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To Ransom from State Highway Engineer

R. H. Baldock

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Mr. F. H. Ransom, President
Eastern and Western Lumber Company
2501 N. W. Front Avenue
Portland, Oregon

Dear Sir:

Mr. Henry F. Cabell, Chairman of the Oregon State Highway Commission, has asked me to reply to your communication of November 3 relative to a connection between Front Avenue and Yeon Avenue.

Please be advised that, in making a study of the arterial highway situation in Portland to alleviate the congestion in the downtown area, the State Highway Department has investigated two belt-line routes—one known as the Foothills Boulevard route that skirts the hills along the foot of Council Crest to an eventual connection with Yeon Avenue and with the proposed bridge connecting with Interstate Avenue. Likewise a similar investigation has been made from Barbur Boulevard along Front to Hoyt, from which point an elevated highway would carry the traffic over the streets and railway tracks and small buildings, to a connection with the same bridge and with Yeon Avenue.

These plans have never been fully discussed with the city officials of Portland but have been discussed with them in a preliminary way. There are no state highway funds for the work at this time, and before any serious consideration is given to it, the matter would have to be discussed thoroughly with Mr. Bean, Commissioner of Public Works, the City Council, and the engineering staff of the City of Portland.

The plan appears to have excellent possibilities in alleviating congestion and permitting traffic from the suburban districts to enter the heart of the business section of Portland with a minimum of inconvenience and loss of time.

Very truly yours,

State Highway Engineer

cc Mr. Henry F. Cabell
Mr. Ormond R. Bean