

Received At Council Meeting
Meeting Date: 9/11/17
Agenda Item: _____
Received by: Amy Johnson
From: Herb Shaw

9/11/2017

Mr. Mayor, Council:

I just wanted to encourage each of you to seriously consider the opportunity that lies before you at this point, following the LUBA decision of last month concerning the Third Bridge. We as a city and you as our leaders are in a much better position to address the single most divisive yet necessary issue in our city, and that is to provide a new bridge across the Willamette River to address the traffic bottleneck that now exists.

I submit to you the timing is perfect to use common sense and practical solutions and thereby completely scrap the Salem Preferred Alternative and the proposed Second Street Crossing plans, then focus on at least one new bridge in a location that will actually provide relief for our local traffic.

Salem cannot solve ODOT's regional traffic problems by funneling everything through our city. The sooner you realize that, the sooner you will get city-wide support for a crossing. We the people understand we cannot afford a \$450 Million bridge project. We the people understand those proposals are not only beyond our capability financially, but would decimate the West Salem and Highland communities with overhead bridges, retaining walls and sound barriers that would simply relocate the pinch-points and do very little to solve the problem.

Now is the time to do the right thing. Please don't let it slip away.

Respectfully yours,



Herb Shaw