

Testimony to Portland City Council July 25, 2018

Donna Cohen

8443 N Bliss St [St Johns]

503-737-1425 dcohen@hevanet.com

Dan, Amanda, Nick – you've been around long enough to know the story of how PBOT forced St Johns to dedicate 2 years, from 2011-2013, and go through mediation, for the St Johns Truck Strategy, Phase II, Plan – which was approved for funding in 2013. We could have eliminated better than a year of the planning process had PBOT been sincere about public involvement.

Finally, a good plan was created. And yet, although construction was to originally be done last year PBOT had the audacity to come to the community last summer and say they weren't going to do the most important things for which we spent all that time negotiating! But, the community united again, including spending almost \$400 for a records request, and all features were put back in to the plan.

In fact, after our, literal, rally last November on Fessenden, attended by 50 people during work hours, Leah Treat gave the community a letter committing to construction this year starting in August.

Well, here we are again with pretty much the same old story. PBOT wants to push the project ahead and has given some newly manufactured reasons as to why.

The community only found out about the proposed delay in a PBOT response to a letter **SJNA sent** a few weeks back supporting added safety changes to Lombard. These were a result of, discussions over this past year between PBOT and new neighbors along the Lombard corridor, spurred, in part because Amazon and other businesses are coming to Rivergate which will result in even more traffic on the truck route. The neighbors felt that the Project Manager agreed on implementing some minor adjustments, *not* the type that would cause delaying the project [with an opening for further discussion on future changes]. Not only did the Project Manager reply that no additional changes would be done at this time, ***but it was only then that the community was told the overall project would be delayed!***

PBOT's perpetual inability to communicate pro-actively and in a timely manner with the community is because they know the community will be upset and they don't have valid reasons for their actions.

Many, many people have no faith in PBOT and, in fact, faith in the City of Portland has suffered because of this unrelenting assault on the commitments that were made to the St Johns community.

Please – stop this nonsense, stop the disrespect, stop the grossly unprofessional behavior. This project should start and be completed this year!

And, as a personal note, I am truly disgusted that the Project Manager gets paid, while he knowingly wastes our time. His behavior is unprofessional, unethical and he does not deserve to hold his position!

PBOT

PORTLAND BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION

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Dan Saltzman Commissioner **Leah Treat** Director

November 14, 2017

Scott Bricker, Chair
St Johns Neighborhood Association
8316 North Lombard, Box 441
Portland, Oregon 97203

Dear Mr. Bricker,

The intent of this letter is to provide an update to August 22nd letter that affirmed our commitment to completing the improvements on N Lombard and N St Louis-Fessenden as identified in the 2013 recommendations for Phase II implementation of the St Johns Truck Strategy.

My team has been working with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to determine whether the proposed HAWK signal at N Charleston/ Fessenden St is adequately justified to be included in the federal aid project based on traffic engineering guidelines and standards.

I am pleased to report that we recently reached agreement with ODOT to allow the HAWK signal at N Charleston to be included as part of the current federal project, provided PBOT accepts the associated liability, which we will. This will allow us to move forward with construction of the HAWK signal and two rapid flash beacons next year along with all the other traffic calming improvements originally recommended to address non-local freight impacts on neighborhood livability and safety. Given the current circumstances, we anticipate being able to complete construction on all the traffic calming improvements in 2018.

Sincerely,



Leah Treat



The Portland Bureau of Transportation fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the ADA Title II, and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. For accommodations, complaints and information, call (503) 823-5185, City TTY (503) 823-6868, or use Oregon Relay Service: 711.

ST. JOHNS TRUCK STRATEGY PHASE II

NON-HIGHWAY FREIGHT CONNECTIONS



CITY OF PORTLAND, MULTNOMAH COUNTY

SAFETY

for St Johns

in 2018!!

Moore-Love, Karla

From: D Cohen <dcohen@hevanet.com>
Sent: Monday, July 2, 2018 12:06 PM
To: Moore-Love, Karla
Cc: 'Shamus Lynsky'; 'Barbara Quinn'
Subject: RE: Communications slot

Yes, thank you.

Please put me down for the 25th. Speaking on additional delays -until 2019! - to completion of the St Johns Truck Strategy, Phase II, Plan, agreed to by the city in 2013.

The original 4-year plan approved for funding in 2013 anticipated construction taking place in 2017.

Thanks.
Donna

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Civics for Adults Workshops: To Enhance Civic Knowledge and Inspire Political Engagement

Keep up-to-date: **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/Civics-for-Adults-1490728887922036/> *and/or let me know if you want to be on the Civics email list.*

From: Moore-Love, Karla <Karla.Moore-Love@portlandoregon.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 2, 2018 11:27 AM
To: D Cohen <dcohen@hevanet.com>
Cc: 'Shamus Lynsky' <shamus.lynsky@gmail.com>; 'Barbara Quinn' <barbaraqnn718@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: Communications slot

I sent the following before reading your email at 11:15 today...

Hello Donna,

The next available date to speak to the Portland City Council is July 25th (there are 4 spots available) but, Commissioner Fish will be absent.

There are spots open the first three Wednesdays in August but, Commissioner Eudaly is absent these three weeks.

August 22nd is available and currently, all members are expected though we heard the Mayor may be absent.

Let me know if any of these dates will work for you. **To sign up please send your name, address, phone, date you wish to speak and topic.**

Regards,
Karla

Karla Moore-Love |Council Clerk
City of Portland |[Office of the City Auditor](#)
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From: D Cohen [<mailto:dcohen@hevanet.com>]
Sent: Monday, July 2, 2018 11:15 AM
To: Moore-Love, Karla <Karla.Moore-Love@portlandoregon.gov>
Cc: 'Shamus Lynsky' <shamus.lynsky@gmail.com>; 'Barbara Quinn' <barbaraqnn718@gmail.com>
Subject: Communications slot

Hi Karla,

Could you tell me when you have at least two Communications slots coming up? If you don't have two before the end of July would you tell me when you have one – and, also, the earliest date you have two?

This is, again, about the St Johns Truck Strategy, Phase II, Plan.

Thanks a lot.
Donna

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Request of Donna Cohen to address Council regarding the St Johns ~~S~~truck
Strategy, Phase II (Communication)

JUL 25 2018

PLACED ON FILE

Filed JUL 17 2018

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		