

Tammy Rickman
First Student
1625 SE Hogan Rd
Gresham, OR 97080

To whom it may concern:

My name is Tammy Rickman. I am the Transportation Manager for First Student in Gresham, OR. First Student has served the Gresham community and has safely transported thousands of students from home to school and school to home every day for the Gresham Barlow school district for over 30 years.

We have serious safety concerns with the proposed construction of the water treatment facility at the far eastern edge of Carpenter Lane. We have attended several meetings with the Portland Water Bureau, which did not alleviate our concerns; these only intensified our concerns.

The safety and well-being of the Gresham Barlow School District students and the community we serve are at the forefront of everything we do.

We have compared our current school bus routes and the proposed construction road maps. We have identified hundreds of displaced students located down roads under construction or are impassable for considerably long periods. EVERY road where construction will take place is a road that we must travel to pick up/drop off students. The roads surrounding the residents and schools that students attend in GBSD's East County area are narrow two-lane roads that do not have sidewalks or safe spaces for students to walk. Most students must be picked up and dropped off directly in front of their homes. The streets that will be closed due to the proposed construction by PWB will make it impossible for students to access their bus stop locations safely.

Further, the impact of serving this community and ensuring that the students we transport are getting the required instructional time at their assigned schools will be in serious jeopardy, along with the traffic issues we will face should this project move forward. The problems that this construction will bring will continue after the initial construction of the facility is over. The traffic alone from the hundreds of trips for the large trucks coming in/out of this rural neighborhood every year will create serious safety issues for students and buses. I do not believe it will be a case of "If an accident happens" but "When an accident happens." Thank you.

Respectfully,

Tammy Rickman

