

Subject:Re: trying to reach you

Date:2022-11-21 12:42

From:Bill Walsh <bwalsh@>

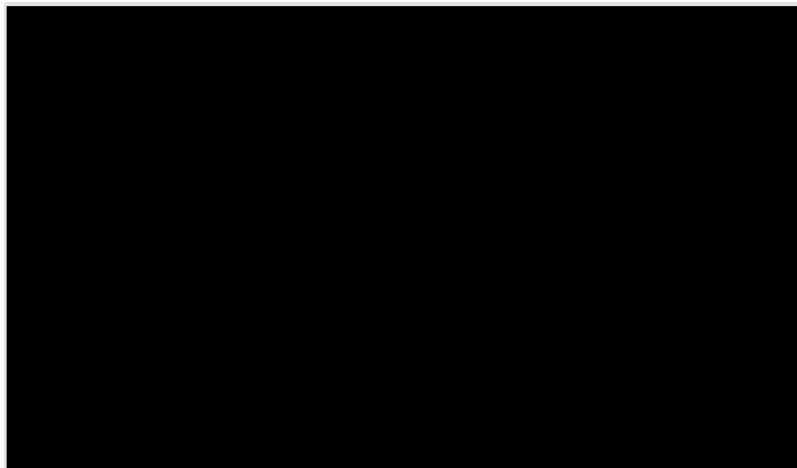
To:"mkaszuba@publicrecordmedia.org"
<mkaszuba@publicrecordmedia.org>

– I noticed that, in addition to being on the City Council, you work for the Center of the American Experiment. How much – if at all – did the organization encourage you in your efforts to get a vote in opposition to the Purple Line?

None. As a matter of fact, my opposition to Rush Line predates my time at American Experiment by several years. I started working at American Experiment in November 2020 and was elected to the Council in 2015.

– Did the Center of the American Experiment officially take a position on the Purple Line?

As a think tank, we don't really take "positions" on specific public policies or projects. We have written extensively over the years about the waste involved in transit projects. We award a Golden Turkey award for silly spending annually and several of the winners have been transportation projects. [Golden Turkey Award: Wasteful Spending in State Government](#)



**Golden Turkey Award: Wasteful
Spending in State Government**

The most bird-brained examples of waste in state government, the silly spending that invokes a facepalm for any ...

– What role, if any, did you have with the No Rush Coalition, the citizens group that opposed the project. How would you describe your relationship with them?

I attended several of their meetings and kept in close contact with them about actions the council was taking regarding the project. We coordinated a public meeting together where 200 people showed up, mostly opposed to Rush Line. I was proud to partner with them to defeat this proposal.

– Did you campaign for any newly-elected City Council members who opposed the Purple Line?

Yes – I publicly supported Dan Louismet and Heidi Hughes in the 2021 elections. I contributed financially to each of their campaigns and knocked on doors for Heidi and Dan. I also publicly supported the election of my colleague Steve Engstran in 2019, telling voters to support him because of his opposition to Rush Line.

– As you opposed the Purple Line on the City Council, were city officials generally aware of your work with the Center of the American Experiment?

It's hard for me to answer about how "aware" others were, but my sense is yes, my colleagues know where I work. It's not a secret.

Sent from my iPhone