

6-5-1936

## To Bean from Public Market 2

Rey B. Early

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# PORTLAND PUBLIC MARKET

PUBLIC MARKET COMPANY OF PORTLAND

800 SOUTHWEST FRONT AVENUE

PORTLAND, OREGON

6/5/36

Ormond R. Bean,  
Commissioner of Public Works,  
City of Portland.

Dear Mr. Bean:

I was very much pleased to learn in the course of our conference of yesterday concerning the Front Avenue development that it is the intention of yourself and your department to recommend to the Council for presentation to the people in November, if necessary, the long awaited method of improvement for Front Avenue, so necessary to the rehabilitation of the business slum area along the water front.

I hope that the recommendation in this connection will be confined to the simple necessity of widening Front Avenue rather than going into the problem of parking the river front which would entail the purchase of considerable additional property. If you are to make it a city wide project and give proper publicity concerning its necessity, I can assure you there would not be very much opposition to a strictly Front Avenue widening whereas to embellish it might cause its rejection. Under the recent decision of the Supreme Court permitting the Highway Commission to purchase right of way within the corporate limits of this city it would appear that, since this development is so necessary to the highway system under the jurisdiction of the Federal Bureau of Roads and the Highway Commission, very little expense would be borne by the taxpayers of this city. After all, we must remember that the motorists of Multnomah County have built not only their own roads in toto but perhaps 85% of all other state highways.

Your criticism of the Front Avenue property owners for their failure to answer questionnaires inviting them to express their views on this development is well taken. However, let us bear in mind that over the past decade or so this matter has bobbed up at frequent intervals presumably in consequence of the avowed promise made to these property owners that if they would encumber their property for the sea wall and sewer projects the west side area east of Third Street was to be given opportunity for rehabilitation. After so many failures it is quite natural that these people should more or less have abandoned hope and looked upon such questionnaire as "just another one of those things."

I am sure that under the aggressive leadership of yourself and the City Engineer accompanied by a campaign of education which would carry conviction to the people

NO. 167062	SUBJECT <i>Front Ave</i>		
JUN -6 1936			
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS			
FOR YOUR ATTN.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
ACK.			
RECD.			
FORW'D.			
REPLY.			
SENT TO FILE	<i>CP</i>	DATE	10-20-43

167062

PORTLAND PUBLIC MARKET

PUBLIC MARKET COMPANY OF PORTLAND

800 SOUTHWEST FRONT AVENUE

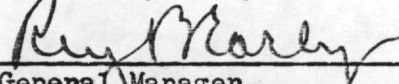
PORTLAND, OREGON

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of Portland that such a project is necessary that its accomplishment would be assured.

Yours very truly

  
General Manager

PORTLAND PUBLIC MARKET

RBE/jb

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