

PSC-DCP Testimony, 11.4.14: Timme Helzer, West Hayden Island

I've been saying to you for months, "You Got It Right." I'm sure you've heard me, but I want to explain how I've come to this conclusion about your work. I've been a business management consultant for 35 years, helping organizations become more profitable, across the US, in Central Europe, and Southeast Asia.

And, for 40 years I've been teaching doctoral students how to do publishable research for their Ph.D. dissertations, bringing valid and reliable new knowledge to the world. I know good research when I see it. As a business consultant, I've read the public testimony and expert studies about marine development on West Hayden Island. As a long-time business consultant, I know marine development is not financially feasible or economically sustainable there.

And as a doctoral research professor I know you studied the facts, weighed the social, transportation, human health, and environmental consequences, then required highly responsible mitigations for all of Hayden Island. Many of you have research experience through advanced degrees, and all of you value fact-based decision-making; so I'm not surprised "you got it right" in the best interest of the City of Portland regarding West Hayden Island.

But, the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability is much more easily persuaded by the politicized but unsupported promises and unbridled greed of Portland's marine industry special interests. Although a major contributor of this Commission's final decision in August, 2013, our own BPS in this Draft Comprehensive Plan has completely rejected all of your well-researched facts, disregarded your measured conclusions, and denied your carefully weighed recommendations.

Your previous work stands on its own merits. The Draft Comprehensive Plan does not! You got it right the first time; follow through on it. Yours is the more highly responsible document; theirs is not. Yours calls for any marine industrial development on West Hayden Island to be fully mitigated; theirs contains no mitigations there, what so ever.

Better yet, simply take West Hayden Island out of the industrial lands inventory; that's the best outcome of all for West Hayden Island and all of Portland, now and in the future! You got it right the first time. Now, trust what you've done, and act on it.

Thank you.

Timme A. Helzer, Ph.D.
Consultant and Professor of Business Management
220 North Hayden Bay Drive
Portland, Oregon 97217