

Fwd: hotel linkage project

jdealaman <jdealaman@portlandmaine.gov>

Jul 10, 2018 2:58 PM

Posted in group: **Planning Board**

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From: **Mark Robinson** <markrobinson@maine.rr.com>

Date: Tue, Jul 10, 2018 at 2:43 PM

Subject: hotel linkage project

To: jlevine@portlandmaine.gov

Cc: jdealaman@portlandmaine.gov, dmkk@portlandmaine.gov

Good afternoon, Mr. Levine.

I am a communications consultant to several commercial real estate developers who have built successful projects in Portland, and I am aware that the Proposed Hotel Linkage Project will be discussed in a workshop at the end of tonight's meeting.

There has been sort of a scramble in the last few days as these companies have reached a consensus that they would like a little more time to pull together some alternative ideas to present to the Planning Board, perhaps in a subsequent workshop. (I believe the Portland Press Herald first publicized the \$5,000 per-room fee last Monday, July 2 — I think it's fair to say the news caught many off guard, although I know the Housing Committee has been studying the matter.)

Could you please alert the Planning Board tonight to your receipt of this email? I realize that I am light on details about which companies I am representing, and I don't have a specific ask for how much time exactly they are asking for, but I do assure you that this is a serious effort to present possible alternative. The challenge here is that this effort is in its infancy, launched a few days ago, just before the Fourth, by the Press Herald's article. I was alerted to this only this morning. If you could enter my note into the record, I'd be much obliged. If you would like to discuss over the phone, I can be reached at 207-332-3798.

Incidentally, one of the developers sent me a link this morning to a pertinent article. I think it's an interesting read:

<http://www.latimes.com/opinion/op-ed/la-oe-manville-monkonnen-linkage-fee-20170719-story.html>

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

— Mark Robinson

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