I've been a North Portland/St Johns resident since before I graduated college in 2003, so nearly 22 years now. The population has changed a lot in that time, but there is still a large contingent of disenfranchised citizens who deserve to live in a safe community. The memory of Vanport is still kept alive, with its lesson of the larger community deciding to not to spend money to protect a segment of its population. St. Johns is now in that situation, with no existing routes to safety in the case of an earthquake.

We do not want to repeat that scenario. My family will be impacted, but, more importantly from an equity lens, thousands of historically underrepresented individuals will be stranded without a safe egress away from the plume of toxic pollution emanating from our critical energy infrastructure hub across the river. Please prioritize our area of Portland this time to allow for an opportunity to escape an untenable situation.

-Joe

Joseph Purkey, Principal

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Pronouns: he/him/his

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