

Letters to the Editor



The Southwest Portland Post
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Neighborhoods request mitigation for Multnomah Blvd sewer construction

The City of Portland is improving the Fanno Pump Station and Pressure Sewer Line along Multnomah Blvd. for the second time in less than 10 years. This project directly affects at least five of the seventeen neighborhood associations within the Southwest Neighborhoods Inc. (SWNI) coalition.

We have been meeting with Bureau of Environmental Services staff about the many impacts this large construction project will have in our neighborhoods—fresh on our minds from the last round of construction—and ask the City to do a better job and improve neighborhood livability.

We request that the City of Portland, through a combined effort of the Bureau of Environmental Services and Portland Bureau of Transportation, take the fol-

lowing actions to minimize the negative impacts of construction and create a safer and healthier community:

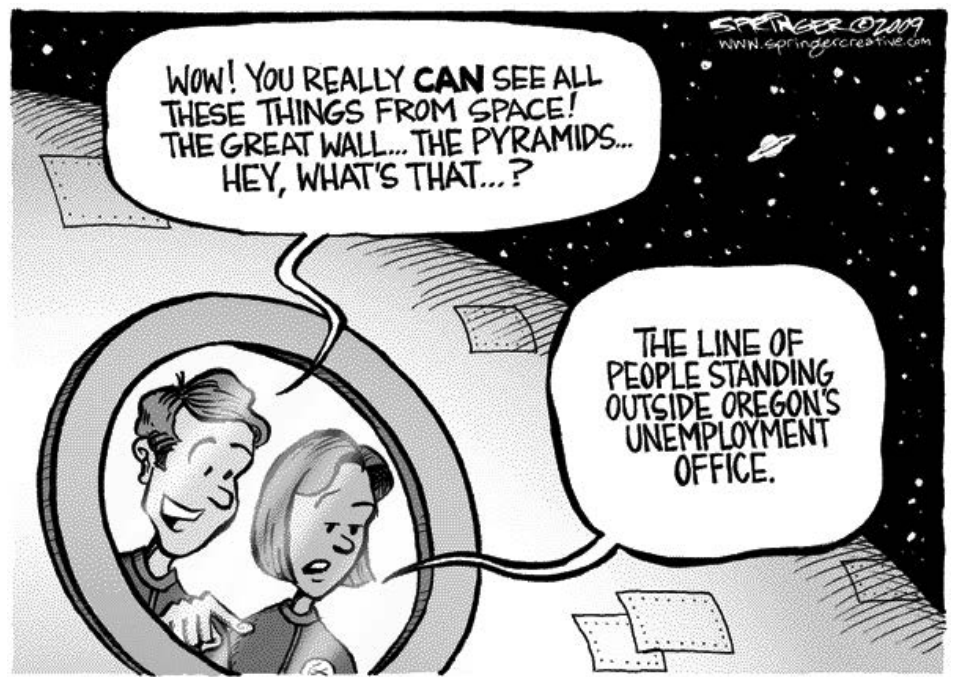
1. Noise and pollution must be minimized. The city must incorporate the draft City of Portland/Multnomah County Clean Diesel Contracting Policies into the construction contracts to minimize diesel emissions and limit idling. The city should seek funding for diesel engine retrofits for all on-road and off-road construction equipment that does not meet current EPA standards; require the use of ultra-low sulfur fuels, and limit idling;

2. Noise and pollution must be minimized not just in the Multnomah Blvd corridor but also on haul routes on SW Bertha Blvd, SW 45th Ave, SW Vermont St, and SW Oleson Road, and on the detour routes. The city must require haul trucks as well as construction equipment to minimize noise, diesel emissions and dust as they travel through and work in our neighborhoods. Roadway damage on haul routes and detour routes must be repaired and restored;

3. The bike lanes and shoulders along Multnomah Blvd. must be left in a better condition after construction than before, with sidewalks and bike lanes, or at minimum, wide, walkable bike paths; and

4. Garden Home Road (from SW 45th Ave to Multnomah Boulevard at SW 69th Ave) should not be used as a detour. Our concern is that even if this street is not designated as a detour, it will receive extra traffic from SW Portland residents and our neighbors from Washington County. The hilly, wind-

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