

Levi Pennington

People

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Pennington to Dr. Ralph Van Valin, May 20, 1947

Levi T. Pennington

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May 20, 1947.

Dr. Ralph W. Van Valin,
Over Commercial Bank,
Newberg, Oregon.

Dear Friend:--

If I were doing it myself, which I'm definitely not, I'd do it somewhat like this which is enclosed.

Naturally there will be a number of things that may need to be changed. If you wish to confine the petition to those who are taxpayers in the city, which would leave out a number of church people and others who are definitely interested, it could read, "We, the undersigned, freeholders and taxpayers of the city of Newberg." If it were thought wise to avoid mention specifically of the two alternate routes, that could be omitted. And of course there are things that could be added if desired.

My guess is that if it could be learned that the matter would come up at the next council meeting, a lot of interested folks could be got there, to back up the petition. Whether I could be there or not is uncertain. I may be off on another Heifers-for-Relief trip at that time.

With the hope that the council will be willing at least to take the matter up for reconsideration, I am

Sincerely your friend,

Levi T. Pennington.

To the City Council of Newberg:

We whose names are hereunto subscribed respectfully petition you to reconsider the matter of the proposed routing of the Hillsboro-Woodburn Highway through Newberg on College Street. Our objections to the use of this street include the following, among others:

1. The College Street route would send this traffic across First Street at the busiest intersection in the city.
2. It would send this traffic down the street used by most of the students who attend both the Union High School and the Junior High, with additional peril to these students by the hundred that would not be involved if an alternate route were used.
3. It would send this traffic past three active churches, two of them among the largest in Newberg.
4. It would make it necessary for hundreds to cross this highway artery to reach schools, churches, business houses, places of amusement, etc., who would not have to cross it if an alternate route were selected.
5. The widening of College street that would be necessary would destroy many beautiful trees, would mar many lovely parkways, and would greatly decrease the value of much of the property abutting on this street.

Either of the alternate route, down Edwards Street or Meridian Street, seem to us to be free of these objections, and to have superior advantages to the route down College Street. Meridian Street is already paved for most of the distance the proposed highway would cover, and the use of that street with its 35 foot width would be a material saving of money, with all its other advantages.

In view of these and other considerations that could be urged, will you not reconsider the entire matter, and see if a better plan is not possible than the one thus far favored?

Respectfully yours,

Name

Address
