



City of Portland

Design Commission

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December 9, 2008

Dear Fred Hansen,

On behalf of the Portland Design Commission I would like to thank TriMet and its consultant team for bringing the Willamette River Crossing to us for a briefing on December 4, 2008. The Design Commission is dedicated to assisting applicants and public agencies with review of major projects within the City of Portland.

I would like to commend Sean Batty for his thorough and informative presentation of the TriMet public process and the evolution of the design alternatives. The Commission is especially appreciative of the extensive and inclusive public process that has narrowed the field of alternatives to two impressive concepts.

The Commission is supportive of the Wave Frame and the Cable-Stayed bridge alternatives. While the Cable-Stayed bridge alternative would make an iconic contribution to Portland's collection of bridges, the Wave Frame is more in keeping the Portland's reputation of innovative design.

Portland is a city of noteworthy accomplishments and innovations including the Steel Bridge - first and only telescoping lift span in America, St. Johns Bridge - longest suspension bridge west of Detroit at its completion, and Light Rail Transit, Low Floor Light Rail Transit vehicles, and Modern Streetcar - all "firsts" in America. Additionally, Portland is a leader in green technology and renewable energy. The Wave Frame is in the spirit of our City's legacy and we appreciate TriMet's efforts to do more in-depth research and analysis of feasibility.

The Commission strongly supports TriMet's public process and the alternatives thus far. I would like to invite Sean and the team back for a subsequent briefing in that the Willamette River Crossing and the Portland/Milwaukie Light Rail Transit line will both have a profound influence on future development within the Design Districts through which the Portland/Milwaukie line will pass. Your inclusion of the Commission enables us to be informed as we review new developments that will support ridership and a greener way of living.

Best,

Lloyd D. Lindley, FASLA
Chair, Portland Design Commission

CC Susan Keil, Director, Portland Transportation
Mayor-Elect Sam Adams
Design Commissioners: Tim Eddy, Andrew Jansky, Ben Kaiser, Gwen Millius, Jeff Stuhr,
David Wark