

Submitter: Stacey Boatright

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

Dear Members of the Joint Committee on Transportation Reinvestment,

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. As a long-time resident of St. Johns, I strongly urge you to allocate \$5 million to design a new bridge over Columbia Boulevard -- it is imperative to the future safety of myself, my friends, and my neighbors.

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 the area. And, in the worst-case scenario, St. Johns residents 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 trapped in a horribly untenable situation. This is an issue of environmental equity.

St. Johns is a lower-income, diverse community. It should not be abandoned in a moment of crisis.

Thank you for your consideration,

Stacey Boatright