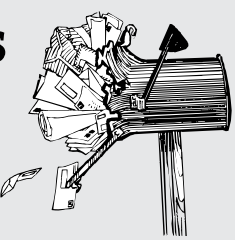


Letters to the Editor



The Southwest Portland Post
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EarthTalk columnist ignorant about oil business, life in Canada

Regarding "EarthTalk: What are dirty fuels and why are they so called?" by Roddy Scheer and Doug Moss, The Post, March 2014.

As a resident Canadian, I am offended!

Your picture [of environmental leaders protesting the proposed Keystone oil pipeline in front of the Canadian consulate in Chicago] is offensive enough.

But the writer of this article probably doesn't even know how many provinces are in Canada, where the oil is from, how many people are employed there, what kind of winters they endure, and much more.

Most people I've met in Portland are ill-informed about their neighbor to the north...for what reason? (Forgive; I had to say that because I've met some of "these" ignorant people.)

They are "probably" the same people who rant and rave about

the environment. They drive hybrid cars (that get poor mileage), and of course, use paper diapers for their kids.

This is ridiculous! Either you are environmentally aware, and follow this pattern of behavior...or...you are a phony three-dollar bill! Practice what you preach or be quiet yet!

Oh, I've heard all the excuses..."I don't have time to wash diapers," or "They don't sell them anymore." They do sell them. And I used [cloth diapers] for all three children while working full time because I had to.

You just have to get up an hour earlier in the morning, become organized, and get on with life! Whining doesn't accomplish much.

There...I've had my say. Thanks for listening, Don. It takes a village...doesn't it?

S. Thiessen
Milwaukie, Oregon

Editor's Note: For general inquiries about our EarthTalk syndicated column, you may wish to contact E - The Environmental Magazine, 28 Knight Street, Norwalk, CT 06851. Phone: (203) 854-5559. Fax: (203) 866-0602. Email: earthtalk@emagazine.com. The authors are Roddy Scheer and Doug Moss.

Reporter's comments confuse reader regarding Southwest Corridor Plan

Regarding "Southwest Corridor Plan rolls on with full cast of characters and issues," by Erik Vidstrand,

The Post, March 2014.

In the March issue of your newspaper, this paragraph appeared in an article about the Southwest Corridor Plan:

"Nothing has been decided yet. The budget is not set. Barbur Boulevard is not going down to one lane each way. Bike lanes will not be sacrificed."

If nothing has been decided, how can your reporter say things like, "Barbur Boulevard is not going down to one lane each way?"

Does your reporter actually know this for a fact? Or is he just saying that nothing has been decided including things like the three items he included in the paragraph?

I'm kind of confused here, hoping you can send back some enlightenment...

— Michael Trigoboff

Editor's Note: Here is a response from Post reporter Erik Vidstrand:

Dear Michael—You're somewhat right and caught me. It is true that nothing has been decided yet so it is premature of me to say that Barbur Boulevard won't go down to one lane in each direction.

The budget isn't set and bike lanes are a main focus of the Southwest Corridor development. With that said, some of the participants of the Portland Working Group feared that Barbur Boulevard would turn into a

"North Interstate" where only one vehicle lane goes in either direction from the Moda Center (Rose Garden) to the Expo Center.

TriMet officials said that at large intersections there are left and right turn lanes planned. They said that North Interstate Avenue along with the MAX Yellow Line is a lot different than Barbur Boulevard especially since Barbur is a state highway (99W) and that even though Barbur Boulevard may have a road diet at places, "it wouldn't resemble North Interstate."

It is important to attend meetings and become involved so that Barbur Boulevard may turn into a functioning boulevard that will work for not only motor vehicles but also bicyclists, pedestrians, and rapid transit commuters.

— Erik Vidstrand

These folks get it!

Rochelle Farkas, Eric and Joanne Frank, Lloyd Kendrick, Courtney Kruetz, Jean McDowell, and Doug Reynolds all recently subscribed to The Post. Join the club! Subscribe to The Post and help support your neighborhood newspaper.
Form on Page 2.





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