

Portland City Council Agenda
Written Testimony - Item 1111/1089

Agenda Item	Name or Organization	Position	Comments	Attachment	Created
1 1089	Kristine Kennedy, Highway Heavy Hauling	Support		Yes	12/11/24 7:25 AM



Highway Specialized Transport LLC

Dear City Council,

Hello, My name is Kristine Kennedy. I am the owner of Highway Heavy Hauling. We are a certified Woman Owned Business that I started in 2013. We specialize in hauling large construction equipment in Oregon and Washington but our true passion is the local moves and helping "move the city". We have the only fully steerable trailer that can move equipment in and out of tight places such as underneath the tram on S. Bond and Moody or even in the Pearl district.

When I first went into business it was very important to me to have an office in Portland. As Hillsboro and Wilsonville were growing I was passionate about having a centralized location for my customers and using "We Move The City" as our statement for moving equipment in the City of Portland.

Our first office was renting space from another company on NW St. Helens Rd. They gave me 3 parking spots and we quickly outgrew it. When I found the property on N. Suttle Rd I was pretty sure it was our next home although I couldn't afford it. I had to go branch out and find someone to lease it with us so that we could convince the property owner that we were their next best tenant.

The property that we have resided at on N. Suttle Rd for almost 10 years was such a blessing. The turning radius, the access and the location could not have been more perfect. Our one downfall which we thought we could overlook was the street itself. N. Suttle Rd had potholes so big that I could not drive my car to work from October to May due to not being able to see the pot holes. I once sank my car in one and had water coming in the door. This sounds like a anomaly however it was not. Everyone that worked for me had to drive an SUV or truck if they wanted to guarantee that they could get to work on N. Suttle Rd in the winter time.

The potholes also created a horrible safety hazard because the motorists would try to avoid the potholes at all costs, even if it meant going into traffic moving in the opposite direction. There were no lines on N. Suttle Rd telling everyone whose lane was whose so it was fair game to move left or right to avoid a pothole. There were many fender benders.

The street also had poor lighting since when a person attempted to miss a pothole, they often times hit a bollard or even a pole.

I appreciate the city putting this on their "Fix it" list. Not only is my small business with big equipment located on this road but one of the largest trucking companies in Oregon, JB Hunt as well as a tanker trucking company. You cannot drive down N. Suttle Rd during daylight hours and not pass a truck. It is rare that at night to not see one as well. Regardless of the truck traffic, this street is heavy with motorists, the people that work at the businesses. No one can believe how much better the road is.



Highway Specialized Transport LLC

The full circle moment here is my company started out with only 2 people and we have grown to 40 employees. I gave N. Suttle Rd a chance in hopes that the city would fix it and I was right! N. Suttle Rd will now be able to support the industry that so desperately needs safe roads in our city. It can also be an example to other streets that the community may find hopeless.

Thanks again for putting our little dead end street on the priority list. It has made hundreds of people's lives safer. In addition it is much easier to continue to "Move The City" safer and more efficiently.

Sincerely,
Kristine Kennedy



Portland City Council Meeting
Wednesday, December 11, 2024 - 9:30 a.m.
Verbal Testimony

Agenda Item	Name
1 1089	Kristine Kennedy