donna

Donna L Cohen, MEd, MLIS
Portland, Oregon
503-737-1425
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From: Davis, Meghaan [mailto:Meghaan.Davis@portlandoregon.gov]
Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2017 8:25 AM
To: D Cohen <dcohen@hevanet.com>
Subject: RE: City council communications

Ok that sounds good, are you wanting to move your spot to the 30th or is the 23rd still good for you?

Meghaan Davis
OSS II | Office of the City Auditor
The City of Portland, Oregon
1221 SW 4th Avenue, Room 130
Portland, OR 97204-1987
T: (503) 823.0918
F: (503) 823.4571
Meghaan.davis@portlandoregon.gov

 Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

From: D Cohen [mailto:dcohen@hevanet.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2017 1:14 PM
To: Davis, Meghaan <Meghaan.Davis@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: RE: City council communications

Ok, I'll get back to you if the person is interested. Actually, the person will get back to you! 😊

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From: Davis, Meghaan [<mailto:Meghaan.Davis@portlandoregon.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2017 10:16 AM

To: dcohen@hevanet.com

Subject: City council communications

Hi Donna,

I received your email about wanting to sign up for communications from Karla. We do have a slot open on August 23, 2017 I can put you down to hold the spot until I hear from you to let me know if you want it or not.

Thank you,

Meghaan Davis

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Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

Hi Karla,

Maybe you've been away. I sent a request to speak to Council in July.

Any slots?

It concerns the St Johns Truck Strategy, Phase II, Plan.

Thanks.

Donna

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Request of Donna L Cohen to address Council regarding St Johns Truck Strategy, Phase II, Plan (Communication)

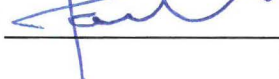
AUG 23 2017

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AUG 15 2017

Filed _____

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		