

MI 10/15/76
104035

September 2, 1976

Dear Ravenna Resident:

On Thursday, August 26, 1976, representatives of the Seattle Engineering Department and the University District Community Service Center met with members of the business and residential communities affected by reconstruction of the 45th Street Viaduct. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the progress of construction and its effects on the UW football traffic beginning Saturday, September 11.

The Engineering Department informed the community representatives that due to some unfortunate delays in construction, it does not appear that the bridge will be open for traffic for the first game on September 11. Whether or not the bridge will be open for subsequent games will be determined on a week by week basis.

At the August 26th meeting, residents of the Ravenna Community requested that the Engineering Department consider closing Ravenna Blvd. to traffic leaving the football game, with the exception of METRO buses. After reviewing this request, we have determined that we will be able to instruct the police officer stationed at N. E. 54th Street and Ravenna Avenue following the game, to prohibit all access to Ravenna Avenue except buses and residents showing proof of residence. A sign will be placed on Ravenna Avenue reading "Bus Only", in addition to the police officer controlling the intersection.

Because the traffic operation before and after UW football games is the result of many years of development and represents the most equitable treatment we have been able to devise for the surrounding impacted communities, we must stress that this closure of Ravenna Blvd. to vehicular traffic will revert back to the patterns of previous years as soon as the 45th

September 2, 1976
Page 2

Street Viaduct is open to vehicular traffic, and the impact of detouring traffic that normally used the 45th Street Viaduct through the Ravenna Blvd. Community is eliminated.

Very truly yours,

PAUL A. WIATRAK, P.E.
City Engineer

By
Edward F. Engel
Community Relations Officer

EFE:amn

cc: W. G. van Gelder
A. E. Maronek
Mjr. Marvin G. Wubbens-SPD
Mayor's Office
Patty Whisler-University Dist. Community Ser. Center
Bob Barr-Dept. of Human Resources
Chief of Police-SPD

LAW OFFICES
IRVING M. CLARK, JR.
SUITE 209
COLLEGE CLUB BUILDING
SEATTLE 98104
(206) 682-5450

July 16, 1976

Hon. Wes Uhlman, Mayor
Seattle Municipal Building
Seattle, Wa. 98104

re: 45th Street viaduct project

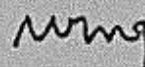
Dear Wes:

Please refer to my earlier letter regarding the above project. I see income statements for a number of merchants on the Avenue, in the U. District, and am struck by the striking loss of volume between 1976 and the same months for 1975. There is no question but that the blocking off of the Northeast 45th Street viaduct has had a very serious impact, which I would estimate runs into the hundreds of thousands of dollars of business lost, extrapolating from the merchants of whom I know.

I'm also struck by the extraordinary slowness with which this work is proceeding. Of course I observe the progress in going from my home in Laurelhurst to my office downtown and back. Is there not something we can do to speed up this process? I'm no engineer, but I can't believe that the reconstruction of a very few hundred feet of the viaduct (after all, most of it is concrete and was never damaged in the fire ten years ago) should take a year. The loss of business to a large number of merchants not only seriously affects them, it also causes a loss of tax revenue to the City. We would be delighted to put together a group to confer with you and Mr. Wiatrak, or whomever, if that would help. I hope I can hear some response from your office.

Best regards as always.

Sincerely,



Irving M. Clark Jr.

IMC/PY

JUL 21 8 20 AM '76

SEATTLE ENG DEPT

7-21

July 21, 1976

Re: N.E. 45th St. Viaduct - East Approach
By Bridge Replacement
Ordinance 104635

Honorable Wes Uhlman
Mayor
City of Seattle

Dear Sir:

Your memo of July 20, 1976 requests information regarding the length of the N. E. 45th Street project, etc. in order to answer questions raised by Mr. Irving Clark in his letter of July 16, 1976.

The time specified in the contract for demolition and construction is 160 working days, because although the structure is short in length, it is a complex project. The contractor was ordered to begin work on January 9, 1976. The old bridge deck was of concrete supported on a wood structure and wood piling that had to be rebuilt in its entirety to modern State Highway Standards.

The first stage of construction consisted of the driving of the foundation piles. This work was not visible to one driving by the project. The new structure required a total of 240 concrete piles of up to 76 feet in length. All of the piling have been driven and progress will now be more evident.

The contractor has been working a double shift from May 3, 1976 to July 16, 1976 and will resume a double shift on July 26, 1976.

We have attached a News Release that includes more information.

Very truly yours,
Paul A. Wiatrak

PAUL A. WIATRAK, P. E.
City Engineer

HWP:dp
Attachment

Information	
Continued Prior to Signature	
HWC	AMT
DR	Ob
AEM	CA



UNIVERSITY VILLAGE MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION East 45th Street and 25th Avenue N.E., Seattle, Washington 98105 Phone: LA 3-0622

September 28, 1976

ROUTING	DATE	INITIAL
		ACTION
FILE	✓	
INFORMATION		
PAW		
AEH/DE		
EFE		

Mr. George Benson, Chr.
Transportation Committee
Seattle City Council
Seattle, Wa. 98104

Dear Mr. Benson:

This letter is to express our collective concern as merchants in the area over the delays in the opening of the viaduct. We continue to receive conflicting reports as to the completion date. Originally we had been promised that the viaduct would be completed prior to the first Husky football game. Then in a meeting with the Seattle Engineering Department, an October 4th opening date was set. Now we understand it will be late in October.

The closure of the viaduct has seriously hurt the business of many of our merchants cutting customer count in some stores up to 20 percent. With the University starting classes this week we are now missing our traditional back to school boom in business. These potential new customers are now establishing shopping patterns in other areas which will hurt our merchants for the entire year. We as merchants are now concerned about our upcoming Christmas business and would like to get the viaduct open under any circumstances.

In addition to the closure of the viaduct, we have been faced with the partial closure of the Montlake Bridge for painting and the rerouting of traffic along N.E. Pacific Street. This has left us with extremely limited access to the Village on the best of days and virtually no access on Husky football days.

We would also like to point out that a left turn lane and signal for traffic into the Village southbound off 25th N.E. is badly needed.

University Village represents 57 stores, most of them independently owned and employing approximately 900 people. The closure of the viaduct has had a severe economic impact on many of these stores and we ask your help to get this viaduct reopened as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Bronka Serebrin
Bronka Serebrin
President

SEP 28 10 50 AM '76
SEATTLE ENG DEPT 1

cc: Paul Kraabel
Tim Hill
Paul Wiatrak
Fred Evans



UNIVERSITY VILLAGE MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION East 45th Street and 25th Avenue N.E., Seattle, Washington 98105 Phone: LA 3-0622

The preceding letter is sent by resolution of the following merchants at
at their annual meeting held September 24, 1976

ALPINE HUT
ANDREWS HALLMARK
ANITA'S ANTIQUES
BERKMAN SHOES
BERNIES CAMERA
BON TON BAKERY
BRONKA
THE CHEESE SHOPPE
THE CHILDREN'S SHOP"
CROSBY-LOLA
DOWS HOBBY
ERNST HARDWARE
FIORINI SPORTS
DR. A.R. HAGEN
HAIR EMPHASIS
HUWILERS RESTAURANT
KAYS BOOKMARK
KENS SUBURBAN FURNITURE
KITCHEN & BATH SHOP
LA CANTINA
LAMONTS
LEE'S KEYS
MR. PEEPERS
NEW YORK BAGEL BOYS
O'CONNORS
ORTHOPEDIC CORNER CUPBOARD
ORPHEUS
PAY 'N SAVE
PINK GARTER
POTTERY & PLANT SHACK
PUGET SOUND MUTUAL SAVINGS BANK
QFC
QUEEN SIZE BOUTIQUE
RAINIER NATIONAL BANK
RAINBOW BOX FLORIST
SEATTLE TRUST & SAVINGS BANK
SHEAR PLEASURE
SINGER SEWING CO.
SOLBRO'S SHOE RENEW
SPORTSWEST
STANDARD OIL
STARBUCKS
JOHN STERN
STITCH 'N TIME
SANDWICH BOARD
TURBULENT TURTLE
UNIVERSITY VILLAGE NATURAL FOOD
UNIVERSITY FRAME
UNIVERSITY VILLAGE MUSIC

UP FRONT BOUTIQUE
VICTORIAN PARLOR
VILLAGE JEWELERS
VILLAGE CLEANING CENTER
WASHINGTON STATE LIQUOR STORE
WHERE TO GO TRAVEL
WOOLWORTH