

CITY OF SALEM

Written Testimony #3

City Council

555 Liberty St SE
Salem, OR 97301

Wednesday, January 30, 2019 6:00 PM

Council Chambers

City Council Work Session - Salem River Crossing

2.a. [19-53](#)

Information on the Salem River Crossing Project for Council Work Session on January 30, 2019.

Ward(s): All Wards

Councilor(s): All Councilors

Neighborhood(s): All Neighborhoods

Result Area(s): Welcoming and Livable Community; Strong and Diverse Economy; Safe, Reliable, and Efficient Infrastructure; Natural Environmental Stewardship; and Good Governance.

Recommendation: Information Only.

Attachments: [SRC O+A Final Report](#)

[App A: Description of Preferred Alternative \(Jan 2019\)](#)

[App B: Letter to Council from SKATS \(Nov 2018\)](#)

[App C: FHWA Order 5020.1A on Repayment \(Jun 2018\)](#)

[App D: Cost Estimating Third Willamette Bridge \(Oct 2016\)](#)

[App E: Salem River Crossing Revenue Project \(Nov 2014\)](#)

[App F: Mission Street Retrospective \(Feb 2013\)](#)

[App G: Wallace Marine Park Section 4\(f\) Draft Findings](#)

[Public Comment received through 3:00 pm on 1-29-19](#)

[Public Comments received through 3pm 1-30-19](#)

[Additional Public Comment received to 5:00 p.m. on 1-30-19](#)

Add - Written Testimony.

Amy Johnson

From: minimode <minimode@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 30, 2019 4:49 PM
To: Chris Hoy; citycouncil
Subject: In Opposition of Revisiting the 3rd Bridge

Dear City of Salem Councilors and Mayor Chuck Bennett,

I am a resident of West Salem that is annoyed at the prospect of the city revisiting the already drawn-out and complex drama to build a 3rd bridge—an idea that, from what I can understand, has already been put to death time and time again by previous councils.

Proponents currently claim to be concerned about securing the wellbeing of those west of Salem in the event of an earthquake by ensuring connectivity to the east of the city via a 3rd bridge. If these proponents were truly concerned, why go through all the expense, trouble and lag to have an additional bridge built instead of advocating for the retrofit that is *desperately needed* for the already existing Marion bridge?

Not only will a 3rd bridge not provide a cost-effective or timely solution needed for a pending seismic catastrophe, the millions of dollars already spent to study it's viability as a solution to traffic congestion has found that there is no guarantee that it would be effective to that end and would furthermore have catastrophic impact on the environment, nearby neighborhoods and the city's budget.

In voting for a majority of city council leaders that oppose the 3rd bridge solution, the taxpayers of Salem have made their position clear. The 3rd bridge solution is a wildly expensive proposition that will not only fail to relieve traffic for Salem residents but will not provide an immediate solution to safety and disaster preparedness and will irreversibly destroy the environment. The voters have stood up against paying for it. I urge you not to force them to bear the cost of exploring such an option further by a small group of proponents, many outside of the city and others led by investors who likely have a vested interest in having such a monstrosity built, without actually footing the bill for it.

-Vicky Garnier
West Salem Resident and Homeowner