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First National Bank letter

Sinclair Wilson

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A.L. Barbur, City Commissioner,
Portland, Ore.

Dear Mr. Barbur:

I have been watching with exceeding interest Mr. Laurgaard’s well-thought-out plan for the development of Front Street. There is no reason, in my mind, why this potentially great thoroughfare would not ultimately become a second Michigan Boulevard.

Do we not need to secure for this city right now, a great trunk road along the west side of the river from Macadam Street way down to Willbridge? Will not Mr. Laurgaard’s plan be the first step in establishing such a thoroughfare? Thousands of cars use the Linnton Road daily. The district is rapidly growing. Such a trunk road as Front Street would be, would divert a tremendous amount of this traffic, would speed up access to the bridges, and would keep a lot of heavy trucks away from the Thurman Street areas already badly congested.

What has caused the great depreciation from values in property below Third Street? Primarily, flooded basements coupled with an old-fangled psychology that bridge areas cheapen property.

Please be assured of my unqualified support of this excellent program.

Very respectfully yours,

SW: RK