

Submitter: Teresa Cloud
On Behalf Of: Frog Ferry
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation Reinvestment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2025

It takes over an hour by public transit, and at least 30 minutes by car without traffic, to get from St. Johns to Downtown Portland. That kind of commute limits access and connection, not just for residents, but for visitors and families looking to explore the city.

While we may never see a light rail extension in our neighborhood, a ferry could be a game-changer. Imagine a scenic, fun, and direct route to downtown that reduces traffic, offers a low-emissions climate solution, and turns the river into an active, vital corridor.

A ferry would not only ease congestion but also activate our waterfront and encourage more people to experience it. It would boost tourism, draw families to enjoy a new kind of Portland adventure, and provide a fresh reason for residents to reconnect with the river. And once it launches, I can already imagine Vancouver wanting to get on board too.

Please consider investing in Frog Ferry. While it may require a significant upfront investment, the long-term benefits from ticket sales to tourism growth, reduced emissions, and vibrant waterfront activation—will make it worthwhile.

St. Johns has long felt overlooked when it comes to accessible transit and city investment. A ferry could breathe new life into our charming, historic neighborhood, reconnect us with the rest of the city, and offer a fun, climate-friendly way to explore Portland from the water.

Let's give people a reason to choose the river—not just as a view, but as a destination.