

April 5, 2007

Kathryn Levine, Project Manager
Transportation System Development Charge Update
City of Portland Department of Transportation
1120 SW 5th Avenue, 9th Floor
Portland, OR 97204

Re: Transportation System Development Charges (TSDC) eligibility for the Eastside Burnside-Couch Couplet project

Dear Ms. Levine:

At the meeting of the Burnside Bridgehead Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) on March 13th PDOT provided the CAC with an update on the related Eastside Burnside-Couch project. Among the core concerns of the CAC, relative to the success of the Burnside Bridgehead project, are the serious access and transportation deficiencies in the Central Eastside. During the update, we learned that you are examining the TSDC project list and adding priority projects.

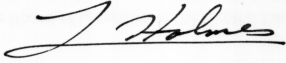
The Eastside Couplet project is essential for traffic flow and pedestrian safety along this critical Central Eastside corridor. Construction of this project will also go a long way toward increasing capacity through this corridor as it will allow unrestricted left turns from the bridgehead to NE 14th Avenue, thereby eliminating much of the bottleneck that has resulted from a restriction on left turns. Progress on the Burnside Bridgehead project is dependent on a commitment to have the Burnside-Couch couplet in place by the time of project completion in 2010.

The majority of the needed funding for the project has been identified, but there is still a gap that remains to be filled before construction can begin. We believe that the Eastside Burnside-Couch project will meet the criteria for TSDC funding. Furthermore, TSDC funding will help leverage an estimated \$18 - \$19 million in other public and private resources.

The Eastside Burnside-Couch couplet is much more than a transportation project. It is a principal component of the urban renewal vision for the Central Eastside. Adequate initial funding and timely construction will save costs due to inflation, deployment of an expensive and inferior "interim" solution, and the potential loss of tax increment funds due to deferred investment in the Central Eastside Urban Renewal Area.

The Burnside Bridgehead CAC is comprised of representatives of a wide range of Central Eastside and Citywide interests. We are unanimous in urging you to support the addition of the Eastside Burnside-Couch project as a priority project to the TSDC list.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Holmes", is centered below the closing. The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Tim Holmes
Chair, Burnside Bridgehead Citizen Advisory Committee

CC: Bruce Warner, Executive Director, PDC
PDC Commissioners
Burnside Bridgehead CAC Members: Jim Andrews, Mike Bolliger, Jeff Brooks,
Norm Chusid, Lynne Coward, Dike Dame, Frank Dufay, Joni Hartman, Bruce
Murray, Dave Nemarnik, Ralph Tahrán, Bob Wentworth, Michael
Whitmore, Chuck Willis, Brian Wilson