



**City of Portland, Oregon**  
**Bureau of Development Services**  
**Land Use Services**  
FROM CONCEPT TO CONSTRUCTION

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## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** July 3, 2018

**To:** Eric Engstrom, BPS  
Teresa Boyle, PBOT  
David Unsworth, Trimet  
Chris Ford, Metro

**From:** Benjamin Nielsen, BDS - Design & Historic Review  
[Benjamin.Nielsen@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:Benjamin.Nielsen@portlandoregon.gov) / 503-823-

**Re:** Briefing on Southwest Corridor Light Rail  
Summary of June 21, 2018 Design Commission briefing

Thank you for taking advantage of the opportunity to hold a preliminary briefing with the Design Commission regarding your project. I hope you find it informative and valuable as you continue with your project development. Attached is a brief summary of the comments provided by the Design Commission at the June 21, 2018 briefing. This summary was generated from notes taken at the public meeting and a subsequent review of the public meeting recordings. To review those recordings, please visit: <http://efiles.portlandoregon.gov/Record/12014329/>.

These Design Commission comments are intended to guide you in further design exploration of your project. These comments may also inform City staff when giving guidance over the course of future related land use reviews. It should be understood that these comments address the project as presented on June 21, 2018. As the project design evolves, the comments, too, may evolve or may no longer be pertinent.

Preliminary briefings are not intended to substitute for other Code-required land use or legislative procedures.

Please continue to coordinate with Benjamin Nielsen, as necessary, as you prepare your formal land use application and as you prepare your application.

*Encl:*  
Summary Memo

*Cc:* Design Commission  
This memo summarizes **Design Commission** comments provided on June 21, 2018.

Commissioners in attendance on June 21, 2018 include: Andrew Clarke, Julie Livingston (Chair), Sam Rodriguez, Zari Santner, Tad Savinar (Vice-chair), Don Vallaster

**Marquam Hill Connection**

- Most of the Commission’s questions focused on the proposed Marquam Hill connection. The Commission committed to have at least one representative on the blue-ribbon panel for the connection. BDS staff will serve as a liaison between SW Corridor staff and the Design Commission to help select a representative(s) for the panel.
- Commissioners asked about alternative design options for the Marquam Hill connection. None were in favor of the long tunnel option shown. Other options seemed safer, but Commissioners questioned how the character of the Terwilliger Parkway will be impacted by the stairs and towering elevator structures.
  - One Commissioner specifically asked if a funicular concept had been studied, and encouraged SW Corridor planners to look further into the option if it has not. Additional information about this option should be presented at a future briefing.

**Other Questions**

- Commissioners asked how the project is addressing evolving transportation technologies, such as driverless cars, etc.
- Commissioners asked how affordability is being addressed through the DEIS and EIS. They will be interested in hearing more about the equitable housing strategy discussed at the briefing.