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To Frank S. Grant

Portland (Or.). City Planning Commission

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April 22, 1932

Mr. Frank S. Grant,
City Attorney,
Portland, Oregon

Dear Sir:

At the request of Commissioner Barbur, I desire to obtain from you an answer to the following problem.

The Oregon Building Congress has requested of the city of Portland that no building permits be issued east of Front Street from Columbia to Glisan Streets until such time as a definite decision has been made as to the future development of the waterfront. Commissioner Barbur feels that the city cannot withhold building permits inasmuch as no official plan has been adopted for the development of this district.

He, however, thinks that it might be advisable to establish a building line 40 feet east of the present east line of Front Street in anticipation of the future widening of that street as petitioned for by 57 per cent of the property owners. There is now an ordinance which requires a petition of at least 40 per cent of the frontage before a building line may be established. However, it is my understanding that a year or so prior to the widening of East Broadway and several other streets a building line was established by ordinance without petition from the property owners.

In your opinion is it possible to so establish a building line on Front Street?

Yours very truly,

Secretary,
CITY PLANNING COMMISSION