

Greetings,

We are residents of north Portland, some of the 30,000 people who will be without an escape route when the Cascadia subduction zone earthquake hits. Every bridge that leads out of the north peninsula area is predicted to be impassable/collapsed, despite being designated an "emergency route." This leaves every person here stranded without access to a hospital, without access to supplies, and likely leaving parents and children separated on opposite sides of the railroad cut due to work or school. It is predicted that the energy hub across the river could result in a toxic plume which could drift over this area and make the air unbreathable. This is a nightmare scenario for every resident of the peninsula.

This area is notoriously underserved. We have many young people and elderly/disabled residents who are particularly vulnerable. We cannot wait for the earthquake to happen to see what unfolds. We know this will be a disaster unless action is taken immediately. This is a **preventable scandal**. We cannot leave north peninsula residents stranded here and in grave danger.

We need immediate action to start the process of replacing these bridges that cannot withstand an earthquake.

We need PBPT, ODOT, and the BNSF to collaborate on finding financing and creating a timeline and plan for the replacement of these bridges.

We need the 2025 Oregon State Legislature to make this situation a priority.

The Columbia bridge needs funding

The Lombard bridges need a feasibility study and funding.

Please prioritize this issue. many lives depend upon it.

Thank you,

Michelle Arensberg
Arne Bowman
Residents of St Johns