

02/01/23

To whom it may concern:

Several years ago I gave testimony to the City of Salem Council in support of a “third bridge.” I live in Highland Neighborhood where the bridge was supposed to go in. I feel and still feel strongly that a bridge would be incredibly beneficial to our neighborhood and City. The areas of concern for lost housing are minimal. Many are rentals and the plan had unique aspects for adding green space along the sides and utilizing underused areas near the bridge site. My experience as a resident and home owner in Highland Neighborhood is that the “voices” being heard were philanthropic and NGO’s supporting people biking and other groups concerned with the low income housing persons being displaced. I did not feel like the residents or those of us in favor of VITALIZING and growing our neighborhood and city were heard at all. In fact, that seems to be the case most often. Being the state capital we shoulder a lot of the burden. As taxpayers we have supported and are paying for an extraordinary amount of resources for the houseless crisis. This bridge is necessary and important to me as a resident.

Thank you for your time and consideration of an actual citizen, homeowner and resident of Highland Neighborhood. In other words...an actual stakeholder.

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