



COUNCILOR KATHRYN HARRINGTON, DISTRICT 4

January 4, 2013

Dear Tualatin Valley Highway Policy Group members and senior staff:

As the Tualatin Valley Highway Concept Plan (TVCP) nears completion and partners look ahead to implementation, as Metro's representative to this project I would like to provide feedback on the November 2012 draft document prior to its finalization, local adoption and amendment into the Regional Transportation Plan.

In October 2011, the TVCP Policy Group signed a Partnering Agreement committing the Policy Group agencies to work toward a common set of policy goals. The project has achieved most of the implementation goals laid out in the Partnering Agreement, most significantly the decision on the designation of Tualatin Valley Hwy as an arterial. My concern is that the draft plan, in its current form, misses the mark on the overarching goal:

*The plan should reflect community needs and desires for the corridor to evolve into a thriving, welcoming place that connects our vibrant growing community now and for future generations.*

As Metro's representative, I ask that the plan respond to the above goal by demonstrating how the transportation investments will reinforce community aspirations as expressed in development plans in Hillsboro, Beaverton and Washington County. For example, the Aloha-Reedville study includes community aspirations for *supporting job growth and enhancing the community's prosperity, maintaining and increasing affordable housing for everyone in the community and improving auto, public transit, freight, bike and pedestrian options*. More than a project list, the plan should be an articulation of how the transportation solutions serve the community.

With regard to the discussion of future arterial grade separation, I request that the Policy Group discuss this issue at its upcoming meeting in order to provide clear and definitive policy direction on this issue. I ask that the ambiguous language regarding grade separation be removed from the staff recommendation and replaced with a policy statement that results from the Policy Group discussion. My desire is for a statement that affirms that grade separation of TV Hwy will not be considered in the 15 year life of the plan to allow time for community enhancing land use changes and planned transportation investments to take hold.

I also request that the Policy Group have an opportunity to express goals for subsequent steps that can also be incorporated into the final plan.

I have discussed my concerns and goals with Mayor Willey and Mayor Doyle and look forward to continued conversation with the Policy Group and senior staff. I appreciate the work that the TVCP project team has given to this project and Metro looks forward to continued partnership on efforts to create a better Tualatin Valley Hwy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathryn Harrington', written in a cursive style.

Kathryn Harrington  
Metro Councilor

Cc: Robin McArthur

KH/rp