

METRO IGA – SW CORRIDOR PLAN

IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO CITY COUNCIL, PRINT YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND EMAIL.

NAME (print)	ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE	Email
✓ DAVID J SCHLEICH President, NCNM	<del>NCNM</del> 049 SW POZTER ST, (97201)	DSCHLEICH@NCNM.EDU
✓ MARILYNN CONSIDINE NCNM	" " " " " "	MCONSIDINE@NCNM.EDU
✓ KEITH NORTH-NCNM	" " " " " "	KNORTH@NCNM.EDU
Linda Degman	<del>NCNM</del> PCC	ldegman@pcc.edu
Marianne Fitzgerald	10537 SW 64 DR 97219	fitzgerald.marianne@gmail.com

January 28, 2015

Mayor Charlie Hales and Commissioners Fish, Fritz, Novick and Saltzman  
Portland City Council  
1221 SW Fourth Avenue  
Portland, OR 97204

Re: Southwest Corridor Intergovernmental Agreement with Metro  
Agenda Item #103 before Portland City Council on January 28, 2015

Good morning, my name is Marianne Fitzgerald and I've spoken several times in support of the City of Portland allocating funds for planning the SW Corridor Project in FY 2014-15 (testimony dated 10/9/2013 and 4/8/2014). Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc. (SWNI) has not taken a position yet on this IGA because we only received a copy on Friday along with other the city council agenda items. I'm here today on my own behalf to share some thoughts.

When the Southwest Corridor Plan Steering Committee adjourned on June 9, 2014 (see SWNI letter dated May 30, 2014), it was our understanding that the next phase would be the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) phase. On December 8, 2014, the SW Corridor Steering Committee changed the "sequence of milestones" by adding a new phase called "Focused Refinement" before proceeding with the DEIS phase.

Since it is used so often in this document, I looked up the Merriam-Webster definition of the word "refinement". It is the act or process of removing unwanted substances from something; the act or process of making something pure.

My main concern is that during Phase 1 (October 2011 through June 2014), Metro engaged the public through a series of open houses and other discussions that produced a lot of fancy documents that contained very little detail. Citizens were told we wouldn't get detailed technical data about alternatives until the DEIS phase.

Now, according to the IGA in this Council resolution, the Steering Committee will determine a "Locally Preferred Alternative" that will be further studied in the DEIS phase, but the public involvement plan is essentially the same as the last public involvement plan. It appears Metro's goal is to "refine" the plan but there's no assurance that interested members of the public will gain access to technical documents in a timely fashion, well before recommendations are proposed by staff. I question whether Metro and the SW Corridor Steering Committee should make such important decisions without allowing meaningful public dialogue on the details.

In other words, in my personal opinion, the City of Portland should not give Metro a blank check to continue the same level of superficial public information when important decisions will be made in this "refinement" phase of the project that must include in-

depth public conversations about the many pros and cons of the alternatives being studied.

Many of us in Southwest Portland believe the Southwest Corridor Plan has the potential to provide the people of Portland and the Metro region with greater access to jobs, education and services throughout the Southwest Corridor.

Before decisions are made, the public needs information that includes, but is not limited to, construction costs, operating costs, ridership projections, land use opportunities, traffic impact analyses, etc. for each option, including potential station locations.

Citizens and neighborhoods in Southwest Portland will continue to be engaged in the Southwest Corridor project, and we would like to discuss the workplan and outcomes with Commissioner Novick and staff.

SWNI will evaluate whether to recommend continued financial support for further Southwest Corridor planning for FY 2015-16 during the FY 15-16 city budget deliberations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marianne Fitzgerald".

Marianne Fitzgerald  
10537 SW 64<sup>th</sup> Drive  
Portland, OR 97219  
(503) 246-1847