

Submitter: Stacey Boatright

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2749

Dear Joint Committee on Transportation,

As a St. Johns resident of nearly 25 years, I am very concerned that the north peninsula will be cut off from the rest of Portland in the event of an earthquake because the bridges over "the cut" will surely collapse. I am so grateful that your committee is considering HB 2749 to protect me and my neighbors and I strongly urge you to pass this important bill. The funding this bill would provide to design a new bridge over the cut on Columbia is imperative to our future safety.

St. Johns is NOT a sacrifice zone! When "the big one" hits, families will be separated. No emergency vehicles or repair trucks will be able to get in or out. No medical help or food supplies will be able to access our area. And, in the worst-case scenario, we will all be trapped if a toxic cloud comes from the CEI hub. This emergency could last months, leaving roughly 20,000 residents in a horribly untenable situation.

This is an issue of environmental equity. We are a lower-income, diverse community. We do not deserve to be abandoned in a moment of crisis. Please pass HB 2749!

Thank you,

Stacey Boatright