



CITY OF
PORTLAND, OREGON

**OFFICIAL
MINUTES**

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON WAS HELD THIS 29TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2001 AT 9:30 A.M.

THOSE PRESENT WERE: Mayor Katz, Presiding; Commissioners Francesconi, Hales, Saltzman and Sten, 5.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: Karla Moore-Love, Clerk of the Council; Ben Walters, Senior, Deputy City Attorney; and Officer Peter Hurley, Sergeant at Arms.

On a Y-5 roll call, the Consent Agenda was adopted.

<p>*1031 TIME CERTAIN: 10:00 AM - Amend Intergovernmental Agreement with Oregon Department of Transportation and City of Milwaukie to provide for the SE 32 Ave - SE 45th Ave Portland Section of SE Johnson Cr Blvd Project (Ordinance introduced by Commissioner Hales; amend Agreement No. 51030) (Y-5)</p>	<p>Disposition:</p> <p>175899</p>
<p>CONSENT AGENDA – NO DISCUSSION</p>	
<p>1032 Accept bid of Ron Tonkin Toyota to furnish thirty hybrid sedans for \$567,311 (Purchasing Report - Bid No. 100916) (Y-5)</p>	<p>ACCEPTED PREPARE CONTRACT</p>
<p>1033 Vacate a certain portion of SW Porter Street under certain conditions (Second Reading Agenda No. 983; Ordinance by Order of Council; C-9980) (Y-5)</p>	<p>175882</p>
<p>Mayor Vera Katz</p>	
<p>1034 Dissolve Hospital Facilities Authority of the City of Portland, Oregon (Resolution) (Y-5)</p>	<p>36020</p>
<p>*1035 Authorize Portland Police Bureau sworn law enforcement members to wear a badge commemorating the 150th anniversary of law enforcement services in the City of Portland (Ordinance) (Y-5)</p>	<p>175883</p>

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<p>*1036 Agreement between Multnomah County Sheriff's office, Gresham Police Department, Portland Public School Police, Troutdale Police Department and the City for the services of officers assigned to the Police Activities League/Community Oriented Policing Services grant (Ordinance) (Y-5)</p>	<p align="center">175884</p>
<p>*1037 Agreement to provide identification services to the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (Ordinance) (Y-5)</p>	<p align="center">175885</p>
<p>*1038 Authorize a contract with Worksystems, Inc. for work on the Outer Southeast Learning Center Project (Ordinance) (Y-5)</p>	<p align="center">175886</p>
<p>*1039 Amend agreement with Group Mackenzie to provide architectural and engineering services for design and construction of Fire Station 12 and provide for payment (Ordinance; amend Agreement No. 33187) (Y-5)</p>	<p align="center">175887</p>
<p>*1040 Contract with Swinerton Builders to build a new Fire Station 12 for \$1,643,161 and provide for payment (Ordinance) (Y-5)</p>	<p align="center">175888</p>
<p>Commissioner Jim Francesconi</p>	
<p>*1041 Renew contract with Multnomah County to provide City funds for Department of Community and Family Services Schools Uniting Neighborhood initiative (Ordinance) (Y-5)</p>	<p align="center">175889</p>
<p>*1042 Grant a revocable permit to Northwest Housing Alternatives, Inc. for construction of a pathway on Springwater Corridor, with conditions (Ordinance) (Y-5)</p>	<p align="center">175890</p>
<p>Commissioner Dan Saltzman</p>	
<p>*1043 Authorize acceptance of a grant from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board in the amount of \$60,927 for the Johnson Lake Revegetation project in the Columbia Slough (Ordinance) (Y-5)</p>	<p align="center">175891</p>
<p>*1044 Authorize the Office of Neighborhood Involvement to accept a grant from Multnomah County/Oregon Dispute Resolution Commission for Community Dispute Resolution Services funds in the amount of \$21,200 over a two-year period (Ordinance) (Y-5)</p>	<p align="center">175892</p>
<p>Commissioner Erik Sten</p>	

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<p>*1045 Agreement with Housing Authority of Portland for \$296,907 for the HOME Investment Partnership Program and provide for payment (Ordinance) (Y-5)</p>	<p>175893</p>
<p>*1046 Agreement with Peninsula Community Development Corporation for \$60,000 for the acquisition and rehabilitation of single-family homes and provide for payment (Ordinance) (Y-5)</p>	<p>175894</p>
<p>*1047 Agreement with Peninsula Community Development Corporation for \$61,396 for the Portsmouth Vision 20/20 Target Area Project and provide for payment (Ordinance) (Y-5)</p>	<p>175895</p>
<p>*1048 Agreement with Cascade AIDS Project for \$429,253 for the HIV/AIDS Housing Program and provide for payment (Ordinance) (Y-5)</p>	<p>175896</p>
<p>*1049 Agreement with Multnomah County Health Department for \$52,719 to administer the Lead Line as part of the Portland Lead Hazard Control Program and provide for payment (Ordinance) (Y-5)</p>	<p>175897</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">REGULAR AGENDA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Commissioner Jim Francesconi</p>	
<p>*1050 Authorize a lease agreement with Two Rivers Montessori School for use of Portland Parks and Recreation property known as Multnomah Art Center Annex (Ordinance) (Y-5)</p>	<p>175898</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Commissioner Dan Saltzman</p>	
<p>*1051 Approve the expenditure of General Fund dollars to implement the Willamette Bluffs Erosion and Sediment Control Plan resulting from the August 8th Willamette Bluffs fire and designate the Bureau of Environmental Services the lead coordinator (Ordinance) Continued to August 29, 2001, 2:00 p.m. Motion to accept amendment to refer to the repayment period of April 1st to say spring bump: Moved by Commissioner Saltzman and seconded by Commissioner Hales. (Y-5)</p>	<p>175900 AS AMENDED</p>

At 10:41 a.m., Council recessed.

August 29, 2001

A RECESSED MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON WAS HELD THIS 29TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2001 AT 2:00 P.M.

THOSE PRESENT WERE: Mayor Katz, Presiding; Commissioners Francesconi, Hales, Saltzman and Sten, 5.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: Karla Moore-Love, Clerk of the Council; Frank Hudson, Deputy City Attorney; and Officer Peter Hurley, Sergeant at Arms.

	Disposition:
1052 TIME CERTAIN: 2:00 PM – Adopt the Portland Development Commission Downtown Target Area Housing Implementation Strategy for Fiscal Years 2001-2006 (Resolution introduced by Mayor Katz)	REFERRED TO COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
REGULAR AGENDA	
1053 Adopt a No Net Loss policy for affordable housing in the Central City, and state Council intention to seek the financial resources and/or regulatory tools adequate for the creation, preservation and rehabilitation of affordable housing in the Central City and throughout the metropolitan Portland area (Resolution introduced by Commissioners Saltzman and Sten) (Y-5)	36021

At 3:07 p.m., Council recessed.

August 30, 2001

A RECESSED MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORTLAND, OREGON WAS HELD THIS 30TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2001 AT 2:00 P.M.

THOSE PRESENT WERE: Mayor Katz, Presiding; Commissioners Francesconi, Hales, Saltzman and Sten, 5.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: Karla Moore-Love, Clerk of the Council; Frank Hudson, Deputy City Attorney; and Officer Peter Hurley, Sergeant at Arms.

<p>1054 TIME CERTAIN: 2:00 PM – Declare City Council support to work with Dignity Village residents and its many supporters, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon and the community at large over the next 60 days to explore the creation of a Dignity Village pilot project to help address Portland’s growing homeless population (Resolution introduced by Mayor Katz and Commissioner Sten)</p> <p>(Y-4; N-1, Francesconi)</p>	<p>Disposition:</p> <p>36022</p>
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At 5:31 p.m., Council Adjourned.

GARY BLACKMER
Auditor of the City of Portland

By Karla Moore-Love
Clerk of the Council

For discussion of agenda items, please consult the following Closed Caption Transcript.

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Closed Caption Transcript of Portland City Council Meeting

This transcript was produced through the closed captioning process for the televised City Council broadcast.

Key: ***** means unidentified speaker.

AUGUST 29, 2001 9:30 PM

Katz: Good morning, everybody. The council will come to order. Karla, please call the roll.

Francesconi: Here. **Hales:** Here. **Saltzman:** Here. **Sten:** Here.

Katz: Present. And we are all here. That's a sign that some of -- that summer vacation is over and we are back now as a full council so welcome, everybody. I hope everybody had some good private time to get rejuvenated and ready to work for the next year. Consent agenda items. There's been a request to pull 1034. Any other items to be pulled by either the count or the public? Hearing none, we'll vote on consent agenda.

Francesconi: Aye. **Hales:** Aye. **Saltzman:** Aye. **Sten:** Aye.

Katz: Mayor votes aye. All right. 1034.

Item 1034.

Katz: Who wants to testify?

Robert Delf, Director, Medical Society of Metropolitan Portland: Good morning, mayor Katz, and members of the council. My name is Robert Delf and I am the executive director of the Society of Metropolitan in Portland. Yesterday the society prepared a letter, which I believe is before you regarding this matter, and let me share two paragraphs of that letter with you. I read with great interest and wish to comment on the agenda item 1034, which proposes to dissolve the hospital facilities authority of the city of Portland, Oregon. My primary interest in this action is the potential of the hospital facilities authority to have a positive impact on the mental health services in Multnomah county, including the city of Portland. My question is simple. If there's some approach whereby the city of Portland's hospital facilities authority might coordinate or collaborate with Multnomah county in order to provide, provide for or enhance psychiatric inpatient psychiatric facility and/or related facilities. We have demonstrated our community is facing some very difficult choices in unintended consequences with the closure of the crisis triage center, that the authority has a role to play, I believe we should pause and consider how this issue might be addressed using the powers vested in the hospital facilities' authority. Therefore I ask the council to consider tabling action on this resolution at this time until we can, perhaps, get a better handle on whether or not this hospital facility authority might come to bear on this other issue.

Katz: All right. Questions by the council? Ben?

*****: Madam mayor --

Katz: Ben and Ken, okay.

*****: Madam mayor --

Katz: Identify yourself.

Ben Walters, City Attorney's Office: Ben Walters with the city attorney's office. Harry Auerbach from our office worked on this particular item, and was unable to make it down this morning. He had a court appearance that he had to attend to. But, what he told me was that the housing -- I'm sorry, the hospital fund facilities authority serves as a funding conduit for existing entities who want to build or expand facilities and apparently, there have been no proposals made to the HFA by any such facilities to build or expand upon secure psychiatric facilities. There will continue to exist other hospital facility authorities in the region. There's a Multnomah county

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authority and there's a clackamas county authority and in fact, one of those authorities was responsible for stepping up and issuing bonds to cover the outstanding debt obligations of the Portland hfa, so that those -- that will continue to serve us, and those facilities -- those authorities will be able to provide bonding authority for any such hospitals, should an existing entity step forward and make a proposal to build or expand upon such a facility. But there is no need to continue the hfa, the Portland hfa in order to provide that service.

Katz: Before I ask the council for questions, ken, what did you want to say? Come on up.

Ken Russ, Bureau of Land Management: Ken russ with the bureau of land management. I've been responsible for -- my group has been responsible for administering the hospital facilities authority since I started with the city in 1993. As ben mentioned it, there hasn't been any financing and the only bonds outstanding have been recently refinanced by the clackamas authority, therefore there's no longer any outstanding debt of the authority. At one point in time, having the hfa, which is created under the state statute made sense for the city. However, in the not too recent past the state of Oregon actually expanded its own authority to do the hospital financing, so the health, housing, educational and cultural authority has exactly the same powers to finance the medical facilities as the hfa does so it really is a redundant kind of level of operation. For that reason, we have never wanted to expand or use the hfa authority to sell more bonds because there's a state entity that can do exactly the same thing. State bonds tend to sell better than conduit bonds issued by the city of Portland through an hfa, thought there was already a solution to whatever problem might emerge and as ben pointed out, in addition to the state authority, other hfases in the region, if they wanted to do a project in Portland, they have in the past, have the ability to do that with, with our hospital authorities consent, which has been given so it's a solution for a problem that we think makes sense for administrative reasons to eliminate it.

Katz: Let me ask a question because I received a somewhat thorough briefing of the mental health issues facing Multnomah county, in light of the fact that, that the Portland police bureau is still going to be involved in picking up the clients. There may be, as they are negotiating, may be the need to expand a facility, and so there is the ability to finance that, if that's something that, that's requested.

Russ: Absolutely. At least two or three ways in which that financing could be done without our hfa being the financing agent. Our financing agent simply does issue bonds. It has no revenue ability or authority, adds nothing that the other authorities can't do themselves and the state can't do itself.

Katz: And mr. Delf, if you are suggesting that other than the financing that this authority get involved in solving the crisis problem facing Multnomah county, i'm not sure that that's probably the best solution because the county commissioners and the staff are working on it and they need to move quickly.

Delf: We are well aware of that, mayor. I think our own point was that this is one more solution that can be brought to bear on this very important issue. But, there are other solutions which, in fact, are equal to or better than this one.

Katz: Good. Okay. Further questions? Thank you. All right. Anybody else want to testify on this? Roll call.

Francesconi: Aye. **Hales:** Aye. **Saltzman:** Aye. **Sten:** Aye.

Katz: The issues facing Multnomah county and the city of Portland are very real, and I want to make sure that the council members get a briefing as to what is happening today and what Multnomah county is looking at because it does impact the police resources if facilities are either going to be too crowded or not available for a period of time. Aye. All right. Time certain.

*****: That's at 10:00 a.m.

Katz: All right. Let's see what we have on the regular. Commissioner Francesconi, you have people -- I am sure -- you don't?

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Francesconi: No.

Katz: All right. Commissioner Saltzman, you may have people coming.

Saltzman: There is people here. We are ready to go.

Katz: I hate to take an item where you think people might show up because they see a 10:00 time certain. Let's take 1051 -- i'm sorry, 1050.

Item 1050.

Katz: Commissioner Francesconi.

Francesconi: We have done this before. Susan is here, if anybody wants any questions -- has any questions, but this is.

Annex. It has been there, already built, and we have a montessori school that does a terrific service and this is a good thing to support.

Katz: Anybody want to testify? Roll call.

Francesconi: Plus, we make some money on it, aye. **Hales:** Aye. **Saltzman:** Aye. **Sten:** Aye.

Katz: Mayor votes aye. All right, commissioner Saltzman told me that he did tell the citizens or anybody interested to be here at 9:30, so with that, with that knowledge, we'll proceed with 1051.

Montessori annex to annex the authority annex.

Item 1051.

Katz: So you want to go ahead and introduce --

Saltzman: Yes, thank you, ma'am mayor. What you have before you is a proposed -- sorry, what's the name of it? The control plan -- an emergency control erosion plan for the willamette bluffs. As we all know and as we noted last week here, the city did a tremendous job of taking care of the fire, put it go out. It was a great effort with the fire bureau and the citizens involved. Now, I think that we have before us an equally great effort on behalf of many city bureaus who have recognized the risk involved now with, with 37 acres of slope that essentially is barren of any vegetation and the rainy season being, perhaps, 30 days away, there's a tremendous risk of erosion, of erosion, and we need to move quickly to get an erosion control plan in place to be followed down the road for a later date, a more comprehensive revegetation plan but right now we are talking about taking an emergency action to deal with the immediate issue of soil stability and erosion control. The bureau of environmental services, watershed revegetation program, has taken the lead but has done this in full partnership with the parks bureau, Portland department of transportation, the office of planning and development review, and the fire bureau, and I believe that all these bureaus are in full support of this plan. Scott clemente will discuss the plan specifics for you but the action that I am requesting today, your support for, is, and I will be offering an amendment but, is to be, for the bureau of environmental services to step up to the plate and provide the, roughly, 280 to \$300,000 to do this immediate plan, which involves labor, materials, and maintenance of the soil cover through may of 2002. But, that we would also ask in this amendment that we be reimbursed no later than april 1st of 2002 from one of two sources. Ideally it would be from recovery from the potentially responsible parties but if not that, it would be reimbursed from the general fund. Because we believe this was an unforeseen emergency and is something that is, warrants a contingency appropriation so that is the request. As I said, I do have an amendment to offer that clarifies the funding request and repayment formula and I will offer that at the appropriate time but I thought that we would have scott just walk you through quickly what this soil control plan is.

Scott Clement, Bureau Environmental Services: Thank you. This morning, on the way to work I was involved in a slight accident. As I got on the train, I saw a gentleman sitting in a seat with a full cup of coffee, so I assessed my risk and took a seat a couple of rows away. Needless to say, a few stops later the gentleman got up, the train lurched. He stumbled and I was covered in coffee. [laughter]

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Clement: Fortunate for me I wore brown clothes so you can't see the stain. But the point that I am trying to make, is that we have got an opportunity to avoid an accident from occur can go on the willamette bluffs.

Katz: I was wondering why -- it was hard to get the connection. Thank you. [laughter]

Clement: Makes sense now. We do have an opportunity to go out and be proactive before we do have an accident. A little bit of background about the fire. As you know, the fire occurred wednesday evening, august 8th. I think you were just passed out a map, the same as this board here, and if you bear with me I will walk you through where the burns were. Again, it was about 37 acres. There was a piece of burn up by the open meadows school. There was a continuous piece from the condominiums, across the railroad line, down towards the university of Portland property, and there were two separate burn areas down below the bluffs of the university of Portland. The property that was involved with the burn is in both public and private ownership. It's approximately 50% each, and there are properties owned by the city of Portland, both by the bureau of environmental services and parks. And properties are maintained by the maintenance bureau. As a result of the fire, we are looking at slopes that are totally void of vegetative cover. They have been totally denuded. The slope, characteristics of the slope, it is steep to very steep. The slope ranges from 1.5 to 1, to three quarters to one. The soils can be called an unconsolidated alluvium. They are basically loose running sands. These two combinations lend to a great potential for some severe erosion problems if we do nothing. And these problems are going to impact the city's property and impact our staffs because of title 10, if there are problems, it comes back to the city. The plan, what we are proposing to do, is basically six major components of the seven erosion control plans that we are proposing and I would like to walk you through them, in a sequence that we propose that they would be installed. The first thing that we would do are the installation of the erosion control blankets, and you can see there are three locations, there's one there. There's another there, and a third right next to it. These are to be installed in locations where we have identified concentrated flows, having a chance of occurring. The concentrated flows could cause reeling to occur. A second feature of the plan are the pipe connections. There's a number of storm drains from the top of the slopes carrying water to the bottom of the slope. We would propose to connect those. In our estimates, there's a handful of those.

Saltzman: They were destroyed in the fire.

Clement: Yes, they were burnt up in the fire. Another tool that we would propose are the installation of what are called straw walls. And straw walls is basically a round tube of straw that's bound together fairly tight, could be different lengths, that would be installed along the side of van hutten road. They would collect sediments and traffic behind them. Another feature of the plan is a silk fence. That would be installed at the toe of the slope. We are looking at the location here, here, and then all along the toe slope through these areas. The next piece of this plan is seeding. The seeding would be applied in two different steps. It would be applied by hand on the slopes and then also be applied as part of the application of the final feature, the soil binder. The seed that we are proposing to do is a mixture of native grasses and flowers. It's the same mixture of flowers and grasses that we have used down on a site in oaks bottom. Similar slope characteristics. The seed has germinated great. It has covered the slope great. It's serving a function of both. Installing natives and erosion control. The last item and the most expensive item of the plan is the use of the soil binder. Now soil binder is a material that gets sprayed out over the slope, and the area of application is all the tan area, basically, all the steep slopes. The hydro seeding machine -- what it basically does is forms a crust over the soil. Forms a crust that's porous, nontoxic and biodegradable. It will protect the soil from impacts of grain and help prevent erosion. It basically binds the soils together. Our schedule, given that we have approval for this project, we propose to have the contracts bid for this work by the end of, of next week. We propose to have the go to proceed shortly thereafter and have the work complete by the first

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of October. The reason that we are trying to be as expeditious as possible is that we have a real window of opportunity. If we are unable to get the seed and these insulations in the ground, the seed has a chance to germinate and grow and enhance the soil binding capabilities of providing erosion control. The cost, the estimate that we have come up with for the implementation of these measures is \$288,000. That does include moneys to maintain and monitor these erosion control facilities through May 1st, 2002. Now, this past Monday we had a public meeting in North Portland that was very well attended. We had over 60 people, 60 residents that live in this area. Everyone I spoke to supported the plan and are looking forward to it. And also, when we first started developing this plan, the first thing we did is call a meeting. We had representatives from the office of planning development review, representatives from parks, from their natural resources. From transportation, from maintenance, from BES and from the fire bureau. Everyone involved in putting this plan together stands behind it, and although I am here by myself, I think if you asked them, they would support the plan. So in conclusion, I am requesting approval of ordinance 1051 --

Katz: We understand. Thank you.

Katz: Questions of the council? By the council?

Francesconi: I have some questions. First, this is a good plan. We appreciate BES stepping up. You are the appropriate one to do this, and most of what you said is very good. I have to say there is some split in parks, though. I have to tell you, so what you said isn't exactly accurate. Especially on the issue of cost. Which I am going to come to because I have had my own briefing, both I urban forestry and the natural area folks, but before I do. In the resolution, I don't know if this question is for you or for, for commissioner Saltzman. The cost recovery from responsible parties, does that include the private property owners?

Saltzman: Where are you looking at?

Katz: In the amendment. Ben, I guess --

Saltzman: It does not, it -- the private property owners are not the responsible parties for the fire. So, that's -- there are multiple parties who caused the fire.

Francesconi: So, but I guess what I am getting at is 50% of the bluff is not owned by the city. We have property down below, so there's a city interest in this, but what's our policy. Do we use improvements on private property, using public money for it? Before. Is this something that we do?

Clement: There is precedence in the bureau to do improvements on private property given we can meet the test of permanency. The test of permanency can be met by the zoning that precludes development from occurring. So, yes.

Francesconi: But here in this case, I mean, we are really benefiting them from, from better erosion control. And I guess, my request, given the pressures on the general fund which I am going to talk about in a minute, so if we are improving the erosion for private property owners, if we are improving the appearance, there needs to be at least a discussion with the insurance companies of the private property owners, as well as the private property owners about their responsibility. Has any of that happened?

Saltzman: We have had some discussions with legal council about the issue of, of private property, cost-sharing, and there are tentative discussions but the belief that a homeowner's insurance policy is more geared towards cost reimbursement for the second phase, which is the permanent revegetation plan. Where things like trees, shrubs and grasses are permanently planted on the slopes and on the property. And that's more apt to be where homeowners' insurance cost reimbursement would come through, as opposed to this, this particular aspect. So, we have sort of taken the position, given the urgency to do something, and we are going to be out there, you know, with the thing spraying 200 feet in the air, you know, rather than try to discriminate and not do the private property is because it all is an integral part of the bluffs, all one hillside. But we

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felt that there was a compelling need to move ahead, as long as we have the permission of the property owners to do this. And I guess, they got the money talking to several property owners about, about their insurance policies. They are getting a lot of different reads. There was one woman who set her insurance company seems very willing to work with them. Another one was saying how her insurance company seems to be sort of looking for all the loopholes as to why they are not responsible for covering the families from the fire, so cost reimbursement from insurance companies is possible. It's probably more likely to happen in the second phase of the permanent revegetation plan.

Francesconi: See, and what the council has to consider is that everything commissioner Saltzman just said about the insurance companies for the private property owners will be raised by the insurance company for the railroad. Every single thing. So, the idea that we are automatically getting reimbursed for improving the condition of the bluff, may be a faulty assumption. Who, who is going to be responsible for maintaining this?

Clement: Under the current proposal before you, we would be maintaining the erosion control improvements through may 1st, and something that I would like to add, if we do nothing, if we, as a city, do nothing right now, via title 10, we are going to be --

Francesconi: I am not suggesting that we do nothing. I am coming to that. But, so who -- the maintenance to the private property, do the private property owners know that they are going to have to maintain it?

Clement: Again, through may 1st, our proposal --

Francesconi: But after may 1st.

Clement: After may 1st, basically we are finished with the project and they would be responsible.

Francesconi: Okay. Now, on the issue of cost, and parks needs this, especially our parks naturalist needs to come forward, but, and they were part of this, and we do believe that your vegetation plan can work. But, they have some questions about cost. Did you consider some cheaper versions here? The reason that I am worried about this is I want to make sure that we have money for the firefighters to fight the future fires, okay. So, is there a way that you can do this cheaper?

Clement: We have done quite a bit of research into looking at different best management practices for erosion control. We believe what we have proposed is the best version for the cost, and it's the best solution for this particular situation. Again, the slopes mandate or dictate a use of some sort of soil binder. That's really the only tool that can work in erosion control, holding it in place until we have the vegetative cover again.

Saltzman: And I want to add this will be bid competitively, too, so to the extent that there is competition for this, we hope it will come in less expensive than we are anticipating.

Katz: And I would lower your contingency fee to 25% is awfully high.

Francesconi: I don't have any other questions, thank you.

Katz: Further questions? All right. Let's open it up to public testimony. Anybody here want to testify on this item?

Francesconi: If it's all right, I would like parks and mark wilson to come on up.

Katz: Okay. Come on up.

Katz: And introduce yourself.

Mark Wilson, Portland Parks Natural Resource Program: Mark wilson, ecologist with Portland parks natural resource program. We manage forest park, oaks bottom and 7500 acres.

Francesconi: What will help, if you did what you just did with me this morning. If you could very, very briefly tell us your -- what makes you so qualified to render an opinion here.

Wilson: I've been with the parks program for eight months. Prior to that, for the previous 16 years, I was a private consultant, specializing in erosion control and grassland restoration. I have

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done extensive work with the city of eugene, the forest service, blm, city of Portland, and metro. And on all those projects, I have really been the specialist for the application and the seeding of native grasses and nonnative grasses in some cases.

Francesconi: And maybe just a couple of questions. First let's start with why don't you support, show all the good reasons why we should do this project, supporting commissioner Saltzman, supporting bes.

Wilson: I think we have got a credible opportunity here, given the intensity of the fire, in many cases, in many, the majority of the locations on the bluff, itself, the nonnative vegetation, which contributed many, say, to the intensity confident fire. Was completely destroyed. Along with the, the seed bank of, of scotch broom and himalaya blackberry, et cetera. Although this project is focusing on the erosion control of the slope, I think that we can also, by using native grasses and native wild flowers put in place a more permanent solution. That is, we have the opportunity now to, to do things not only control erosion, most importantly but we have the ability, I think, to put things in place in a more permanent vegetation scheme. That permanent vegetation scheme has not been worked out. I anticipate that this is something that we should probably talk about over the winter, and into the spring. You know, and I think whatever, whatever scheme, of course, is proposed would be in full consultation with the fire bureau and have to receive their, their blessing and their concurrence. Again, my expertise is in grasslands. I think that the team that has been pulled into place and I initially got a call both from ante curtis at bureau of environmental services. We work in close conjunction with the natural resource program works with the watershed revegetation program extensively on the natural areas and got a call from the fire bureau asking me to participate in the initial discussions about what we should do.

Francesconi: Okay. Now, just one, the team, it was nobody's fault but urban forestry was left off the team. And it's not as critical on this first phase, but it's very important on the second phase when we are talking about the kind of trees, et cetera I now put them on the team, and everybody agrees so there's some further questions. By the way, there's no plan to pay for that, either, is there?

Clement: Correct. The current plan does not include restoration plan for the bluffs.

Francesconi: But we are talking about significantly more money than this expenditure?

Clement: Yes. A full restoration plan can be upwards of 10,000 an acre.

Francesconi: And how many acres are we talking about?

Clement: For the burn, it's 33 acres.

Francesconi: Okay. Have you brought up with the property owners that there could be a different arrangement for paying for that?

Clement: For the restoration?

Francesconi: Yeah.

Clement: We have mentioned that there is no funding source for that right now. That funding for that plan would most likely have to come through public, private partnerships or the successful obtaining grants.

Francesconi: Are you going to ask the general fund for that?

Clement: No, I am not planning on asking the general fund for that, no.

Francesconi: Sir, back to you, mark --

Katz: That's a good answer. [laughter]

Francesconi: Back to you. It's this question of cost, and I don't know how much you participated before and I know I may be putting you in an awkward position because you were part of a prior, can we do this cheaper?

Wilson: I think we can, commissioner. I, actually, when we met earlier in your office I suggested how we might be able to do that. I, as you also suggest, have not had a chance to really fully

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consult the other team members on the project, but I think, I think that they would concur that we could do this cheaper.

Francesconi: And do you have any idea as to how much cheaper?

Wilson: At this point, without looking at the, at the figures, I don't. I think we could -- I think we could reduce it, certainly, by using a less rich species list of what we are proposing to put out there. We currently have specified 25 species. I think we might be able to reduce that to a dozen species. I don't think it would be advisable to scrimp on the erosion control, the sediment fence, the straw walls and the soil binder. I think those are critical elements to get this project to, to success.

Francesconi: I trust your judgment. So, I don't know exactly -- I am done with questions, but what I would suggest is, and I don't -- we need to, to try to do this cheaper, number one. Number two, we need to extend the time to repay the debt to the sewer fund. Those are the two things. And number three, we have to have another discussion with the property owners, about their role in this. And so, I don't -- I have strong feelings about all three of those things. Now, how we proceed at the moment, I'm not sure.

Saltzman: Well, I'd like to respond to those concerns. I guess I would -- yeah, if we can do it cheaper, you know, this is -- not to exceed amount, but I don't think, you know, to sort of have cross-examination at the 11th hour to figure out how cheaper it could be done.

Francesconi: If I had been consulted a little sooner.

Saltzman: Well, everybody bureau has been involved, including both your bureaus so like I said, I don't think the 11th hour cross-examination is the way to figure out how to do it cheaper.

Secondly the bureau needs to be paid back no later than April 1st for two reasons. First, as we prepare a rate ordinance that starts July 1st, as you know due to the issues around the billing system we are cutting our budget an additional 5%, beyond what was approved in this fiscal here budget so we need to maintain two things. We need to know first of all, how much money we will have to ask for in a rate increase so if we have this money repaid to us, we will know. That's money we won't have to recover to increase the rates. Secondly, our capital program right now is severely constrained and we are required by bond covenants to retain a certain amount of debt service coverage, and this money helps maintain that debt service coverage level. And that's, that's very important criterion that the bond agencies and others hold us to and we don't have a choice. So those are the two reasons we need to have it by April 1st. Secondly, you know, further conversation with the property owners, I think, as I said, from the consultations with legal council, it is the second phase, which nobody knows where the money is going to come from yet.

Or how it is going to be done but that's much more likely place where home insurance policies are going to be eligible to be tapped for cost recovery. I think, you know, at this point, to have further discussions with citizens, further discussions about, you know, repayment schedules and things like that, is going to miss a window of opportunity to deal with the issue at hand and the issue at hand is, it's going to start raining soon, at least we hope it is going to, and when it does, we have the potential here for tremendous loss of soil. And that's a bad thing. And it's, it's something that I think that we need to take care of our own property and these homeowners, who are at risk here. And because there's an immediate, I mean, this is being brought forward as a contingency, an expense, an unforeseen expenditure, and I realize this doing some research, I was rather shocked to find out the city council has no policies or language about what is a contingency to be used for. But, through past practice, it's to be used for unforeseen emergencies. And I believe that this constitutes an unforeseen emergency. And is, therefore, eligible for reimbursement by the general fund and it's not -- should not be perceived to be the obligation of the bureau of environmental services, watershed revegetation program. We stepped forward to take the lead because we believe that we have substantial expertise in this type of work, and we know who the contractors are, and we can feel that we can mobilize them quickly, and I think that

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we have some surplus seed on hand, as well. But, it's not the watershed revegetation program. It's not part of our, you know, what we do with ratepayer money.

Francesconi: And here's, just my quick response. Last week, as I think I pointed out last week, we gave a million dollars to pdc for a housing project, and we gave them five years to repay it. Here, we are talking about water quality and we are going to give the general fund that supports police, fire, and parks, six months to repay it at a time that we have to cut the general fund by \$4 million. That's a problem. So, what I would propose is that we, and the other factor is, we are not getting any money back from anybody in six months because it takes too long. You can't do this in six months. This is not possible. So, what I would propose is that we, we set a lower amount than \$300,000, although I wish you had some time to look it over. I don't want to be arbitrary on the amount, and that we give you -- that you give us a year and a half to repay so that we can proceed with, with the bluff right now. See, I am trying to -- I agree with you. We need to do something on the bluff. It is a chance for an environmental program but what we are doing now is off your budgeting -- off-year budgeting when we are not trading off the firefighters, police or parks program that we will have to eliminate to fund this bluff, 50% of which is private property.

Saltzman: Again, like I said I would be opposed to the extended repayment, the loan to pdc last week is somewhat different and it was a commitment made back in february, before the bureau of environmental services has entered a state of financial duress. It was delivering on a commitment that we had made. I believe right now, given the financial duress we are under that we need to be assured of this money before we present a rate ordinance, and to maintain our bond service debt coverage. Now, we can always postpone this plan and wait until we get the money from the responsible parties but I think that's doing a disservice to the city and to the residents of the city but if we are -- but if you are going to force us on a budget that's not realistic, that remains the alternative. We can't do it -- can't just arbitrarily get \$100,000 and do it for that amount if that's not what the budget amount shows it can be done for.

Katz: Okay. I have sat here and listened enough of this. I was the one that recommended that we don't tap into the general fund immediately. Commissioner Saltzman agreed. I did not have the discussion with office of finance, administration on the timing of repayment and the relationship to the rate, the rate bill from bes, and I am very sensitive about the fact that they are also going to have to reduce their funds. I am a lot sensitive about the possible disagreement or, or maybe not working as well together on the cost issue. Because, if we can get the costs down, that certainly would help this conversation. And my, my gut tells me right now, I don't want to delay it. But, i'd like a little bit of time this afternoon, if we have time, or later this morning, to sit down with all of you and with umph, and deal with the timing issue with regard to the issue commissioner Saltzman raised, how real that is and what other factors play into it, and I certainly would like parks and bes to look at the numbers and come to some agreement. I mean, this is -- and let me just say, this is because of our form of government, that we have to work a little bit harder in making sure that there are -- there's this kind of communication between the two bureaus, and I think that you have worked very well in the past together and I think that we can get to closure very quickly, and I need to hear from, from the office of finance and management, if that particular deadline really is critical to the, to the rate structure -- the rate structure.

*****: Just to --

Katz: I don't know that right now.

Francesconi: So are we saying that we are not going to deal with this?

Katz: No, we can bring this back this afternoon.

Saltzman: I thought we weren't meeting this afternoon.

Katz: Yes, we are. We have two items. We have to meet. We are going to meet at -- i'd like to meet right after this because we have a very short agenda.

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Clement: Mayor Katz, the total cost for the seed as proposed is \$38,000. So, if we are looking at doing a reduction of species from 25 species to 12 or so species, at the most, the maximum we would be looking at would be a potential cost savings of \$25 20,000 and it might not be that because we are also looking at an application rate of seed to make sure that we get the coverage to assist the erosion control measures, to enhance them and make sure that we don't have erosion so there might not be any cost reduction at all, just a change of species to fewer, but higher application rates.

Katz: That's fine. I want to make sure that parks is at the table, and both commissioner Saltzman and commissioner Francesconi are there. I won't be there because then it's a quorum but I would like --

Francesconi: I don't need to be there.

Saltzman: I don't need to be there, either.

Katz: All right, fine. [laughter]

Katz: There goes -- what I tell you all the time, if it doesn't work it always lands on my lap.

Saltzman: I'm not clear what the objectives are here. Other than the sort of, you know, say we can do it cheaper when we have, you know, you have got a budget that outlines it, how we believe it can be done and we have a pretty good track record of this.

Katz: I am trying to facilitate a solution that, where everybody is in agreement and feels comfortable with that, and I'd like to do it today. And if it takes another half an hour, so be it.

*******:** Thank you.

Katz: The rest of the council support that attempt? Okay. Once more. We will return this, this item will come back to us and we will take it the first thing at 2:00. Okay. Gentlemen, don't go anywhere. You might want to talk about it right now, so --

Saltzman: We have people that want to testify, too.

Katz: Oh, we have people to testify, all right. Sorry. Why don't you go in a room or somewhere in the hall or sit down and work through that so that when we come back and whoever else -- and Tommy, could you get Mike Murray or somebody from office of finance and management or, on the rate, the timing of the payback issue and how it ties in with the rate bill and get them to come down, as well, after, after the, we finish with the morning here. All right. Let's have citizens come and testify.

Katz: How many citizens are going to testify? Okay.

Phyllis Reynolds, Member, Urban Forestry Commission: Phyllis Reynolds, and I will be very brief. I think that Mr. Wilson suggested there are cheaper ways of dealing with the grass. I have seen the list of plants that are to go on the slope and they are impressive. And I am suggesting a grass called rye grass, which would hold the slope as a band-aid. And all I want to say is in the long run I am a member of the urban forestry commission, and I think that forestry and the commission should be involved with what's going to hold the, to hold the slope in the long run, the trees and shrubs, and I am a little disturbed that we aren't going to partner with forestry.

Francesconi: No, that's not -- we have worked through that. But thanks.

Cathy Crawford, Chair, Park Neighborhood Association: I am Cathy Crawford, 512197203. I am the chair of the park neighborhood association, and I felt that we needed to get together. It would be a lot easier than people spreading rumors and things like that. People were very impressed with the way the program was presented. There were some people who said that their insurance company was thinking about assisting them. Most of the people felt that their insurance company was not going to help them with this. When you realize -- the insurance doesn't cover everything. That this is really a burden for people who, who may not be able to repay something like this. The program seems to be, and they felt, I think they felt really happy that, that the, the city was working together to help them with this sort of thing. I do believe that they are quite aware that the following replanting in order to have, to meet the title 10, that that is going to be

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their problem. You know. One of the big things, and I had never seen the bluff denuded. I knew it was steep. But, my goodness, it really is steep. And would you work on something like that, you have to have somebody in a harness, you know, so it's very expensive to put in plants or to redo piping or something like that, when people are aware of that. People who have called and talked to me, were aware of that. But people just want to not be, you know, on national tv, as their houses are tilting down the slope. And I really don't want to lose that part of my neighborhood association, either. But, it's -- it is a very serious problem for these, for people, and I do know that not everybody who lives along the boulevard is capable at this time in their life of, of replacing everything by themselves. And the city has more power than individual people going together and calling, calling in attorneys, even if they all went together. The railroads are pretty powerful, and I feel that the city should assist people at this time.

Katz: Thank you. Go ahead, sir.

Alan Gustafson: Yes. Alan Gustafson, 6130 north willamette lane. I am right above the city's sediment deposits so we are kind of neighbors, in that respect. But, I attended a meeting monday night and I was really impressed with the city and their employees conducting the meeting, and I was real happy to hear what they were saying, but my concern and everybody else's is the time frame that we have just a short window here, and we have to do everything that we can to get something growing there and with luck and favorable conditions, it will work, and I think later on, we can figure out how to pay for this, but nobody planned the fire to happen and this is an emergency and I understand that we have emergency funds, and, of course, I am not that familiar, you know, how the financing, the paying back works, but I know if I would have started the fire, it was my accident, that I created some problem there, that they would be right after me, and I would be liable, right? I mean, I think that the liable person, I think hopefully everybody hopes in the long run that we all know who started this fire, and they will eventually pay for it because I know if I started the fire, even though it was an accident, that they would be after me, there was an article in the paper yesterday where they started the forest fire and they were after the camper. What's different in that than going after the railroads? Thank you.

Katz: Thank you. All right.

Carole Smith, Executive Director, Open Meadow Alternative School: I am carol smith, executive director the open meadow alternative schools and andrew mason from open meadows alternative schools, 7654 north crawford. You guys know us already, it is overlooking the river and our hillside up to within 30 feet of the river was burned and completely bare and first a note of gratitude to the firefighters and community members who came out and literally saved our school so, thank you. And just we appreciate the best stepping up to the plate to do a coordinated response to this. And are here to support that. Although, I don't know what incarnation it will take here. We are, as a nonprofit, it's tough for us to generate resources quickly enough to respond, in this situation, it demands an immediate response so, partly of our concern is being able to do something quickly and in a coordinated fashion so that we are all together along that bluff to do something to prevent further damage, so that's really what our investment is in. We did talk to our insurance company. It's looking minimal at what kind of money they are going to come through with in terms of, you know, nonproperty damage, but landscape and fencing and those are the kinds and reforestation. However, we would participate along with the city or whatever bureaus are involved in doing this, in seeking additional grant funding or seeking to recover money from the railroad or whatever efforts go on, we just will say that we are a partner in that effort with you, and our interest is really in immediacy of response. And I would like to turn this over to andrew mason who directs our program, starting with the environment program, which involves kids in the restoration of the environment here in the city of Portland, all over the city of Portland for the last seven years. Who can speak more to the critical need for immediate response.

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*****: I just, from the perspective --

Katz: Identify yourself for the record.

Andrew Mason, Open Meadows Alternative School: Andrew mason, open meadows alternative schools, 7654 north crawford and I just wanted to speak to the emergent nature of what's happening. Looking at the hillside that has been a motto of culture for I don't know how long. But, over the last seven years we worked in partnership with parks, with bes, with metro on doing mostly riparian restoration. And mostly in the columbia slough, although we have been at johnson creek and we are recognized with the blue heron award for the work that we have been doing. I also think based on the number that we have been doing a figure of \$10,000 an acre, maybe low for the long-term vision and I am concerned about that in terms of the focus of our school and organization and that's based on the projects that we have done throughout the city when I think about, you know, two acres of property and the trees that will need to go in there but I think that's the long-term project. I want to say that I am in full support of what, of the plan that bes proposed there. It's not the kind of thing that we can get our students involved in for the reasons of safety that was just addressed. And it's really -- what I appreciate is that I also think that the short-term plan of decreasing sediment that's going to go into the willamette cove open space that was recently bought by metro and being managed by parks, our students have been working down there and I feel like this is consistent. That the short-term plan is consistent with the long-term vision and that's something that we have worked for, coordinating the project at that spot for four out of the last five years so it's something that we feel very, very strongly about. And I look at this not just as the immediate response, but the immediate response will make possible the long-term opportunity of really turning into what's, you know, two acres, immediately adjacent to that open space, into becoming a nice area that will have increased biodiversity, habitat, and ultimately bank stabilization, which currently the bank isn't that stable and without a quick response now we are not going to be able to get the bank stabilized to have the biodiversity there because it will just be black berries and while they are delicious in august, the long-term vision needs to be consistent with what the rest of the bureaus are looking for there.

Smith: The blackberries have respouted and coming back and flourishing all right, which is kind of amazing.

Gustafson: The one piece that I would add is we are aware of the management nature of what's going to happen after may 1st and again, that's where I appreciate the vision, what bes is up to in terms of the revegetation program because I understand that the native grasses really are going to be taken care of themselves and so that aspect, I want to say that we are happy with.

Katz: Thank you. Karla? Anybody else want to testify? Who did not sign up? Okay. Let's move on. We may be able to even -- well, we will bring this back at 2:00. Let's move onto item - - thank you, everybody. Let me -- for those who came here for that item, I guarantee you there will be a vote today. We are not going to delay it any further. It's, it's so, some technical question that I need to feel satisfied and everybody else needs to agree, whether it can be done a little less expensively or not, so don't worry about it. We are going to vote on it today. All right.

Item 1031.

Item 1031.

Hales: This project, mayor, and council has a long history, but also fortunately a long history of cooperation between Portland and milwaukie and odot and metro, so we have a panel here consisting of the milwaukie mayor, the metro counselor, and our city engineer, to explain the agreement, and what's next.

Katz: Okay. Who wants to start?

Brant Williams, Office of Transportation: I will start off. Brant williams with the office of transportation. The ordinance before you is to amend the intergovernmental agreement between

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odot, the city of Portland, and the city of milwaukie, to increase federal funding for the right-of-way acquisition and construction of the southeast johnson creek boulevard project. The amount of funds we are talking about is about \$1.1 million and those funds have been programmed with metro and both the city of milwaukie and the city of Portland do have the matching funds for, for these federal dollars. Even with this agreement, the project, unfortunately, does have a short-fall, and if you will recall, the council recently approved the request to metro for our priorities for the next round of federal funds, and as part of that request, we asked for \$800,000 for, for this next round of federal funds, for the johnson creek boulevard project. So, we hope that that does happen, so that we can move forward with this project. But today, we are just talking about the \$1.12 to move forward with right away, acquisition, in the first part of the construction. A little bit of history. This project was originally approved as a joint project between the city of milwaukie and the city of Portland back in 1995. We are currently working on now the third and final phase of the project. There are a number of significant issues that are still out there, associated with the width of the street improvements, as well as the alignment of the street, itself, through this third phase segment. Both of these two issues do have some significant impacts on the actual right-of-way acquisition. The street trees, trees that are, that would be removed. Landscaping that would be removed, and adjacent environmental zone in the area. We have worked with the city of milwaukie to try to narrow down the street as much as possible. We have taken a number of steps, which we typically don't do with some of our projects to try to narrow it, and that includes eliminating all onstreet parking on this neighborhood street. We have also eliminated the planning strips on both sides which is the area between the sidewalk and the street. And we have looked at -- we have, actually, narrowed down the typical lane widths and sidewalk widths on the north side for the project. So, basically we are providing a very narrow street, unfortunately, it still does have impacts to either right-of-way acquisition, environmental zones, and the existing landscaping that's out there. These are current, or typical problems that we do have to deal with, when we are trying to make urban street improvements and areas such as this. Mayor jim bernard is here to talk about the project from the city of milwaukie's perspective. If you have any questions of me, I can answer them now or if not, I will turn it over to mayor bernard.

Katz: Let's turn it over to mayor. Why don't you move the mike closer to you?

James Bernard: Thank you. The city of milwaukie, I guess I should introduce myself. James bernard, 12255 southeast 41st court, milwaukie. And I am the mayor and for the last four months. I came on this project when it was on our consent agenda and was asked by the neighborhoods to pull it, so I pulled it and studied it a little bit and since then I have met with the neighborhoods, came up with basically a plan to address the situation, and they all realize this work needs to be done but if you haven't driven johnson creek boulevard, you should because it is surrounded by trees. It's a fairly beautiful street that now has a whole lot of traffic, 7,000 back in '98, and 13,000 today. So, this is no longer a neighborhood that it used to be or what it could be so we are just asking that you read what I have handed you, look at some of the exhibits and consider the sidewalk width, the trees, leaving in the curves so that, that neighbors still has the same appeal it does today. And also, that the clackamas county is considering widening johnson creek boulevard from 82nd to johnson creek to five lanes, and again, if you have been there, you will see that that just creates a huge bottleneck in the johnson creek boulevard neighborhood.

Katz: Who is recommending that?

Bernard: Clackamas county is looking at doing that, a project that we don't support. To johnson creek boulevard, but certainly, to, perhaps, bell avenue. It's just a terrible area. Johnson creek, we would like to include in this project some traffic calming, perhaps speed reduction, and the city of milwaukie intends to reduce this road to a collector. I think you call it something else, but and once we get it, we will be able to do a lot of traffic mitigation. A couple of the exhibits I have

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here have to do with the sidewalk widths and one which is not recommended but it is accepted is one that we would like you to consider. This one shows up to a building but we just think that if you address the sidewalk issue, it definitely has some grave effects on some people. Homes where the sidewalk would be actually right, right within feet of their windows. And then the road width and the e-zone areas. And I think that the city of Portland has already started to look at some of these and have addressed the sidewalks and we're on our way to a good project here. And I want your support that this stays on the list and that this not be dropped and we do have, by the way, \$800,000 in the ground in sewage and storm drainage ready to be hooked up and until this project is done, we have neighbors that have flooded basements, so we are really concerned that that \$800,000 be a worthwhile investment.

Katz: Let me ask you a question with regard to the issue that you described. Is, is it possible that you will be condemning some of this property? Or you hope to resolve this so you don't have to do that?

Bernard: I don't think that we have any choice but to condemn some of this property because of the e-zone issues and the steepness of the side of the road. We just don't -- we want to keep it from going too far. So, yes, we would have to condemn some property.

Katz: All right.

*****: I have a question.

Bill Atherton, Metro Councilor: Madam mayor and members of the council, metro counselor, I am on northeast grand avenue. This is my first time.

Katz: Welcome, both of you, welcome.

Atherton: Again, it's an aficionado of restoring old buildings I am delighted. It's wonderful. I want to let you know that I am going to support the johnson creek boulevard and process, and I think that we are at a balance right now, it is balanced and any upset of that will ripple through the whole process. I know there is many other worthwhile projects and places in the region that we would like to be able to do some things, and including out in pleasant valley but in that area, I think that that's a classic test case where we need to settle big picture issues before we start proceeding with, on the ground development. And many of those big picture issues, including funding schemes, have not been resolved, so I look forward to your support and appreciate being here today. Thank you.

Katz: Thank you. Questions?

Saltzman: A question for the mayor, first of all, are you recommending -- I noticed you had a map here, and there is some crossed out widths, like the sidewalk and the bike lane going from 5 feet to 4 feet 6 inches. Is that your recommendation or --

Bernard: Well, I am just bringing this forward as the neighborhood's recommendation. These are minimums, basically.

Saltzman: And a question for grant, are there bike lanes on the north side in this project?

Williams: Yes. There's a bike lane on the north side to go westbound and a bike lane on the south side.

Saltzman: Okay. Great, thanks.

Hales: So the sidewalk width issues are -- that issue is one that you are prepared to continue to work on?

Williams: That's correct. We actually have, actually have looked at narrowing down the north side for 5.5 feet. The concern that we have on the south side is we have utility poles and that's another place where we are having to compromise by putting the utility poles in the sidewalk, which we don't like to do, of course. But given the tight nature of this area, we are going to put them in the sidewalks and we would like to maintain a 6.5 inch sidewalk with the utility poles so that the effective width is really more like 4 or 4.5 feet.

Hales: Okay.

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Katz: Thank you, gentlemen. Thank you for coming here this morning. Anybody else want to testify? Karla?

Moore: I don't have anybody signed up.

Katz: Okay. Roll call.

Francesconi: Mayor, you are a worthy ally in our efforts to have transportation quarters work for neighborhoods, so it's great to have you here. Aye.

Hales: Well, this is just one of a number of case where is milwaukie and Portland are working well together on big picture issues like what we are going to do in the south corridor and whether we can get light rail to milwaukie and other transit improvements that serve their goals. I think that the big change that's happened in milwaukie, I think, in the last couple years is not just that they are willing to reconsider light rail, but that they and Portland are really understanding these transportation projects as subservient to the goal of great neighborhoods, and I think, and mayor bernard and his council really are clear about that, and that's why I am confident that we are going to be able to work out these engineering issues, because the philosophy between your city and ours about neighborhoods first, engineering, subservient to neighborhoods, we are both, you know, clear about that. So, we are willing to modify the rule book. We are willing to change the technical standards, willing to push and shove and adjust in order to make the project work best for the people that actually live there, rather than just the people that are driving through there. I think with that, with that shared philosophy and good staff work we will get to a yes on these issues. Thanks for your good partnership, aye.

Saltzman: I appreciate the work between the city of milwaukie and city of Portland, and I also know that many Portland citizens who lived along johnson creek boulevard sort of spoke for the milwaukie city of Portland and raised a lot of the concerns, and they were heard by us, and heard by you, heard by you first, I think, perhaps and then relayed to us, but I am glad they seem to be working themselves out. Aye.

Sten: Sounds great. Aye.

Katz: Mayor votes aye. Thank you everybody, and we stand adjourned until 2:00.

At 10:41 a.m., Council recessed.

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Francesconi: Here. **Hales:** Here. **Saltzman:** Here. **Sten:** Here.

Katz: Present. Let me just make an announcement. We have to deal with one item that was still hanging over from this morning. It's going to take a couple of seconds. And then I just want to let everybody know it's my intention to pull -- refer back to my office 1052. I had a conversation with commissioner Sten. He and I have not had an opportunity to go over that particular strategy, and I'll bring it back at the appropriate time, but it isn't going to be today. All right. Let's take 1051.

Item No. 1051 (continued).

Katz: We sort of had an interesting conversations, and not in violation of a public meeting law. And we went over two of the issues that were discussed this morning, and let me report on one, and then I will turn to either commissioner Saltzman or commissioner Francesconi on the other. Maury and the water bureau discussed -- I'm sorry, bes, discussed the issue of repayment and we all made a decision that, that it really doesn't make much difference and that we might as well do it in april and take care of their financial situation. As long as it doesn't harm our legal actions and I don't think -- I don't think it will. So, that issue was decided. Now, in terms of the cost of reseeding and replanting.

Saltzman: There was a meeting on the cost of reseed and go planning. I think we have agreement now, and in fact, scott, brian, and mark, do you have to have anything to add? I think there is agreement that the cost estimates are reasonable and we all hoped, we hope the bids will come in less, that the budget is a reasonable budget.

Katz: Okay. Mark, do you want to come up?

Mark Murray, Financial Planning: Mark murray, financial planning. Just one, perhaps, request on our part, and in agreement with bes it might make it easier for council in dealing with this technically in the spring. Right now, I believe it's going to be april, but we were going to suggest that maybe you could just direct us to make sure it takes place in the spring. That still insures it takes place within this fiscal year, and then it would be in the full context of the fiscal decisions you make at that time rather than -- head so you said.

Katz: That's a good idea. Okay. Roll call.

Saltzman: I have to formally amend the original resolution --

Katz: That's right. We had an amendment.

Saltzman: I guess we have to amend that now -- do you want to say that formally spring bump, as opposed to april 1st.

Murray: We would prefer that, in talking with dave gooley. He's still comfortable with that because it does insure it takes place in this fiscal year. Is that all right, david?

Katz: Yes.

Saltzman: My amendment refers to the repayment period of april 1st and I would be happy to further amend that to say, spring bump--

Katz: Okay. Do I hear a second?

Hales: Second.

Katz: Roll call. Any objections? Hearing none so ordered. Roll call.

Francesconi: Council, humor me for just one minute, obviously, if you don't know what I am talking about, just bear with me. A personal confession. Before I took this job, I would assume I always had money in my bank account and I would not make choices and I would just go to the

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bank and there would always be money there. And it was terrific. Since taking this job, which I am very fortunate, compared to most of our citizens, even with this job, I went to the bank once, and there was no money in the bank and it was a big surprise to me. Folks, we don't have if I more money in the general fund bank account. We are down \$4 million. So, we have to make some difficult choices. Now I am going to support this resolution -- this ordinance because the bank needs to be replanted. And we need to do it before the rainy seasons, and I am also supporting it because of the pressure on the rates, on bes and you know, not bes, but the ratepayers. And because we couldn't come up with another alternative, but I do want to say this -- there is a possibility to save money on this \$280,000. I am seeing bes and parks nodding so folks, it is very important that you just don't assume it's \$300,000, as the ordinance says, for two reasons. One reason is, that money is coming out of police, fire, and parks. But, there's a second reason, and that is I do not believe that at this time, of tight economic consequences, it's fair to take general fund money, which is all the taxpayers, and give -- pay for 50% of private property owner land. It's not fair to subsidize prior to employers. It's not fair to take money from police, fire, and parks from other neighborhoods and use that for the 50% property owners here. So therefore, the efforts to collect the money back have to come from the railroad, but the private property owners need to participate in this because it's their bank. It's their bluff. It's their erosion. And so I wasn't part of any other deals with the private property owners, and I am just telling you, that's fair. Aye.

Hales: I agree with jim's points about the need to collect from the responsibility parties. I don't think that there is any disagreement about that. But, and I certainly hope that we do that, and if that's the ultimate source of repayment for this cash flow that goes out the door right now, but I think if we were not to do this, and if there were serious erosion, I think I know exactly who would get stuck with the cleanup and damage control costs, which would be a lot greater than this, and it would be us. So, penny-wise, or a stitch in time in all those catch-phrases are true. We should spend a small amount now, and avoid spending a lot more later and hopefully collect money for the small amount from the folks that own the property. Aye.

Saltzman: Well, I appreciate us all moving ahead on this urgent need, and cost recovery is certainly appropriate mechanism but I think it's going to be more appropriate for the second stage of revegetation plan and that's where we can expect the private property owners to really come through, and we will pursue, I am sure, as a city we will pursue diligently recovering all our costs from potential responsible parties. The need is to act now before it starts to rain and this is a program that's been developed by all the bureaus and I want to thank all the bureaus and bes, in particular, for putting this together on a very quick timetable, and reaching agreement as of 1:59 p.m. Today, so great. Good work and now we have got to get the work underway, so I am pleased to support this, aye.

Sten: Aye.

Katz: Mayor votes aye. All right. 1052.

Item 1052.

Katz: Any objections? Having them referred back to my office, we will bring it back at the appropriate time when I have had an ability to have a conversation with commissioner Sten. We have been working on other issues. Any objections? Hearing none, so ordered. 1053.

Item 1053.

Katz: Okay. Commissioner Sten.

Sten: Well, a couple of brief words to open it up much this is a resolution which does not solve the problem, but I think council intends to solve the problem, and this no-net housing loss

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resolution grew out of the west end discussion and is as we were in a very long and involved discussion about what does own the west end, that's long from being resolving and I think we will be back in september to talk about the west end with maybe some new ideas. It maybe clear to many of us, not just me, I just happened to work with commissioner Saltzman in writing it up and many of the advocates, but whenever we rezoned the west end we would have the problem of the loss of affordable housing and we have really lost a lot of affordable housing. And unfortunately, if you look back over the last 20 years, I think the general conclusion most people would make would be that we have actually -- I think, done a remarkable job of building new affordable housing, probably better than just about any central city around. We have deny a reasonable job on preservation, actually preserved quite a few buildings, when you think about it, the st. Francis and quite a few of them there, the oak building and all those. But, at the same time, we have run into rent increases, as well as conversions and to demolitions, lost more units than we have preserved or replaced. And so, at a time of great city expenditures and working very, very hard, we still are losing ground. As we look ahead, and what was interesting was we looked at the west end and I think that there's 700 units of affordable housing that are not preserved either through contracts or through public ownership or nonprofit ownership in the west end. That's a big number, and we don't know how many there are in the central city, and we really kept saying, as a council, both to each other and the community, the goal in the west end is not to lose this affordable housing. It's to supplement it with other things and actually, over time to grow more housing. So, I very quickly, because I wanted to make that statement, through a resolution that was a no-net housing loss goal, policy resolution in the west end, and as we looked at it more and more what became clear is we really ought to make that statement about the entire central city. It does two things -- it puts the west end in context and also realistically -- and the goal is not to lose a lot of housing in the west end but if we were to losing several hundred units in the west end and were constrained to replacing in the west end it would be almost impossible. So the idea is to say, let's look at the central city as a unit, which we really should, inventory, make sure that we can all agree on what's there now, and make a very aggressive effort to both preserve and replace it. And if I had the last ten years back, and I think this will be true for at least the next few years, I think I would have put more emphasis on preservation than we did. Prices are only going up, and some of the times we are re building beautiful buildings, maybe we should have built one or two less of those and taken the money and bought four or five buildings. I think if I had it over again that's what I would do differently but we don't have it over and the future is here. There's been one concern that's come up that I just want to address explicitly, is the goal no-net housing? Is the idea that we don't want to just -- we want to stay even as opposed to build more. I guess I would frame it this way -- we haven't a no-net loss any time recently so getting to that goal, I think, would be an improvement. I don't think it's enough but I think if you look in the next ten years, I think that pdc five-year plan that we are looking at, guesses that about 2000 more housing units will be built downtown in the next five to ten years. And maybe more than that. I would say as a community, for us to say that there is going to be 2000, something like that, more units in the downtown, but there will be less ones for poor people at the end of that, is just completely unacceptable so what I really see is to say, well, what we need to do in the next decade and maybe sooner, is get in there and preserve the stock that we have got and replace those ones that we lose and get a baseline. Then, once we have got at that baseline and I think it is more of a fire drill than we have realized given what's happened and I think all of us, myself included, have our eyes opened up to how urgent this problem is and I don't think it's coming back. Then we can start to gain over time with mixed income development and all the things that we

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aspire to and it is certainly not to say that we should not do anything in the moderate and middle income units but if you have got 700 units in the west end, several hundred more in the rest of downtown and the central city, I think it makes a lot of sense to say, let's focus our collective efforts, although we have a lot of aspirations, on getting that housing stock secured permanently so we at least have a baseline which we can build from. And what you will see in this resolution, and I won't lay it all out is, it actually just does what we do, is asks each of the bureaus and the community partners to play a part, which is inventorying it, keeping track of it and moving resources as much as possible, and I will close by saying, no reasonable person would think that we can achieve this goal and gain on both moderate and low income housing without more resources. And part of, I think, the dynamic that was tough for me, and it's because I feel so passionately about these I know, I kept taking it on with sort of the sense of, so what are we going to do when the west end develops and we keep trying to come up with strategies and it will take a broader community effort and more resources but I see this resolution as an organizing point to try and start making that happen. It's no surprise that I think right now, the best idea out there is we need a real estate transfer tax, a modest one of three quarters after point in the region, would raise \$50 million a year which over 20 years would probably be enough, if we didn't cut existing resources to solve the problem. This council endorsed that and worked hard for it. We will be back in the next session, so, but in the meantime, I do think we have enough resources in our budget right now to save the units that will go up in the next two or three years. I don't think that we have enough to solve the problem but if he focus on it right now we should be able to not lose units during the time period in which we worked for an adequate source of funding so, with that I will pause and turn it over to commissioner Saltzman.

Saltzman: I just wanted to say that I think this resolution is a good, solid step for a couple reasons, not only the larger goal of affordable housing, but I think it continues and restates the council's intent to pursue this quest of no-net loss of affordable housing in the central city. And it's a policy that, that's been stated many times but now I think it adds a little more flesh on the bones, and as commissioner Sten mentioned, for the first time we will have an inventory with the northwest pilot project, pdc, and planning, actually going out and counting how many units we do out there. Because, one of the things that became apparent to me in the west end are the numbers are all over the place. Kind of like the debate, how large is a federal surplus? It was just -- the numbers are all over the place. Fortunately, this would be a much more attractable issue, you can count units, calculate surplus. Secondly, that we do have to really preserve and replace housing within the central city. I believe that is a key goal. There's a lot of sound rational, why you want to have affordable housing in the central city. I mean we have built a transportation network, invested billions of dollars, literally in getting people to and from work opportunities, and the central city is the hub of that activity, and people need to be near that hub for all sorts of reasons. And finally, like I said, this resolution also calls upon adopting specific numeric goals, pdc and the bureau of housing and community development to really, again, flush out how we make this no-net loss policy a reality and actually set some goals that we will be able to meet again as commissioner Sten said, it will take resources and we don't have all those resources yet. But, it is our goal to find those resources.

Francesconi: Commissioner Saltzman, just one thing, the debate about the federal surplus, the president took care of that. He eliminated it. [laughter]

Sten: We were going to invite testimony, pdc and the housing authority.

Katz: Okay, I didn't realize. Who is here for the housing authority? Come on up. Okay. Why don't you start. Let me -- I will say my peace when we vote on this, but if you recall, this

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conversation was raised when we were talking about the rezoning of west end, and originally the conversation was just a no-net housing, just in the west end, and it was -- the discussion that pdc then had with both commissioner Sten and commissioner Saltzman, and probably some other people, you ought not to just look at the west end. You ought to look at the central city as a matter of fact, you ought to look at it city-wide, but at least in the central city. So the resolution was amended to include the central city, which then raises the stakes even higher but just wanted to give a little bit of history kind of. So ross.

*****: We have been working --

Katz: Identify yourself.

Ross Cornelius, Deputy Director, Housing, Portland Development Commission: Thank you. My name is ross cornelius, the deputy director of the housing department at pdc. We have been working with the community of housing providers, nonprofits, advocates and developers to take a look at the issue of housing in downtown, and we are not going to be talking about the strategy today, but what's been clear is while there has been a robust production agenda, there has been a robust replacement agenda and preservation, there still is an issue of losses of rents and susan emmons were here, she would say that's the biggest need or vulnerability we have is the loss of rents. We do not have the resources to be able to accomplish a no-net housing loss policy in the central city. And I was the one that was involved with many others in talking about the feasibility of doing a no-net loss for the west end where our resources are more limited and the sites are more limited. So, we did encourage folks to think a little bit more broadly and allow the contemplation of other sites throughout the central city of other urban renewal resources besides those available in the west end through the south park blocks, urban renewal area. We also recognize in what will be considered the end game of the two urban renewal areas downtown, and the remaining resources that we have. There was a desire to broaden the income mix and create a mixed income community, in particular, in the west end as we come to the end of the resources. But we did not ever contemplate doing that to the exclusion of preservation or replacement opportunities. Those have always been, in my view, the most important and top priority that we do. But when we looked at the mixed income and a balanced strategy that includes ownership opportunities, mid market, mixed income, housing development, as well as preservation and replacement, we look at the resources that we have, it's just inadequate to get it all done. So, we have attempted to find the balance, and we would like to go forward in a whole bunch of projects that are out there that we are thinking about that can help create that balance. But at the same time, we shouldn't lose a building. There's one up -- we should be on it, as a city, figuring out how to make sure that it's preserved. So, I think that the concept of additional resources is one that we really do need to focus on as a, as a city because when we rely just on, on the one resource bank, like increment, which would be fully leveraged with a lot of other resources, the housing authority, and many others, we still can't get there, can't get it all done. I think that we have come to a conclusion, at least in the downtown area, about what the need is, and which units are at risk and which need to be preserved or replaced, and I think that we have all agreed on what that need is, and it's not too much of a stretch to go from there to think about what the central city need is and the ultimate funding resource that we would have to come up with is. But, I guess my point is from pdc's perspective, while we view a no-net loss as an admirable goal, we haven't got the resources to take it on and complete it. And we are a little concerned about being asked to do that by ourselves with the resources that we have, even fully leveraged with our partners, and all the creative work that goes into putting these deals together. We will still be short, and still need an extra resource to get it done. So, I think the for-net loss,

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we hope it's not -- doesn't become a tool to come to us and say, how come you are not putting more of the increment into this area and not that one. We were hoping that we could get an agreement on how we would deploy the resources and then focus on delivering the resources in the way we agreed and focusing on developing new ones so we can solve the problem.

Katz: Thank you, ross.

Francesconi: Did you want questions now or later.

Katz: You can go ahead and ask them.

Francesconi: I think that commissioner Sten was clear in his introduction that we need outside resources, not just pdc, because that's why he referred to the real estate transfer tax but, what kind of money are we talking about it make this policy -- to accomplish this policy? How much additional revenue are we talking about?

Cornelius: I can't speak specifically for the central city because we have not run those numbers yet. I can speak for the downtown target area, south of burnside within the freeway loop. We have done a little bit more work thinking about that, and planning that. In the discussion yesterday that we had with howard shapiro and a group of folks that were convening around this issue, which I thought was a very constructive discussion, we came to the conclusion that it was somewhere in the neighborhood of \$50 million. That subsidy in --

Katz: For, for -- which geographic area?

Cornelius: This is for the downtown target area, south of burnside within the loop west of the river, and that number assumes 20% of the units that are vulnerable, would have to be replaced and assumes 80% could be preserved. It assumes that all of the preservation would be done through acquisition and eventual disposition into a nonprofit, mission-driven or city-driven owner. It assumed that the section 8, that is going to be expire in the future, all requires acquisition and a subsidy. And it assumes fully leveraged involvement, in other words, that's the money that the city would leave into the deal or that we would loan at low interest but it would be coupled with a bunch of other financing to get the job done. It also assumes that, that not only would we be looking at preserving and replacing units under 60% of the median but that we have to contemplate the 60 to 80 moderate income stock, as well, which also is in jeopardy of a loss. And that we needed to have an agenda and some resources to complete and pursue the mid market piece to help balance out the rest of the downtown. So, putting all those numbers together and very roughly, assuming some cost per unit subsidies based on the history of what we have invested in, adjusted for development downtown, adjusted for replacement being more expensive than preservation, and assuming current dollars, so I hope that's enough qualifications to give you enough room to say, this is a pretty ballpark number. There's probably more ways to qualify it but it was in the neighborhood of \$50 million, and I think in discussions that we have had, 40 for the under 60 was -- that we all agreed on. It also included one other need, and that was the current nonprofit where other nonprofit-owned housing that is requiring rehab or some kind of preservation in the future, even though it's owned by a nonprofit it, may still require some help, as it ages. So much of the stock downtown, as you may know, is so old. I was looking at the data just for the west end units, the 700 that we have talked about that are below 60 percent of median that are -- 60% of median, and most all of them were built between 1895 and 1920, somewhere in there, so it's pretty ancient stock, pretty old.

Francesconi: Two other questions. That was a very detailed answer.

Katz: That was just for the downtown.

*******:** That's correct we haven't extrapolated in the west end of the city.

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Francesconi: What percentage of the tip expenditures on housing projects are focused on market rate or above or homeownership as opposed to low income?

Cornelius: Historically?

Francesconi: Yes.

Cornelius: Since 1985, our information is we have gone back through the records. In the downtown target area that we are referring to, about 90% of our resources have been devoted for either preservation of expiring used section 8 preservation of nonsection 8 property that was going to go to another use, or replacement housing, so about 90% of the remainder has been in promotion of ownership, primarily through financing people who are buying a home and need an additional soft second to get in. Or market rate. The market rate stuff that we have done, projects were primarily the ones done along the park blocks in the late 1980s, gallery park, so you said park square and those that was a concerted effort to better utilize the parcels along the park block for housing so that you had a housing park, open-space connection there. That was done very successfully.

Francesconi: My last question, the \$64,000 question. In addition to the real estate transfer tax, what other ideas do you have, either financially or regulatory that would help us get to the \$50 million?

Katz: Don't tell him. [laughter]

Cornelius: I am probably not the one to answer that. There is certainly a lot of other ideas kicked around. There is some very creative people working on this and I applaud the effort to pursue the real estate tax. There have been other ideas and I would let a group of you --

Katz: You are so good.

Cornelius: A group kicking it around and report their efforts back to you. [laughter]

Francesconi: Well done. [laughter]

Saltzman: You said \$50 million plus significant leverage, I guess. What -- can you give us what is the leverage factor, or the multiplier factor that we would need to make that \$50 million? Into an aggregate pool that would solve the problem?

Cornelius: That's a great question. We do as much leverage as we possibly can I think that's, that's been something that we really emphasized between state bond programs, private activity bonds, 501-c-3 bonds, half bonds, low income housing tax credits, and other state resources, private investments, equity investment, all those things. The taxes that we have downtown really does help, also. And I know there is you some ideas clicking around, too. I think when you boil it all down, we are in for 20 to \$30,000 a unit, which is what we seem to average, and the cost of developing the projects, the new ones, would be pushing 80 to \$90,000 a unit, maybe more. So there's about a 3 or so leverage there, if there is preservation, the leverage is a little less because it doesn't cost as much to acquire as it does to replace.

Katz: Go ahead.

Margaret Van Vliet, Deputy Executive Director, Housing Authority Program: I am Margaret, the deputy executive director for the housing authority program. Thank you for letting me talk with you today about the housing authority's perspective on the question of no-net loss. We are the largest developer and owner of affordable housing in the city and in all of Multnomah county. We own approximately 6200 units of public housing and affordable housing, and we administer about 6500 units of section 8 vouchers so our programs touch about 30,000 folks in our community. Notwithstanding our extensive reach in the community, we are acutely aware that there are huge unmet housing needs for people at the low end of the income scale. We are heavily engaged in the discussions about housing downtown and in the west end, which we feel

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particularly concerned about. In the west end alone, we understand that there are about 1800 affordable apartment units that have some kind of rent, subsidy or nonprofit ownership that assures their affordability, happen owns -- hap owns about 700 of these, just to give you our perspective on this question. In the central city that broader geographic area we own well over 1,000 apartment units that are affordable to low income folks. When our board chair, Howard Shapiro, appeared before you in June on this subject he put forth several principles that we thought should be embodied in the no-net loss policy. We are pleased to see most of those principles have been articulated in the policy you are considering. A couple of principles that we think should be underscored from our perspective -- first, the replacement housing should carry the same or similar rents as those being lost. Our St. Francis replacement units, which are part of the museum place redevelopment, will all have the same basic rent structures as exists today. We can't afford economic displacement and we are learning that lesson very clearly and very vividly as we work with the folks that we are moving out of the St. Francis and finding other apartments for. It's been a trying experience on all of us. Mostly the tenants, of course. Secondly, with respect to the principles, since some of the units -- some of the add-risk buildings provide homes for difficult to manage populations, we think every effort must be made to link the housing with services and case management. Those of us in the housing business know that we still have a long way to go to be able to effectively house people with special needs, with mental illness or with corrections backgrounds. We must continue to push for comprehensive solutions.

Within the resolutions principles there is language about implementing certain aspects, when feasible. For example, to provide replacement housing before redevelopment of a building when feasible. And preservation of existing housing stock, when feasible. We take this to mean that everyone involved in implementation must commit to using best efforts. That we will need to stretch ourselves and not give up early because some early analysis suggests infeasibility on one of these core principles. So we are here to commit ourselves to, to, in fact, use best efforts in that regard. We appreciate the focus on accountability through reporting to the housing and community development commission and of course, to council. My primary message to you today is that Hap stands ready to use its tools of issuing tax exempt bonds and property tax exemption to achieve city objectives. Hap is committing itself to stretch to find new partnerships, new tools, and new ways to make our limited funds go further in the name of preservation. We aim to aggressively try new things, balancing our need to be fiscally prudent with our sense of urgency to get the job done. We look forward to partnering with the city in similar ways. And even while we commit to stretching our own resources and finding new ways to leverage, we are convinced that preservation on any scale will require focus and dedication of resources money. We urge you to make sure the policy has more than simply the right language but it is backed up with the investments that will be needed to make it happen. Thank you.

Katz: Questions? Nicely done, both of you. All right. Earl.

Katz: Okay.

Bill VanVliet, Co-chair, Housing Community Development Commission: Thank you. I am Bill and I am one of the co-chairs of the housing community development commission. And I'm here to speak in support of the adoption of a no-net loss policy that's before you. Although hcde has not had an opportunity --

Katz: Why don't you bring the mike closer to you.

*******:** Is that better?

Katz: Yes.

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Van Vliet: Thank you. Although hcdc has not had the opportunity to discuss this resolution at a regular public meeting and take formal position, the executive committee of hcdc did take this up at the august meeting and had quite an extensive conversation and we fully support this resolution. We believe it's an important philosophical statement that needs to precede the pending decisions for downtown and the central city. Hcdc is on record supporting a no-net loss policy for the west end and this proposal is a consistent extension of that position. The consolidated plan documented a huge need for affordable housing, specifically a need for over 10,000 additional units to serve those citizens earning between 0 and 30% medium income. With this huge unmet need, it is increasingly important to track affordable inventories annually to monitor the effectiveness of the no-net loss policy. We are pleased that this proposal provides for collecting and reporting that information. In spite of the large public investments over the years and the hard work by city staff and the pdc, there is still a big gap between the need for and the supply of affordable housing in Portland, including in the central city. This proposal states that while we should make every effort not to lose ground while we work to meet that need, the executive committee of hcdc supports this effort and we also hope that one day we can be here to discuss options to narrow that gap of affordable housing. Thanks.

Will White, Director, Housing Development Center: Good afternoon. I am will white, director of the housing development center. And i'm here to tell you that indeed I do support the no-net loss resolution, but with the following qualifications. And there are three. First of all, the no-net loss policy has no value unless current funds are allocated to make it a reality. Why do I say that? Portland has had a no-net loss policy since resolution 32914 was passed in 1988, and since that time, we have lost 1492 units in the downtown area alone. That's 30% of all the units that were here at that time, just 13 years ago. So, the resolution, itself, without the money won't do anything and we need the resources to be able to make the resolution a reality. I estimate that just in the west end alone, about \$40 million is the price tag of accomplishing that goal. That is the bulk of the affordable units in the central city, but not the entire, so we are talking a larger number than that. Secondly, because that number is large, and the city coffers and tif dollars are limited I urge you to enact regulatory tools that will reduce the requirements on funding resources because we can accomplish certain things by using policy tools and ordinances that won't take public dollars. Linkage fees, condo conversion ordinance and is replacement requirements are among the tools that can really decrease the sole dependence on public funds to accomplish this goal. And finally, no net loss should be a floor, not a goal, and I know that's been stated by commissioner Sten, as well as others, but I just wanted to emphasize that point that at a time that we have a 10,000-unit low income housing unit shortage, we can't afford to just say we are going to try not to lose any units. Portland, as a first step has taken a commitment with metro's regional housing affordability strategy to create 1791 additional units just below 30% of median by 2005 and that's the same time period we are talking about as we look at the tif's funding over the in the case five years. So, we need to be able to use those resources to move beyond known net loss and creating some of these additional units if we expect to have any response from the other jurisdictions in the region when we say, we want you to be picking up a share of this and not just leave it to Portland to accomplish this important mission. In closing I think we all know that Portland, and particularly downtown Portland is enjoying currently a very hot real estate market. Which is great for the city's economy. It's great for our tax base, and it's also great for all of us who are property owners. The negative side, of course, is that hundreds of affordable housing units for renters are lost each year due to that hot market. This resolution

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calls on city council to reverse that trend and to approve the funding and the regulatory tools to make that resolution a reality. I urge you to do so. Thanks very much.

Sten: Will, can I ask you one question. The 1400-unit number, lost units since 1980, is that a net number that takes into account -- is it the ones that have actually been lost, then we have built some new ones?

White: I got that number just off, today from Susan Emens who couldn't be here to testify, and if I understood correctly what she told me, there were 5,183 affordable units by their definition in 1978, which was the benchmark year against which they were measuring, and 3,691 now --

Sten: So that would include a new building.

*******:** Yeah. Net loss of 1492.

Katz: Go ahead.

Michael Anderson, Board President, Community Alliance of Tenants: Hello, mayor, and city commissioners. My name is Michael Anderson and I am the board president of the Community Alliance of Tenants. The Community Alliance of Tenants is attending control of tenant member organization. We now have over 1,000 members and supporters. We run a renter's rights hotline, which the city helps fund that is over 10,000 renters. When I prepared my comments, I came to speak on the PDC's proposal for the downtown target area housing implementation strategy. And I think that very much is piggyback and is relevant to this ordinance that is before you. And certainly the Community Alliance of Tenants would support a no-net loss policy and would very much be in approval of the council, if it were passed. But to echo the words of several who have spoke before me, including our commissioner Sten, that in order for this no-net policy to be -- to have teeth, there must be the funding behind this to create the housing and preserve the housing that is so necessary for low income renters. And so I will make some brief comments about the proposal that I know is currently being tabled and going back for further discussion. For the rest of the 23.7 million in remaining funds of the tax increment resources from the downtown waterfront in the South Park Block urban renewal districts. Very briefly, over 50% of the receipt-making funds are proposed to go towards creating more housing opportunities both in homeownership and in rental opportunities for those of middle income levels, which again, is excellent aspiration and something that would be very helpful for those between 80 and 150% to be able to compete in the downtown area. However, as the council seems to be very much aware, in their actions over the past couple of years, that for those who are our poorer citizens we are at a time of extreme crisis and to have funding available, such as these TIF funds and to not use every available cent to allay this crisis would seem to be a mistake so I would urge the city council as you contemplate approving this no net loss policy to think about the specific ways and difficult decisions that will need to be made to make this known, this no-net policy have an impact that will achieve which is all of our goal, which is to continue to make Portland livable city for our poorest citizens, especially in the downtown area where we have, as commissioner Saltzman pointed out, already spent so much time and attention to build infrastructure and the transportation to make feasible and successful living for those of our lowest income citizens. So, I urge you to approve the no net loss policy and more importantly I urge to you figure out the difficult ways to make this no-net policy a reality.

Katz: I don't want to disagree with you because I don't. However, there are people who work downtown who have an income of between 60 and 80%, and even at 80%, and they can't afford a car and they have to live in the downtown. And don't you think that we ought to be paying a little bit attention to the folks who don't have much money but who are working and are living in the downtown area?

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Anderson: Whenever we are faced with a crisis between making difficult choices, I think you can hear many strong sound arguments on either side but it's the position of the community alliance of tenants that those who are most vulnerable deserve the most attention now. And there is, you know, I think it's also been clear from everyone who has spoken here the bottom line here is that we don't have enough available funds to do what we need to do.

Katz: Fair enough. We will get to that a little later on. All right. Thank you.

Gretchen Kafoury, Advocate: Good afternoon. I am gretchen kafoury, advocate. I support this resolution. I am delighted that we have it. My only criticism is that we didn't specify linkage fees and other tools in the list, in the laundry list of things that -- it certainly is long enough and listed an awful lot of stuff but we could have put what regulatory tools we were wanting to use. Secondly, and I know you don't want to go there today, but the first draft of the resources in the way of the allocations where I hope that you are getting a consensus here, madam mayor that those, in our opinion, those were not appropriate, that we need to rethink those, so I am looking forward to getting. I am glad you pulled it and I am looking forward to getting a chance to work on that. The third thing was --

Katz: You had your chance.

*****: No, I didn't. [laughter]

*****: They never called. [laughter]

Katz: You don't write, you don't call. [laughter]

Kafoury: I was intrigued. I get your e-mails up at school, and the award we got for the kid-friendly place was very, very nice, but I did pull it up off the website and of course, down there, it says, affordable housing. The number of families in Portland who have affordable housing is 30%. They gave us a c-plus but I think it was linked in with something else like jobs, which we do better at. So, I think, I am speculating that if it was just the affordable housing, we would have even gotten a lower grade. So, if people haven't seen that, I mean.

Katz: I am going to give you a bit more time because we are talking about something else but you are absolutely right. On that particular area, it was a c-plus. There were others that were a-plus, a and b. But, but it was, it was the worst.

Kafoury: Right. So I think that we have got some outside confirmation, not that we needed it, and not that we don't have enough between our data and metro's and others to show the critical need here, so I am looking forward to getting the resources to do this. Basic floor level, not our goal, but our floor. Thank you.

Irwin Mandel, Citizen: Good afternoon. Irwin mandel, 1511 southwest park avenue.

Downtown rest, west end resident, central city rocky mountain. I would like to address the commissioner Francesconi asked of pdc and that is the subsidies for rental housing in the south park urban renewal district. You probably all know this, but I think it's worth repeating anyway.

Whenever pdc provides subsidies for middle income housing, there is always part of that development is income capped for, at least moderate income. I live in south park square, one of the urban renewal district buildings that was built many years ago, and 30% of the units in my building are capped at 80% of median family income. There were two other developments that were mentioned. I think gallery park and university park across the way, I haven't spoken to the building managers there, but I doubt whether anything changed that way. I think that that is probably true there. Now, there is not a total free market rental in any of the housing that pdc has subsidized. There is always an income cap, is my understanding. Am I correct? I think, yes, okay. I think it is probably true. Now, I have also heard sliding over with west end, downtown, central city as if there's some sort of mixture. These are very distinct and different areas.

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According to the data in the report you pulled back, in itself, almost 75% of the housing in downtown now, in the downtown, not west end, not central city, but downtown, is low to moderate income with an 80% mfi cap on it. I understand if you look at the west end, as defined, those numbers go up to close to 90% now. That is not an integrated, diverse, vibrant city. We have all seen what happens to cities when you let the central core of the city be -- to fall apart, essentially, and do not have a mixture of, of economic groups, age groups, and social groups, at all. You don't have a vibrant dynamic city. If you pursue the policy constantly of filling up the west end and downtown, solely or almost exclusively with low income, there is the city, frankly. You are not going to have what you might think the goal is to have a mixed income, mixed social group, and mixed age group, vibrant city. Insist not urban planning, as anyone can think of. That's all. Thank you.

Katz: Thank you. Okay.

Ralph Austin, Executive Director of Innovative Housing/President of Board of Community Development Network: Madam mayor and members of the council, I am ralph austin, executive director of innovative housing and also president of the board of the community development network and I am here primarily on behalf of cdn and here to support the resolution and stress that it's necessary for the resolution act as the guiding force for establishing funding priorities and I am going to speak to one other issue quickly, that is sort of anticipating the discussion on the funding priorities, and kind of set the record a little straight on my direct experience in the west end with our cornerstone project and cornerstone is held up as primarily a good example of what can happen, but I also think that it's been misconstrued at some level. I know in working groups, and I am still working on some things with folks at pdc, with the west end, I have made statements that I don't think cornerstones representable because it is site specific and has a narrow market niche and I think that's been misinterpreted to mean that can't happen again, or that mid-market, I mean mid market, for-purchase housing is not viable without public subsidy. I don't believe that based on my experience and I just wanted to emphasize that, we did cornerstone in order to meet a very specific, below 80% market, and we had to mix smaller units that, you know, would not have massive market appeal, but actually we did mix that in with some larger units that sold for, at people between 120 and 140 of mfi, and those sold the fastest without a parking space and they were profitable. So, we didn't do cornerstone because that was the only market niche. We did it because of our organizations mission, and as I look at, you know, the proforma numbers in our experience, you know, be wary of a montra that says moderate income housing has to be subsidized because I don't believe it and I am more than heap happy to continue to work with the working groups to help flush that out but I just wanted to send that message. Thanks.

Katz: Thank you.

Katz: Anybody else who wants to testify that didn't sign up? Okay. You have got the final say. [laughter]

*******:** Well, I was prepared to testify on the other report.

Katz: And you will get a chance --

Lili Mandel: But it's valid right now. Hi. Don't count what I just said. I am lili mandel, 1511 southwest park avenue. I will -- I had prepared a 45-second speech. And it is going to be just a valid now, I find because commissioner Sten, has opened the door for me. Because I don't agree with what he said, at all. Commissioner Sten we all have a right to live in the central city, and I stress, all. And now my dear husband, who knew what I was going to say, stole something. All ages, all ethnic groups. All economic groups, even the more affluent. Let's not discriminate

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against those. Let's have a truly diverse city. Unfortunately, what we now have is ghettoization.

This is not here, let's not continue that, commissioner Sten. I think, well, this was part of the other one, but I am going to say it because I think you should have first considered pdc's resolution. I think it's high time to let the Portland development commission do its job and help make the central city a truly diverse city. And I was going to say, place pass this resolution, as written, so this dream of diversity can finally become a reality. And I have time because that's only 45 seconds. And I will say to what I have heard, livable city is livable city for all our citizens. The most vulnerable, do not benefit them living in a ghetto. Thank you.

Katz: Okay. Nobody else wants to testify? Then we will have roll call.

Francesconi: That is true, but it also takes some special attention and focus or else market forces will push out the most vulnerable, and I think that's the point behind commissioner Sten's resolution. And I guess I want to thank commissioner Sten for the resolution, I also want to thank commissioner kafoury for trying to help us with that focus. I would like to also thank pdc.

I was impressed with the work in the report, frankly, and I was impressed with some of the numbers in terms of what you have accomplished on trying to save some units. And I think that you have done a lot of good work in the housing arena. I would also like to thank one other person mentioned here and that is susan emmons, some day when I am down at purgatory, she is going to be up in heaven, and I hope she remembers me. [laughter]

Francesconi: I guess I would say just a couple of thoughts here. One is I was unaware of the resolution will white referred to about a prior policy, but I was aware of the language in the downtown plan in 1972, which also said, no-net loss. So, so we have some work to do here in this regard. So that the downtown can be for everyone. But for that to happen, there does need to be new resources, as well as we have to look at a variety of approaches, other approaches, as well. So, I do believe, it would be nice if we had help from the federal government, like we did in the past, but I won't go there. We do need regional inclusionary zoning, as well as a regional investment fund, which commissioner Sten is working on. We do need more resources locally, and a real estate transfer tax does make sense, but I also think we need to consider things like another bond measure, and linkage fees with commissioner kafoury has talked about. We also have to look at the regulatory approaches as to, because I do believe that zoning has an effect on land prices. So, we have to look at all those, those things, and the reason it is important that we take a variety of approaches for the most vulnerable is because I also agree that the downtown has to be for everyone. So, if you look at the numbers now, it is true that -- I think the number is 70% of all the rental housing stock in the central city, is for 60% or below. That's a problem, by itself, I think. So, we do have a combination of forces coming together here, so both sides are right. But the opportunity is, we have a central city that can absorb a lot more housing. It will benefit the businesses, and it will -- and it will help us come together as a community. So, we do need a variety of approaches to maintain the no-net loss, and we need to keep that in mind. But, we also have to allow pdc to do their job. And so I think we can get there but it's going to take us not just relying on commissioner kafoury or now commissioner Sten, it will take all of us to take an approach on this issue for the betterment of our city. Aye.

Hales: Well, what this resolution does is lay down policy and announce an intention and then seek money. So, I think it's sound policy and a laudable intention and we are going to have to work hard to find money. As we have learned again, I think this week with transportation funding, revenue for general community purposes is hard to come by. Revenue for things that benefits me, as a taxpayer, that I can vote for and get fairly immediate gratification about, is not that hard to come by, whether it's a school, local option measure, or a bond measure for parks,

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that's in the current climate, more doable. I think you are on the right track but I think that we all have to be mindful that it's going to be a lot of work, and you are going to need a lot of help in order to secure something that is good for everyone, generally, but not necessarily good for each of us as sometimes selfish taxpayers. So, it's tough work that the third part of this resolution requires us to get to. Aye.

Saltzman: I want to respond to some of the thoughts that have been brought up by the public here today. Clearly, there is a need for more public resources to maintain, preserve, replace affordable housing. But, as kind of came up, one of the issues that we have to look at, is how do we get the private sector fully engaged and the whole idea, I think, and to avoid the ghettoization that was referred to. And I think the real key is to really have mixed use developments and by mixed use, I don't mean commercial residential, I am talking about market rate housing with 80% housing. That's the way to go is to have projects, with all these people live together and where the market rate units can subsidize and make it pencil out to produce the other lower rate units, too. And I think that's really kind of the wave of the future here and I think that that's something that pdc is well aware of and the type of thing that we ought to encourage, and I think will come from this policy. Aye.

Sten: Well, I think this is a good step, and kind of outlines an intention, and, you know, since the mandells are my forensic say this, I don't think when you lose 1500 housing, low income housing you are making a ghetto. We have 50, 100 units, and 78, and we have whatever it is, 14, 1500 less today so I think it's very important and unfortunately, I think you fell in this trap of not pitting one against the other. I think we have to preserve that housing and in a very good year we pump out maybe 500 new units so if we lose those thousand or so units that are at risk, it's probably more like four or five years of work, period, to get them back so what this resolution is saying we have got to preserve these and walk the talk that's been there since the '78 plan. None of that in, my opinion, precludes building moderate-rate housing downtown. I think any reasonable person, and I consider myself to occasionally be reasonable, will come to the conclusion that high income housing is coming to the west end. Any analysis that says high income housing is not in the central city is wrong. In the river district. If you do -- if you break up the central city into sort of non, not really the units, but into like the downtown vests -- yeah, you can carve out a big chunk of downtown. There's not a lot of high end stuff. I will bet any amount that anybody wants to wager with me who plans to pay it in ten years that that will not be the case in the west end the high end stuff is coming and will displace more low income housing, and that's what this resolution is about. We will still need, if we want a healthy community, and I don't dispute this, to have moderate income housing down there. What I do feel like is if we have an adequate resources we should put preserving the little bit of affordable housing that's going to go away, the thousand units ahead of building that moderate income housing in the next three or four years. But, I think we can do both. Because I think what's going to happen, you are not going to have a ghetto in ten years if you look at it. You will probably have four or five 4 or 5,000 more units and 2008 that we are going, a thousand less of them will be low income people, than were 22 year ago, that's no ghetto. I don't care what anybody has to say. I do think the moderate income stuff can be built without the subsidies but I don't think we figured out how to do it I think the reason it has to be subsidized is because if I am going to build a building and I am a private sector developer, I will price it as high as I can. And that's higher than what a moderate income person can pay so I think it becomes a land assembly issue, an issue of doing projection, and I think that we can do it, but my challenge would be to say, it's a finite number of units that are at risk. We, as a community, ought to be come up with a way to preserve those and

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if we have to replace those, and the reason I am banging this drum so hard so I do know the numbers ask it cost about three times as much to replace as to preserve so to the extent that we care about keeping low income people downtown at all, and moderate income people, the best thing you can do right now is preserve this stuff before it's too late. So, I think if we go after that, I absolutely in my heart and brain believe that we can have a corollary strategy to do moderate income but I think that this one we have got to go after fast. I don't think that they are mutually exclusive. I still have a lot of questions about the money that the goal had been to get the money strategy and the no-net strategy together. Because obviously they have to go together. There's a small other low income housing issue going on this week with the dignity village and both the mayor and I have just not had enough time to really focus in on the money strategy but I think that that will come back and I can tell you, people point blank, I will support a strategy that has some money for moderate income. I am not sure that I will support the numbers that we have now but I think this is more about trying to figure out how to take the money you have got and solve both those needs and I think with \$24 million over the next five years, which is not as much as we need, but a substantial amount, we ought to, five years from now not have lost any more housing units and built some good mixed income housing to compliment it. I think that's a reasonable goal that we should be able to reach within five years and so what I would like to see for the different factions of the room is come together around that rather than sort of fighting each other because I think that we do ultimately the same thing but we have to draw a line in the sand right now or I don't think that we will have a fixed income community down the road, not like we would really like. So, we have a lot of work to do, ready to do it and I appreciate everyone's help, aye.

Katz: This is a worthy goal. It's a lofty goal. There's no question about it. I don't think that there is anybody in this room that would disagree. We do have to find additional resources. I am losing my patience with the legislature and their inability or their unwillingness to deal with the real estate transfer tax. I am looking now for another source of resources so that we can get this done. We have been talking about it for almost ten years. How many years? 30 years. And as you know, I am very impatient. I do think that this community does have to have the mixed level of housing. There is no question about it. I do support the Portland development commission housing strategy, although I do want to give the opportunity to have that conversation with commissioner Sten because we did not talk about it because of the work that both of us are doing on the dignity village. I just also want to remind all of you that this is not a justification for a zone change on the west end, period, loud and clear: Because the prices will go up and you will have less money to do what you want to do. And I want to remind everybody that the comp plan housing policy says that it calls for the central city to achieve a distribution of household income similar to the distribution of household incomes found city-wide. So, we have our work cut out for us. I don't think anybody, even cat, would negate the need for a bank teller or somebody doing some other kind of service work at a lower income shouldn't be living in the downtown and shouldn't have their apartments subsidized because they don't have the resources. So the challenge to all of us is to be realistic about this goal, and to balance out the distribution of the resources to make a city, a very livable city, and a mixed city. And so we will come back for that discussion a little later on. I want to thank commissioner Sten and commissioner Saltzman and all of your advocates who were there, pushing us for all these years, but let's be honest, we don't have the resources today to make this happen. Aye. We stand adjourned until 2:00 tomorrow.

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At 3:07 p.m., Council recessed.

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AUGUST 30, 2001 2:00 PM

Katz: Good afternoon, everybody. The council will come to order. Karla, please call the roll.

Francesconi: Here. **Hales:** Here. **Saltzman:** Here. **Sten:** Here.

Item No. 1054.

Katz: Good afternoon, everybody. I will ask those of you who can't find a seat to please go upstairs. You can hear and see from upstairs, and i've asked karla to call three names and then the next three names so that you have plenty of time to come downstairs to testify. Before we even start, I do need an indication of how many people will be testifying. All right. What we'll do is we'll start with three minutes, but i'll check in with you again a little later on. We may switch from three minutes to two minutes. Also I want to ask many of you to please not repeat the testimony that you've heard, and if you agree with somebody and you agree with what you hear, we don't applaud here unless we have a very special occasion, but we do this. And that gives an indication to the council and to your neighbors and to the people who sit next to you that you agree with what you've heard. And we keep moving the testimony along. Okay? Those -- beautiful. Those are the ground rules. And then i'm going to have karla read the resolution in a minute. We do have an agenda of the early testimony, and i'll call those and then we'll open it up to the public. Invited testimony. Karla? Do you want to read the resolution?

Katz: All right. And i'd like to turn it over to commissioner Sten.

Sten: I will take a couple minutes and give some opening thoughts. What I hope we can do today is have a community dialogue on both the issue of dignity village and what's happened to date, and also the bigger issue of homelessness, poverty and low-income housing in this community. We've had I think a crisis situation for close to 20 years in terms of the homelessness on the street and in terms of our lack of affordable housing, but if you look back probably as long as the city's been around, there have been people on the streets. I would be the first to say for many, many years of that history essentially those people stay out of sight and out of mind. And to some extent what's happened in the last nine months is dignity village has become very much in sight and in everybody's mind. Also what's happened is the city's developed places people camp, have parks and everything, and people are here and there's not room for everybody, it would seem. I have had the -- both the privilege and the duty, and it's been both, to be the council's facilitator with dignity village and try and figure things out. There has never been any single day of this to me and obvious -- an obvious solution nor an obvious reaction, and people have -- as I get e-mails and phone calls, people tend to fall on one side or the other of, you ought to sweep these folks out, which doesn't make sense to me, they're going to be here, they're people, or you ought to give them what you need, which presumes I probably would give you what you need if I could. And it just does not -- it's not an easy solution. What we've done is tried to every step of the way facilitate communication, to keep it peaceful, and try and see what's actually going on here, which is a group of people living on the street have banded together to form a safe and clean environment, and i've worked almost on a weekly basis with the police, and I can say it's been lawful and a good neighbor. That doesn't mean there's an easy place to put it, and it doesn't in my opinion mean the ultimate solution to the lack of affordable housing and homelessness is a camp. I honestly do not believe that. I believe every person in this society ought to have a clean, decent, affordable place to live indoors. If you -- if one chooses not that, if it was available, that would be a personal choice. Any that ought to be available to everybody in this community at a price they can afford. Clearly by any standards it is not. What has also happened is that the state department of transportation owns the site where dignity village is now. And some -- most of you know, there's a

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lot of people watching, when dignity village moved to this site it was without the permission of the state. I believe the state was very thoughtful and appropriate in how it responded, and through a variety of negotiations including quite a bit of work by mayor Katz that people may not know about, an agreement was reached to allow the village to stay until July 1st. On July 1st, it was quite obvious there was no solution in sight and the state extended that to September 1st. At that point both the mayor and myself felt that it's very important that if somebody was going to work with us as the state did, that we hold up our end of the bargain and did say we believe this site has to be vacated by September 1st, as the state requested. That left us where we are today. It's a difficult position. We have searched high and low. Let me say if the village had not comported itself in exactly the way it said that would it, and I'm not going to say there's never been an issue. As all of you no who are involved with this, there's issues every day. But the village has remained true to its word. It's been a good neighbor, a safe place, it's remained alcohol and drug free and if you take, which is my premise, it's not for example "the Oregonian" editorial board's premise, it's my premise people are on the streets, it's my premise no matter what I do in the next week they're going to remain there and they're going to be camping -- camping. Would I rather we had better services, but there are going fob camping on the street tomorrow, just like there was every day for the last 100 years. I think this place is worth -- the city council pledges to keep working with dignity village to try and find a peaceful and appropriate solution. That's really what we can do at this point. Both the mayor's office and my office have looked very, very hard for some place to find a site, and as has dignity village and its supporters. It's been very difficult. When this whole thing started back in January, I shared the opinion that I thought that probably the most likely if it was going to become a long-term solution, or at least a piece in a bigger solution, it was probably more likely to be placed on private land. Obviously no private landowners have come forward of any kind interested -- being able to offer dignity village a place to be. We have found a public site on 33rd and been described, it is not perfect by any stretch of the imagination, but what I can share is it is truly the best site we've been able to find with the short time that we have I have taken the position you almost have to have a consensus to move something as quickly as we're trying to move it, because if it's in a place where neighbors are going to fight and other things, it's probably unlikely to be sited. So what we see now is a very simple opportunity. To keep working together, to move to the short-term site, and then see whether or not something can occur. For people who have really just said, and I don't think they're all that well informed, that dignity village is really just a bunch of squatters or something else, I would very much ask them to look at the text of this resolution, I will not read it out loud, but it does really call on dignity village to do a whole bunch of very specific things. To work to get people off the streets, to limit the numbers, to limit the stay, to keep it alcohol and drug-free, to keep it crime-free, and I think what I've heard from dignity village members all over, and I think this was true in northwest, to do things to improve the neighborhoods that they're in. I've heard from many people that the area around dignity village was the cleanest it's been in years. So I think it's not about giving somebody something and the city good bad or indifferent for those who are angry, we've given the time to figure it out. And so that's what we're going to try and do, move forward and work on it, see where we can go, and I think that it's my dream and vision and goal as many of yours, that we don't have an affordable housing problem, but it's gotten worse. People are on the street, they will be on the street. If they're working -- if for some people the best way to try and transition back into permanent housing and hopefully a job or appropriate place to be is a village as opposed to the shelters which I think we've worked very hard to improve, but do have their issues, I think for most them shelters are a better place, but for some dignity village has turned out to be a better place. We've pulled off a lot

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crazier things than that, and that's why Portland is a very special place. That's a little longer than I wanted to go, but I wanted to share where we're coming from. What we've got today is i'm going to have a brief presentation from tanya parker, the director of the housing and community development, and my aim is just to share with people what the last ten years efforts have been to address homelessness so we can put this into context. We are then going to ask robert justice who has been working with campers in dignity village and outside to give us perspective, and have a presentation from the village itself after which we'll open it up for public testimony.

Katz: And five minutes for some church --

Sten: Five minutes each from leaders from the church. My apologies. You're still coming up. And I will turn this over to mayor Katz.

Katz: Thank you, commissioner Sten. I want to thank the staff people who have been working hard on this issue over the last year, especially marshall runkle from commissioner Sten's office, and Elise marshall from my office. Elise marshall from my office, thank you. Between august 20th and 30th, there's -- there have been more than 74 churches leasing agents, private citizens asking -- we've been asking them for help and assistance. And for those of them who said yes, some did not have any ability to provide any land, but some were able to provide some financial resources, some didn't have an answer at all, but for those who were very helpful, our deep, deepest appreciation to them. We have a couple of leads that we'll pass on to commissioner Sten's office, and we'll continue working together to see if we can actually make this experiment work. And if we can, as commissioner Sten said, it will be very special experiment, only in a city like ours, and only possible in our city -- in a city like ours. So I want to thank commissioner Sten, commissioner -- the staff of commissioner Sten's office, and Elise marshall and valley -- valerie, an intern in my office. Thank you very much. Tanya parker and heather lions, come on up, and rob justice come on up.

Tony Parker, Director of Bureau of Housing and Community Development: Good afternoon, mayor, commissioners. I'll name is tanya parker, the director of the bureau of housing and community development. This is my first presentation before you, so I thought i'd come with a light issue.

Katz: Yes. And of course you know what we do to people who are here for the first time.

Parker: No. In all seriousness, the resolution you have before you is a product of eight months of hard work, tough decisions, time and energy, heated agreements and learning. So I want to take just a quick time to thank some of those who've been involved in this from my staff, heather lions, who's the homeless program specialist, mark, who was not able to be here today, commissioner Sten, your office, your office, mayor, the police, dignity village, and dignity village supporters. BHDC has been involved in this process because we're responsible for making sure that services are provided to homeless single adults here in Portland. Over the past eight months, what we've learned that's brought us to today is that we need to take a look at how we provide those services and what would be the best way to do those in the future, from what dignity village has showed us, it's time to possibly make some changes and just take a look at what we do and how we provide that. It's been about ten years, eight years to be exact, since we've had our last planning process. If you remember, there's been two major planning processes around the homeless system, former mayor bud clark's 12-point plan and most recently the shelter reconfiguration plan. What heather will outline for you this afternoon is more of some of the numbers. Some of the numbers as far as how many people are seeking shelter, how many people have not been able to enter shelter systems, and as well as people who've moved from the shelter system to housing. And then also talk in more detail about some of the next steps. Heather?

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Heather Lyons, Bureau of Housing and Community Development: Mayor and members of the council, my name is heather lyons, homeless program specialist with the bureau of housing and community development. As tanya stated, i'm going to talk about the existing publicly funded system for homeless single adults. Most of this is in your packet but i'd like to highlight a few areas. As of this fiscal year, annual ongoing funding for homeless services totals \$5.2 million in city allocated funds. Approximately 80% of these funds support services and facilities for homeless single adults. The programs reflect the issues homeless people face. Some examples are shelter with case management support, alcohol and drug-free transitional housing for newly recovering homeless individuals, outreach and housing replacement and retention for people sleeping outside and housing placement. [no audio] for homeless at risk seniors. Almost 7200 people receive some type of service under this system this year. Of those, almost 5900 receive some sort of housing placement assistance. This could be anything from someone walking into the door of transition projects community service center asking for information, or someone going to the northwest pilot project looking for affordable housing. A little over 1900 people moved into housing. I'd like to highlight some of the organization's outcomes from last year. 93% of homeless persons housed through joined services maintain their housing for one year following placement. 81% of mentally ill homeless persons from a transitional housing facility were placed in housing remained there for 12 months. 64% of people in publicly funded shelter who received intervention centers followed through with alcohol and/or drug treatment. And the list goes on. It is important to note that the homeless system is forced to deal with the repercussions when other systems of care in the community are at or beyond capacity or not as functional as they could be. Keeping that in mind, in -- and also understanding existing low-income housing needs meets the needs of only 49% of the very low-income housing -- households in the community, the system is operating fairly well and in many cases phenomenally. However, we recognize gaps exist and the system doesn't serve everyone. Capacity is always an issue. During the summer months we cannot guarantee shelter space for every individual who seeks it, and in the winter months we rely on privately operated missions to provide the most basic shelters to get protection from the elements. We do not have a facility that provides shelter for couples who wish to stay together, and there aren't adequate storage facilities for people's belongings, which is a problem. This list could go on too. To be responsive to changing community needs, we need to examine the existing system, continue to support what works and change what may not work as well. Exploring a pilot project with dignity village could be a component of that. We support dignity village's philosophical goals of self governance and the freedom of individuals to access quality of support they need to transition from the streets. In addition, we support any effort that builds healthy communities, also we not only support but applauds homeless people tackling the problem of homelessness. However, the patrick cattle and reality of issues related to the vision of dignity village are very complicated. Negotiations and meetings over the past several months were efforts to bridge the gap between the ideal and the reality to set the ground work for a pilot project. The conditions outlined in the resolution show the result of these efforts. The bacd hopes continued work with dignity village can result in a pilot project that can fit with the ideals of the village while enhancing the existing continuum of homeless services for single adults. And -- an important measure of the success would be how dignity village as a model increases access to permanent housing. Bacd supports many of the ideals of dignity village as it exists now, we would not support the village if its goal is to be an alternative living model as a final destination for people on the streets. I would like to note other planning efforts underway to address homelessness in the community. The sisters of the rogue cafe organizing project will need a voice -- bring a voice to the table. They

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bring together homeless and previously homeless people to provide good answer that will improve the system. And at this point i'd like to acknowledge dignity village because their work highlighting the problems of people on the street helped initiate this project, and we hope they will participate in these discussions. This process will operate in coordination with a parallel effort among other interested parties. In particular those who provide services through community-based organizations that next to people who are or have been homeless have the most experience to share in evaluating and planning for a better system. Follow-up -- following up on their work as the revisioning committee, which began in january, bhcd began working with directors of homeless programs to develop an rfp for fiscal year '02-03 that will reflect a changing response to homelessness. Bhcd looks forward to results from the dialogues among faith-based and other institutions from the broader community which will be facilitated by ecumenical ministries of Oregon. Exploring diverse avenues of discussion will help guide policy that can lead toward an improved system of services and facilities. Ecumenical ministries of Oregon will be speaking about this effort later. Finally, as staff and the city bureau that contracts with 120 nonprofits carrying out over 200 housing activities, we know lack of resources consistently prevents adequate responses to community needs. We hope that if anything the work of the village will bring together all the stakeholders mentioned above and more to challenge that status quo and address how to eradicate homelessness. Thank you.

Parker: Finally, I wanted to make a couple of points. We don't know if dignity village model is a perfect fit for the homeless system, but what we do want to make sure that we stress is that we are interested of continuing to have a collaborative spirit and dialogue with them. To me I see this as a middle point, and we'll continue to work how we've proceeded so far. Two other things to stress is more of the bigger picture. Part of the answer for me of homelessness lies in creating more affordable housing, and making sure that the systems that support homeless people that are supposed to be there, such as the mental health system, alcohol and drug rehabilitation, for example, are at its prime to help support these populations. Thank you.

Saltzman: In looking at the conditions of the resolution, they're very good conditions, but i'm curious, is it bhcd's responsibility to assure these conditions are complied with and to monitor the compliance? I guess to pick out three in particular, village residents move on to more appropriate housing opportunities within six months, not accept minors as residents, and the population will not exceed 60 residents at one time. Is that going to be bhcd's responsibility to monitor and enforce?

Lyons: I imagine that's going to be the case. I think that as -- if this resolution is passed today and we continue to work with dignity village, we will look at how best we can do that. Again, the crux --

Saltzman: They're pretty black and white conditions.

*****: They are, but --

Saltzman: They're pretty black and white. It's either 60 residents or less, minors or no minors.

Lyons: Right. So we will be monitoring for that, absolutely.

Saltzman: And enforcing?

*****: As best we can, yes.

Sten: Is it fair to say at this point what we're doing in the next 60 days is examining whether or not a pilot project could work, and those are the conditions under which the bureau and the council under this resolution would be interested in proposing?

Parker: Exactly.

Katz: There will be a continual dialogue going on within the 60 days to finalize a lot of those issues. Okay. Go ahead.

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Rob Justice, Executive Director JOIN: Good afternoon. I'm Rob Justice, executive director of JOIN. It's interesting from myself to be here for the -- for myself, the last ten years, this issue of homeless people sleeping outside has been the issue that myself and our organization has struggled with, but with that, I feel like that we have really come into a place where organizationally we know that we can do what it takes to work with folks sleeping outside to transition them into permanent housing. That being said, we estimate that there's probably at least 2,000 people sleeping outside in the city of Portland any given night. Our outreach workers come in contact with at least 130 brand-new folks every month. I think we're constantly amazed at the number of unduplicated individuals that we continually come across on a monthly basis. What's interesting for us is our outreach workers in striving to work with folks who transition off the streets, come in - - and do interact with every single one of the commissioner -- every bureau, different bureaus the commissioners oversee. One of the things for us in this is a real struggle with a lot of those interactions, and I think one of the things that I would like to speak to beyond the Dignity Village is that even though you might have 60 people eventually in Dignity Village, there's going to be thousands of people sleeping outside in the city of Portland. And how are we collectively as a city responding to those thousands of people? Each -- from PDOT parks, housing, the police, we interact with all these bureaus, and the lack of consistency of how we interact with your bureaus and at times the noninteraction, but the actions of the different bureaus and how they affect homeless people sleeping outside is dramatic. And so one of the things that I am here to mention and really try to keep in our minds is the thousands of people who are not a part of Dignity Village, who are out there and are affected by moving people out from underneath the Ross Island, the McLoughlin caves, Johnson Creek, the folks that are camping out there. People that are under roadways. The different bureaus that are calling upon the police to try to resolve. And what we truly and profoundly believe is that we need an intelligent, comprehensive response in all of these bureaus and with the police, in how we respond in a positive way, because whatever our actions are in response to the issue of homelessness, it has to have down the road the vision, the goal of working to transition people into permanent housing. And if our policies and procedures within parks, you know, PDOT, are working against that, we need dialogue. We need to have those conversations. We have seen real strides in working with the police bureau in trying to collaborate with that. But it's far from consistent and it's real hit and miss. At times it's more dependent upon an individual officer who says, I want to make the extra effort here, rather than it is part of protocol. So that -- for us that's one of the issues that when we're thinking about folks that are on the streets that I think each bureau and each commissioner in the -- and the mayor need to think about how can we consistently deal with people that is about helping people move towards permanent housing. I will offer kind of three questions that I think should be asked towards any effort, any idea, any organization that speaks to wanting to help end homelessness. To ask the question, do nice efforts directly move -- these efforts move people into permanent housing. Are we about helping people move back into the community. Not just into subsidized housing, but helping people mainstream, move people back into the community, to employment, moving into open market housing. And most importantly, and most important measure that I think we have to have as a city and as a -- as the county, is around retention of looking, are people staying housed that we're putting into housing. And I would say that as a system, we're not doing a very good job around retention. To me, most important measure of success if we're really doing our jobs is looking at that retention that people are maintaining their housing. And that's crucial. Our organization, our last fiscal year we saw 368 people move into permanent housing. 368. That's individuals and families. Our retention rate of people who had been in housing for a year at the end of that fiscal year was over

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90%. We have worked with dignity village to help people in their village transition from the village into permanent housing. What we have learned as an organization and -- in working with people to help them transition into permanent housing is this -- that you can move people directly off the streets into permanent housing. Just because someone doesn't want to move into a shelter does not mean they don't want to end their homelessness. [applause] [gavel pounded]

Katz: We don't clap here. Please. Go ahead. Thank you. [laughter]

Justice: But to be able to do that, to be able to begin to work with someone in a process to move off the streets we have to create stability in their lives. Even if that stability is a consistent place to sleep under a bridge. So that's why we negotiate with the police and odot all the time to say, wait.

They come to us and they say, we need these folks out of here. We say, can you give us a month? Give us two months. Give us time to work with that individual or with that group of individuals.

What we find is key for us to be able to let people begin to focus on what they need to focus on that we need to create stability. And that often when people are constantly are moved along or are ticketed, that often that works against -- if anything, perpetuate how long someone is on the streets.

When join first started, there was an attitude, if we want people to move off the streets we have to make them uncomfortable. We have to put the pressure on. We have to not let them get comfortable where they're at. And what we have found is what that does, though, for many people, is that perpetuates their homelessness. At the same time, I think there's a responsibility by homeless campers to be responsible to the community. To be good neighbors. To not let garbage get built up. Those campers have to be part of the solution to responding to the consequences of having thousands of people sleeping outside. So it goes both ways. But one of the things that we have tried to work with the police is that collaboration. But it very inconsistent in that effort. But we truly believe that the only way we're going to be able to be successful in helping people transition off the streets is through Portland public schools. Is through working together. And we have some partnerships with some of your bureaus, with some, none at all. We've had a few conversation -- a partnership for us doesn't mean necessarily we get a phone call saying, we're moving a bunch of people out from a particular area in two days, can you come down. It's being engaged months ahead of time and having honest dialogue around whatever that issue is. Those partnerships are crucial. And the other -- one of the other things we've learned, once you get somebody into housing, that's only half the work. Working with people, to stabilize in that housing can take a year, it can take longer. So if there are any efforts in the name of homelessness to respond to homelessness, we -- there has to be an effort to move folks into permanent housing, move people back into the wider community, to create support networks for them, because one of the ways we've been able to help people stabilize their housing is building community for them.

Katz: Thank you. Okay. Questions? Thank you. All right. Dignity village, you have 15 minutes.

Katz: Okay, that's about three minutes each. Go ahead.

*******:** There's about an eight minute video that -- that's going to be at the end of our presentation, so that would work fine to have --

Katz: Can you keep your comments down, then, to about two minutes each?

*******:** Sure. That was our goal, to go two, 2 1/2 minutes.

Katz: Okay. Go ahead. Who's starting?

Ibrahim Mubarak, Dignity Village: My name is ibrahim mubarak. I'd like to thank you for this time to speak, mayor Katz ask commissioners. I'm a resident and representative of dignity village, also an advocate of homelessness because of this movement of the ongoing struggle of homelessness, I decided to partake and participate to help people with the concept of dignity

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village. We've been on odot land i'm going to thank odot for allowing us to stay on their land, to help the 58 people that came to the village to become successful in finding employment and their own housing. The land out on -- where you're sending us this week is not feasible for us because it's not accessible to the medical department if people get sick, it's not accessible to food, and also while we was on the 17th and xavier location, people have found work and some of the members are getting -- their ged and going back to college, and there's no transportation for them to go to these locations in the appropriate time for them to be productive and successful and accomplish their goals and desires. But since we're not just a bunch of lazy scumbags as people perceive homeless people to be, we're going to accept your offer and move out there and we're going to show, not prove to you all, but prove to ourselves, no matter where we can, we can be successful and we are going to be successful. [applause] we're not trying to impose -- [gavel pounded] we're trying to have an impact on society that we're allowed to do for ourselves and take care of our responsibility, we can become productive. That's all I have to say.

Katz: Thank you. Go ahead.

*****: Hello there, california and -- Katz and all you good counselors.

Katz: Speak up, please.

Jack, Dignity Village: My name is jack, I live at the village, and what I want to speak about is like not where we're going to, but just the past few months and how we've impacted on the neighborhood around us. I think we've done it in a very positive way. I deal with trash and sanitation, and we've got toilets out there, that's a lot of crap that would be elsewhere out of the area. We have a two-yard dumpster, that's serviced three times a week. One of those services we pay for ourselves. That's good. That's gone. That's out of there. We have four big recycling bins, and that's part of what I -- that touches on what I do, trash and sanitation, recycling. The cardboard gets where it's going, the cans get where they're going. They buy our lights and our heat. As far as the neighbors around us, I think we have a good relation with our neighbors, with the people at security towing, they like us. They like our security. The alarm doesn't go off like it used to back in december when we were there before. Our other neighbors at ctr corporation, we worked out a deal where we could see movies with those people in their executive lounge for three months. Pretty nice people. Ed is real, and john ellis. Next to us on the other side is premier gear and machine works. We've had letters of support from all of these people. Down the road is the church, the catholic church where we get our water. Some of our crew worked six people worked five hours on cleaning up around their parking lot and stuff like that one day, and yesterday we voted -- we found their water bill had gone up as a consequence of our use of their water. About a thousand dollars a quarter, so we paid them \$500 yesterday. You know, for our water that we've used while we've been there. But our relations with our neighbors are good. The place is probably cleaner than it's ever been. The graffiti is down, we've repainted things that had graffiti on them, and looked after the neighborhood. Everybody likes the neighborhood looking nice. So I don't know how our relations with our neighbors is good, that's all I really have to say.

Katz: Thank you, jack. John?

Frank O'Neil, Dignity Village: My name is frank o'neill, i'm a co-op coordinator for a small microbusiness, the program we have loaded in and stuff since this has started, we have a lot of plans for this to go on and to really produce a lot more work than what the average person really thinks will happen. The thing to it is, this real -- it's really great for what's going on, because this is something that needs to be addressed, and it's a productive thing for people to come from off the streets and stuff, getting here to the point where they can go further at a rate higher than minimum wage. This also helps people to be able to make a choice on what they want to do instead of have

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to do. This is very important in people's lives to be able to be in a situation where they have a family, where they're wanted, and to do that it takes jobs, it takes money to buy land, it takes money to buy equipment. It takes money to do everything society -- in society today. Today's society is really hung up on the dollar bill. We're talking about people making their own choices. We're talking about people that can be productive, that can go out and say, hey, I can do this. One mind's great, many minds are a lot better. When they're combined, you can go a long, long ways. This is going to happen. In the near future you're going to be seeing small businesses come out of this in the real near future. It's not just a farming venture, it's -- there's a lot more in store. This is really going to take off. A lot more than what you people can ever imagine. It's going to happen. Because we're not going to stop until it does.

Katz: Thank you.

*****: That's all I have to say.

Katz: Who's next? You? Okay.

Gay, Dignity Village: My name is gay. I came to dignity village about 2 1/2 months ago because I got locked out of my apartment. I had worked for a rather large corporation here in Oregon, and I got ill. By the time I got down to northwest pilot projects, the sheriff had looked -- locked me out of my apartment. I had run through all my savings. And I came to dignity village, went down to northwest pilot projects and they said, we can put you on a waiting list. It's going to take you two, six weeks, maybe two months to get you in someplace. By the way, you're going to have to give your cat up, because even though he's been with you for 12 years and been through deep depression with you, he doesn't count. And I said, thank you. What do I do in the meantime until I can get in a shelter? And they said, oh, well, you ought to get a blanket and find a park. So I rolled out of there and I went down the street and I stopped a police officer who was kind enough to give me the directions to sisters of the road, where I bought myself lunch and I bought another woman who didn't have any money lunch. I have no idea who the woman is. I've never seen her again. And then I went to dignity village. And at dignity village, they didn't tell me to go across the street and get a blanket or go under a bridge. Rather, these young people held out their arms and i've now become momma tin. And what I want to talk about, I was going to talk about how i've been on self governance committee, and how careful we are to see to it that our governing body is coming in, the way the constitution was originally meant for us to live, originally. But I want to talk to you more about some faces I looked at today. I -- this morning I said, I can't go out there. It's like a concentration camp. I have a cat who's paws will boil on that asphalt out there. I can't do it. So i'm going to go to -- i'm going to hole up.

Katz: We'll give you another 30 seconds. Go ahead.

Gay: Thank you. Then I went back in to the camp and I looked at these faces of a young man whose mother when he was 7 years old, hit him with a cast-iron skillet and they put a plate in his head. And I spent a night listening to what his life had been like. And I know that he is turning his life around. I need him more than two months. There's another young man who was in a gang. He's now married to a beautiful young woman. And they can stay together and they're getting on their feet. We're supporting each other. Give us a chance.

Katz: Thank you. [applause]

Katz: Please. Come on.

John Hubbard, Supporter of Dignity Village: I'm john, i'm a supporter of the -- of dignity village. I was involved since the beginning campaign in december. I submitted, and i'm not sure if it got before you, a fact sheet. Was that distributed? I just wanted -- i'm not going to read all this, but I wanted to submit it for the record. Brief statements about the history, the mission statement,

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the core values, long-term goals and short-term goals, admittance agreement, the rules that the village lives by, scope of operations, the -- how it works and the nonprofit status issues and many of these sort of touch on some of the tasks and some of the requirements that were in the resolution. There's also some frequently asked questions and some answers to those, and a list of -- a long list of -- that we're really proud of people in the community and various organizations in the community who are either supporters in a very support of an advocacy way, or are agent significance that we've had some filiation with and are providing -- we have a collaborative relationship with, and they're not in an advocacy position, but they're -- they recognize and resonate with the constructive things going on in the village and have stepped up to provide various pieces of the puzzle that puts together the village. And that -- there's so many supporters in the community that have done that. We're really grateful for that. Also attached, these are very important, there's a police protocol that we worked out with the Portland police department so our security team has a very constructive relationship with the police so that when they come on site there's no panic, there's no things getting out of control, and that's -- we've worked that out with central precinct. The copy of our articles of incorporation that we -- has been approved by the village that outlines the long-term vision and the activities that we are pursuing as a nonprofit organization. And lastly, there's an attachment, a very informative attachment on dome village to address -- there was a misstatement of fact in "the Oregonian" the other day that, well, this hasn't happened anywhere else, it hasn't worked, so why should we expect it to work in Portland. And that it has worked in los angeles, of all places. So if it can happen in los angeles, I certainly don't understand why it can't happen in Portland.

Katz: Thank you, john. All right. Let's make a little room for jada mae. Do you want to say anything, jada?

*****: Me?

Katz: You:

*****: Of course:

*****: Of course:

Katz: Come on:

Hubbard: We've also had a request from the radical cheerleaders to tag on, or you're going to miss the show. They have to leave.

Katz: How long is the radical cheerleaders going to take?

*****: One cheer.

Katz: Let jada go first. Get close to a microphone so the public can hear you. Jada will say what she wants to say when she wants to say it, and how she wants to say it.

Jada Mae, Dignity Village: I sure wish I would have had a chance to talk to Oregon transportation, but I wasn't invited to salem like the rest of the fellas were. So we have that little bit of problem here that, you know, the ladies are not paid attention to as much as they would like to be. We have pretty much of a strong, i'm-the-boss-fella relationship in that camp. And that is true. But outside of that, I am married to dignity village. That's the strongest community i've ever lived in, and as you probably know, i've lived in all sorts of communities around the country, especially in the pacific northwest. And this is just a wonderful opportunity for our village to start an arcology in this city, like i've been talking about for 25 years. Because I don't have a big pocketful of money, and that sort of stuff, and I don't pay the press to get elected, I am not the most famous candidate of all. But we -- the hope for the future is a group like us to get together and build an arcology that's not a parking lot for three cars in front of our driveway. And if we -- I -- if I gotta

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fry out there, you better bring lots of ice. Because I go through lots of ice if it turns 75. And i'm sticking with the camp.

Katz: Thank you, jada mae. All right. Our cheerleaders. [laughter]

Cheerleaders: Rise up. Camping is a human right. Hear our cry, hear our cry. For our spaces we will fight, hear our cry, hear our cry. Don't deny the village pride. Hear our cry, hear our cry. Dignity, dignity. D-i-g-n-i-t-y: [cheers and applause]

Katz: All right. Thank you, everybody. Thank you. Questions by council? All right. Thank you. We need -- why don't all of you then take back -- take your seats and we'll bring the video. I saw mr. Lakeman here. Is he -- is that the video -- no. Gotcha. Sorry.

*****: What we do is based on love and respect for our self and each other. There will be no disrespect based on religion, race, sexual orientation, handicap, age, lifestyle choice, previous record by economic -- or economic status.

*****: They call it the american dream because you have to be asleep to believe it. Who says you have to go to college, get married, buy -- have two children, buy a house with a white picket fence and a dog? That's somebody else's dream. Just because you don't grasp hold of that concept don't mean that you're a degenerate, a low-life, a scumbag.

*****: I could say, i've got this great house and three kids and two cats and two cars. Whatever. But no, I have no -- I am not ashamed of my lifestyle. It's not something I want for the rest of my life, but for now at least I have some way I can -- somewhere to put my stuff. A roof over my head, I even have an air mattress.

*****: We don't want to call this a shelter, because it's not sheltering anybody. This is an alternative living condition.

*****: It gives me a sense of belonging. It gives me a sense of calm. And it gifts me a safe place to be all at the same time.

*****: I really never knew what a family was. We were all more or less becoming a family down here.

*****: Together as a big family. That's what dignity village is all about.

*****: I'm here, i'm helping -- i'm part of the community now. I feel really good about it.

*****: My heart's very much at dignity village. It means a lot to me. It gives me a sense of pride. Dignity. That's [bleep] what that's about.

*****: What's the alternative? Sleeping in doorways, staying someplace that's not safe, they get robbed, molested, women especially. This is safe. This is safe. Nobody has to worry here.

*****: I'm safe here. I know nothing bad will happen to me while i'm here.

*****: I believe dignity village gives people more of a chance to help themselves than a shelter. A shelter let's new at 8 o'clock. And out at 5:30 in the morning. That's it.

*****: A lot of the purpose is to be used as transition. And part of the purpose here is also to create better housing for ourselves, to not have to go to the shelters or sleep in doorways, wake up to a cop saying, you can't be here.

*****: It's a great way to get on your feet again and feel good about yourself. It teaches us something to look forward to that doesn't have anything to do with going out there and getting high.

*****: I've been robbed places, and this has had the most impact on me overall. During the 21/2, 31/2 months my life has flip-flopped.

*****: Homelessness is the majority of what I know. I'm trying to teach myself different ways of adapting and not having to survive, but to live. There's a difference between surviving and living. Living is enjoying life. Surviving is one day to the next.

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*****: I want to become a cna. I want to finish my high school. I'm almost close to finishing, I just need a few more tests on the ged and I can finish it.

*****: We're working on our bylaws to come under our own ceiling so no one else has to be responsible for us but us. We're trying very hard to do that.

*****: We want to be self-sufficient. We want to do for ourselves, but everybody needs help. That's what dignity village is, is in instant stage. Until we get permanent to do for ourselves, we need help. We don't want -- we want to be self-sufficient.

*****: The thing to it is, you have to be a productive person of something. If a person is in a wheelchair, they can use their hands. People are -- one harm doesn't work, the other one does. Those people have a specialty at that they can do. [inaudible] -- accomplish a hell of a lot more than that. [inaudible] plan.

*****: What I want to do is show the public -- take nothing and make something out of it.

*****: A good neighbor policy with our neighbors. We get water, we clean the parking lot, we clean the church and stuff, get our water. We do other stuff. We do security for the guy over here that owns the towing company. Graffiti has gone down since we've been here, so they enjoy having us down here.

*****: The camp is almost always clean. Trash taken care of, I know that jack does a lot around here with, lake, observing the neighborhood. Some of the neighbors have said they don't want to see us go because the security will be gone in a sense. We do checks, we even do neighborhood checks. We do a radius to make sure everybody is okay in the neighborhood.

*****: It's no standard mode for how you live in life, because everybody's different. So there's different lifestyles everywhere. That's why america is so great. Because we are supposed to tolerate the differences, not hate it. I'd like to get back to that.

*****: Some people might say they live in dirt. This ain't dirt. This is my floor, this is my ground, this is what -- so i'm better off having it now than nowhere to go. I don't want to be in somebody's doorway, having the police harass me, kick me every morning to get up at 2 o'clock, whatever they feel. I'm grateful to be here. I'm grateful there's people who care out here. I care. I like to see others that care.

*****: 400 people came through here at -- and 41 people have successfully found work to get their apartment and save money. Two women got their -- one man got his whole family back. Just think what we can do if we was permanent.

*****: You look around, the community here, and there's a lot of people who aren't strong in and of themselves, our strength is our unity, what unity we have in our diversity. That's where our strength comes from. We can do amazing things together. You can't really do it by yourself. There's a whole thing against you. But together if we can hang together and deal with the issue, we can deal with it very well. \m\m

Katz: Okay. Thank you very much. All right. Chuck curry from the first united methodist church, indicate lower, dr. Arvin lukes, dr. Patricia ross, rick stoler.

Chuck Curry, Director Community Outreach, First United Methodist: Good afternoon, my name is chuck curry, the director of community outreach at first united methodist copy of Portland.

We're here today as members of Portland's faith-based community. Dignity village and commissioner Sten are to be commended for working out this agreement. Our pledge is to work with dignity village and the city to find ways to support the needs of those forced to live outside because of a lack of shelter space. We will set up another meeting with dignity representatives as soon as possible to talk about how we might be helpful. As we have for years, we will also continue to put public pressure on our public institutions, the city council and others, to do more

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while we challenge others in the faith community to do the same. Years of neglect have brought us to this point. It should also be pointed out the needs of homeless families and youth have been overshadowed by the events surrounding dignity village. We cannot forget our responsibility to these populations as well. Our ultimate goal should be to increase dramatically the supply of low-cost housing so people have a home, not a camp or a shelter.

Kate Lower, Social Justice Director, First Unitarian Church: Hello, my name is kate lower, the social justice director at first unitarian church in downtown Portland. Our church's downtown homeless action group has been involved in this issue sense may, when we hosted dignity village's community teach-in. Since then, I have toured the current village site and attended some of the village meetings, and I want to express how impressed I am with the vision and integrity and democratic nature of this community. We need to find and fund a permanent place for this community to reside, not only because they deserve a safe place to be, but because I think we as a community have something we can learn from them. I am also the chair of the interfaith homeless and housing coalition, and I want to remind you of a letter that we wrote to you nine months ago. Chuck, can you get that letter out? Great. In december of 2000, over 20 religious leaders sent you a letter expressing our opposition to the city's anticamping ordinance. We agreed with the Multnomah county court decision that declares the ordinance cruel and unusual punishment and i'd like to restate our request that the city support the court on this important civil rights decision, especially as it pertains to dignity villagers. Lastly I would like to state that I expect a lot of future opposition by the faith community to the recent association for Portland progress that would make it a crime to sit or lie on the sidewalk. Criminalizing homelessness will not solve homelessness. Rather, we need to get together to engage in some productive strategizing on how we can address homelessness in our community, and by we, I mean our community -- our entire community, those in homes and those without. As you may recall in the letter we sent you nine months ago, we requested a meeting. You did respond with a thank you note for writing the letter, but we were never granted that meeting and I would like to request one with you soon.

Katz: Thank you.

Arvin Lents, Sr. Pastor: My name is arvin lents, i'm a senior pastor. I'm not new to Portland or new to the wonderful nature of this community. I want to assure you as members of our elected council, that there is solid and deep commitment from the faith community to helping people find shelter and move out of homelessness. A simple anecdote that happened to me last night. A person showed up at our church door without a home. I tried to find a shelter for him. The three available shelters I was able to find last night all of which were founded and were operated out of church communities, many, many church communities and shelters in the Portland area today are operated by churches and by religious groups. My own congregation operates the goose hollow family shelter out of its facilities during the winter months. We house up to 24 homeless persons each night. It's fully staffed and operated without the use of public funds. Thanks to the donations of -- and the volunteers from more than 20 other congregations around Portland. In turn, our congregation supports more than 20 other groups that serve the needs of Portland's homeless. We are not an exception. The dozens of congregations in east Multnomah and Washington counties open their doors to provide shelter for families on a rotating basis. Transition projects, to site another -- to cite another example, relies on the religious community to provide meals at their shelters. Mayor Katz, you are on -- were on target when you said Portland is a unique city. And you as council members have a unique opportunity, a pioneering opportunity in front of you in this resolution. I want to assure you that the people of faith from a wide variety of traditions, are

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already committed to these issues and are prepared to work in partnership to make sure everyone in this wonderful city has food, has safety, and security. Thank you.

Katz: Thank you. Come on over closer to the mike. Thank you.

Patricia Ross, Senior Minister, First Congregational Church: Good afternoon. My name is patricia ross, and i'm the senior minister of first congregational church in downtown Portland, united church of christ. Our church also has a long-term commitment to helping with issues of homelessness. For example, we worked with the city and the county for six years providing emergency shelter for homeless youth, and until very recently we had a pizza-making project in our kitchen, where young people were learning the skills of running a pizza business so those skills could be used out in the world of economics. Meanwhile, we also, until fairly recently, had a very big problem on the front of our church. We have a big stone porch on the front facing park, and there were times in the past when as many as 20 homeless people would throw down a piece of cardboard and roll out a sleeping bag and sleep there all night. It got to the point where concert goers and patrons of the art would cross the street so they didn't have to go by our church because they didn't want to be pan handled. And some of our own church members were reluctant to come to church at night because of the same kinds of fears. The church staff offered information about homeless shelters, but for the reasons that have been talked about this afternoon, those pieces of information were rejected. Mornings were very difficult at the church during that time. When we'd ask the folks to move on, they were reluctant to do so, and when they did, the aftermath was very unpleasant. Reluctantly, since our scripture tells us that the face of each homeless person could be the face of jesus christ, we posted no trespassing signs on our porch, and worked with the police to stop this practice. For about the last year, very few people have been sleeping on the steps of the church, and to be very honest, that's been a big relief. But our church is still committed to working on these problems of homelessness. And we've been very favorably impressed with dignity village. The way it's been organized, the way it's been working. We like the fact that homeless people are working together to solve some of these problems on their own. I am personally proud to be part of a city that's willing to work with people as they seek to work out their own destiny and solve their own problems. Our problems. Because the roots of homelessness are part of our responsibility as a whole community. Our church wants to be part of solving the problems. We look to you to be part of solving the problems, and we're very grateful to dignity village for setting the pace on solving at least a small piece of these problems. I hope that we can continue to work together to find ways to cope with these difficulties and to bring an end to homelessness here in Portland.

Katz: Thank you.

Rick Stoller, Associate Director, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon: Good afternoon. My name is rick stoler, and i'm associate director of ecumenical ministries of Oregon. I would like to acknowledge and thank the members of dignity village and folks from the city for modeling for all of us a willingness to engage in a good faith effort to find solutions to this very complicated, difficult and potentially divisive problem. We'd like to assist in that ongoing effort. In april, the interface homeless and housing coalition held a meeting to be briefed on dignity village. October 10th, we're convening a consultation for the faith community to explore responses of that community to the ongoing issues of homelessness. Later in the fall we're planning a larger forum to include, in addition to the faith community, representatives from dignity, government, business, social service providers, communities, to consider our community's responsibilities around homelessness. Lastly, we would be happy to serve as part of an ongoing advisory group to work

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with dignity village, the city, and other interested parties as this pilot project is developed. Thank you very much.

Katz: Thank you very much. All right. About an hour later, and we're starting the public testimony. We will do two minutes each. Trust me. You can get your message out in two minutes the same way you can get it out in three. So let's start.

Katz: Come up three at a time.

Katz: If you're upstairs and you hear your name, come on down. Let's come on up.

Mark Lakeman: Mark lakeman with the city repair project.

Tim Merrill: Tim merrill.

Chrissy Washburn: Chrissy washburn, a new citizen to Portland from minneapolis.

*******:** Tim and I are -- kind of work together in presenting some of the proposal, accompanied by the images. Can we have the light down and the slides up? When we were titling the proposal, there was little bit of talk about calling it, 2001, a public space odyssey. [laughter] but we decided not to go there. One of the reasons why I was so excited about this particular effort is because i'm used to working with people that are placed based to some extent, they live in a neighborhood perhaps, but it takes so much work to get them to come out of their houses to say hello, to care about each other enough to actually meet, work together, accomplish something. They tend to recede, and it's hard to bring them back out. In the case of dignity village, they didn't necessarily have a place. That was had was missing. But what they had was what you can't buy, which was what you can't really find anywhere, and that is they had the willingness, the cause, they had the common concern, they had everything else but the place. So that seems to be what we're still missing. That's what's really exciting to me. Looking at the slide up above, that's an image of a typical Portland neighborhood at noon. Everybody else -- everybody that lives there is elsewhere, really everywhere else but where they live pretty much. Next slide, please. What i'm doing is contrasting the idea of a neighborhood with a village. A neighborhood being a place where people really are not working on common concerns in a place based condition. As opposed to a village where they are kind of working together, playing together, creating relationships together with the people among whom they live, when you contrast these two you can really see there's an enormous difference in the condition just by allowing people who are in a place together to work together or people who want to work together to have a place together. Just to finish my bit of statement here, the appeal to me is that this potentially has great benefits for us all. Just to leave it all at that. Can we have the next slide, please? I hope you can see this better than we can. This shows a hypothetical approach to landing dignity on a site and how we might configure a village. It shows that in spite of the fact we're only dealing with tents at this point, we begin by laying out the infrastructure that would go on and evolve into a very powerful sense of place. It could actually be transformed not only for the people creating it from within the village, but for Portlanders who could come and visit it and actually experience it. And we're not thinking of it only as an issue specific effort that is about homelessness, we're also thinking of it as an environmentally oriented and socially oriented prototype for sustainable, for testing ideas.

Katz: You're going to take two minutes too?

*******:** Yes.

Katz: Okay, good.

*******:** The -- next slide, please. Please drawings were done -- these drawings were done for a site below naito parkway, that have been called by the villagers the field of dreams this. Is a vacant piece of property that for purposes of this study, we laid this system out. We really think this would be an ideal place to locate this, but this is not a hand-out, this is not a request for property.

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This is just an idea of what could be done. We were asked by bhcd to come up with some concrete ideas, and this is the most concrete we've come up with. "the Oregonian" seize order this and said this is some sort of land grab, and that wasn't the idea at all. We're saying you could take the same concept and go to any location and create a sustainable village. I think that's the whole idea here, is that this is community. We've been hearing this over and over again, and the intention of this was to design this as a community, gathering the tents around initially to create community and in the future, building with the residents' help and with volunteers, building real architecture that enforced community and helps us support it. Thank you.

*****: This is a transitional image. Can we have the next one? That's sort of what it could look like. Can we go in closer for some perspective? Just run through them? The next six.

*****: Can you explain what these are?

*****: These are various perspectives looking from different angles at the field of dreams site. It shows a growth over a period of years that could be done, and so i'd like to emphasize that we're in this for the long term, and we intend to involve other architects as well and -- in making this something Portland can be proud of and a model for the nation. Thanks.

Katz: Thank you. Can we have the lights up?

*****: I am a professor psychologist --

Katz: Identify yourself.

Chrissy Washburn: Chrissy washburn, recently moved here from minneapolis. Back in minneapolis I was a professional psychologist and practiced individual therapy there for nine years.

What I learned in my profession and in my life experience, magical and wonderful changes can happen for people when they are in relationships where they are cared about and where they feel safe and where they can feel heard. And if you take those people and they have a group of people where they can feel safe and heard and trusted and honored, magical things can happen, true transformations. I believe that is where change happens in individual relationships and where change happens in our community and in our whole world, is through our relationships. And caring and trust and honesty. And my experience with the village the past three months i've spent hours with these people, and in their meetings, and they are an extraordinary example of that kind of love and safety and respect. And I just hope you will affirm and help them in all the ways you can.

Katz: Let me see if i'm correct. You have always been very generous. Do you want to tell us what you've done?

*****: Well, we would like to support the homeless situation here in Portland with some of our financial resources, because we believe this is a way to make real change for a lot of people. And the village wants to not only support themselves, but have more people come through. We feel the same way about sisters of the road cafe and street roots in terms of what we know about those efforts that are being made by those organizations to help the people here in Portland who are homeless.

Katz: Your mayor's loss is our gain. Thank you very much.

Katz: Okay. Who wants to grab the mike first? All right, sir.

*****: Hello.

Katz: Hello.

Don Washburn: My name is don washburn.

Katz: You're the other half.

Don Washburn: I'm the support for the support, that's correct. By the way, i'm sure sharon would say hello. She's a delightful person. I thought i'd address a question that certainly my wife and I

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had to address. That is, why is dignity village, it's a pilot project, worthy of support? And secondly, why is it important? Well, not all homeless people are willing to do what it takes to be a resident of dignity village. Avoid drugs, alcohol on the site, avoid violence and theft, contribute to cleanliness, sanitation, things like that. People don't do that everywhere. There's a segment of the homeless population that's willing to do that. People willing to commit. And those are people that live in dignity village. Now, the dignity village residents say that people who can't commit to this can't live there. That distinguishes them right off the bat to me. Dignity village is important and worthy of our support because, and I have three points I'd like to make. The residents want to take care of themselves by creating a safe place where they can do so. And they want to take care of themselves as much as they possibly can, given the circumstances that they currently have. Now, therefore, over time, this is a benefit to everybody. Because it leads to less claim on the public resources that can be put in other places. Dignity village residents want to help themselves and each other out of negative behaviors, and turn those towards positive, productive actions. Now, that can take them out of homelessness, which to me is one of the things that some of the prior speakers said was an objective that you would have, and that is a community we should have. Dignity village residents are committed to programs as well as just living there, but programs that would increase both the speed and the success rate of such transformations. Now, dignity village residents want --

Katz: Your time is up. I'll give you ten seconds.

Don Washburn: Ten seconds it is. They want our help. Let's honor the spirit they bring. It's a good deal for all of us. To do so. They've got my support. I certainly urge yours.

Katz: Thank you. Let's keep going.

Jenny Nelson, Sisters of the Road Cafe: I'm Jenny Nelson, codirector and cofounder of Sisters of the Road Cafe. Community organizing determines the content of what we do as Sisters of the Road Cafe. Our current programs leading requirement is that they are customer driven solutions to the issues and concerns of our community. Men, women, and children who are dealing with the calamities of homelessness and poverty. Our endorsement and support of Dignity Village comes naturally. I've done my work in Old Town for almost three decades now. There certainly have been political conversations and political strategies used in the past. But until Dignity Village, I have never witnessed this level of empowerment of a critical mass. A group of 70-plus women and men who understand empowerment will not work by service delivery alone. Empowerment has two facets -- the sharing of tools, and the nurturing of the whole person, heart, mind, body, and soul. Dignity Village mirrors for me the early beginnings of the civil rights movement before there was a Martin Luther King. Ordinary men and women, young and old, who refuse to participate in a racist system. Their resounding no ushered in a movement. I say to you today, you are witnessing a similar beginning of a movement. A movement of low-income and homeless citizens. I urge you to use your leadership to help create the public will to not let our system conspire against homeless and low-income people. Thank you.

Katz: Thank you. Go ahead.

Joel Gillham, William Templehouse: My name is Joel Gillham, I'm representing William Templehouse, and I just would like to say that there's a story, or a proverb of the bird which neither sews nor reaps, but the father in heaven takes care of that person, so how much more should not Dignity Village or any of us for that matter be taken care of in the same way? We don't actually own this earth, even though we zoned it off and we've gone and -- to divisions of that nature. But again, that is public land, and is not their land. But yet they have treated it with the respect and dignity so accorded, and I think a greater or a better resolution would be to try to serve and work with this. I

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think -- I appreciate the council's great effort on and in this matter. I think i've had occasions -- i'm a receptionist at william templehouse, and we are a referral agency and we promptly put about 50 success people through. But on a given night, after 5 o'clock, sometimes it's real hard to find and house these people and call and, you know, verify that they can get in if they come and -- so I would welcome william templehouse, along with dignity village, into the ecumenical ministries contacting us at william templehouse, and continue on with the council, and work to resolve these situations. I think dignity village -- i've been to two of their meetings, and they are clean and sober, and self-governing. I've seen them extricate members of their society that were not in accordance, and this is something that council should really look at. This is a good and viable means. I appreciate the council's time today.

Katz: Thank you.

Katz: Come on up. Why don't you start.

Alexis, Dignity Village: My name is alexis, i'm a dignity villager. I had a prepared statement, but it got thrown out when a very unsettling event happened. I don't have a home. I live in my vehicle, which I park around dignity village. But in coming downtown, I saw a handicapped person, she could walk, but with great difficulty. I watched her very painstakingly move across the intersection. Each step was obviously very difficult for her. The traffic wasn't very helpful. She tried to hurry herself up, and when she got to the curb on the other side, she fell flat on her face. At which time every pedestrian in the area scattered. This is a very troubling image for me, because what it shows is a lack of compassion. The statistics provided by heather and mark, the good people at pdc, are pretty complete, but they miss one that I find very unsettling again. That is, how many homeless people die in the doorways? How many homeless people died in a park someplace, maybe, any park, with trees, the botanical gardens, maybe, covered by leaves, laying there for how many -- who knows how many years. Where are the statistics that show that the camping, anticamping ordinance does not in fact result in serious bodily harm or death to the people that it is meant to annoy. I don't know a better word for it. Dignity village is a compassionate approach to dealing with that problem. It's compassionate because it puts people in an area where there are people who can help them who will watch out for them. For those who need it, lydia, you saw her, bless her soul, she's schizophrenic, multiple personalities, what can I say? But she said it very well. That it's a matter of respect and accepting people on their terms.

Katz: Thank you.

Leah Larson: My name is lela larsen. I just recently moved to Portland myself here, and I started to get involved in dignity village in june. What I respect the most about this village is it really is a place for personal empowerment. You have a group of people that come together, you have muslims, christians, jews, blacks, whites, come together as a community, respect each other, filled with compassion. Whenever i'm there, I always get greeted by a hug first thing, smiles and hugs. That really look out for one another's well being. One another's welfare. Making sure that each person has meals, bedding, makes sure each person feels comfortable, feels like they're part of a family. I think that's so important, which can be used as an example for all of us, this sort of community. They also get a chance to explore their talents, their gifts. A lot of times in society they don't get a chance. They are looked down upon. But here they are looked upon as special individuals, deserving of respect and compassion, and their gifts are looked upon and utilized. Each person has a special talent at dignity village. And I want to thank the council for their time and for taking this into consideration and to reach a solution for us all. Wherever one can achieve some sort of dignity. Thank you.

Katz: Thank you.

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Leland "Lee" Larson: Hi. I'm lee larson, I hope I can make sense today. I'm right now in about the worst pain of my life. I have a developed -- a case of shingles. I hope you never do it, it's a result of chicken pox. But it may be -- made me wonder what these people do when they are having severe problems. Right now they're nearby where the urban services are available, and so being out by the airport as they're willing to do as an experiment, personally I think -- I would hope that Portland eventually could find an acre or so within the urban heart where all the different urban services are available. And I have not read your resolution, but all I've heard about it, I pretty much support it, but I would love to see many more people accommodated than the restrictions in the resolution. I say the more of merrier, and personally, I see nothing the matter with tents as a part of the solution of homelessness as a temporary thing. I personally do not. But I'm president of a private foundation called the Larson Legacy, and we were the main sponsor of his holiness. The Dalai Lama visit here in May. And that was -- his message of -- the Dalai Lama is that of compassion, and that word has been used a lot here. I want to tell you a little story here, and I'll wind up. Gay, who's talked here, one of the homeless people, told me about another homeless person in a wheelchair that tried to see the Dalai Lama in his appearance in Pioneer Square. And couldn't get close to him. And she was finally -- couldn't ever see him -- wheeled up on Broadway. After the Dalai Lama's presentation in Pioneer Square, the Dalai Lama chose to walk back to his hotel rather than go in the limousine. And she -- the Dalai Lama saw this homeless person in the wheelchair, went over to her, held her hands, whereupon this homeless person broke down crying and said, what an honor it was that she chose -- that he chose her. The Dalai Lama replied, and said, and bowed very low and said, the honor is mine. I was so touched by that, and in working with the people at Dignity Village, I -- I feel similarly it's a great honor. These people are doing wonderful things. And you guys, all of you, I don't know if you know it or not, you're making history here. This is history. It's wonderful stuff.

Katz: Thank you.

*******:** So thank you.

Katz: Mr. Larson, thank you. Thank you for your generosity to make that visit a reality.

Larson: Oh, I have one thing to pass out to you. I left it in the chair here. [laughter] I just had my 60th birthday on Monday, and I celebrated it -- thank you -- with a -- with the residents of Dignity Village. These people reach out and have such a compassionate -- they're truly a community. So I ran you a copy of it. [laughter]

Katz: All right. Let's move on. [gavel pounded]

*******:** Part of what I have to say is a video that Wendy is going to put on, so I think --

Katz: How long is it?

*******:** Two minutes. But we have three slots, so I think it should probably cover it.

Katz: Okay.

Leyla Iranshad: And if there is two minutes left I believe there may be a villager that may want to speak as well. My name is Lela. At the first meeting to organize a community in Portland, I was inspired by a room full of people experiencing homelessness and poverty. I was inspired by a group of people who wanted to take control of their lives and create an alternative to sleeping alone under bridges and in doorways. As the idea continued to grow and I involve into reality, from a camp to a village, my connection grew stronger as well as my admiration for Dignity Village. The villagers worked hard for over eight months now, with neighbors, social service agencies, and the city of Portland, committed to a vision of community and an alternative -- excuse me, and a solution to Portland's ever-growing homeless population. As I drove up to what has been suggested as the future temporary site for Dignity Village, my heart broke. In a situation like this

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one, one can laugh or cry, and I can tell you I chose to laugh and I really couldn't stop at the ridiculousness of this new place. We got up at 7 o'clock this morning to go down there and then the video got recorded over, and Wendy so graciously ran back in her car to do it again. So hopefully it will work.

Katz: Karla, you got it on source 2?

*****: Video 2 -- video 2. Are you plug in addition video 2 or vcr 2?

Katz: Okay. I'm sorry, it's not working.

Iranshad: Okay. I'll just keep talking. Maybe it will work. I guess I can give you my description of what I saw. On the one side, stands a jail. On the other, a fenced asphalt lot. 40 minutes by bus to downtown Portland, two miles from the nearest store, which is a mini-part, not even a grocery store. I'm just wondering how can people get off the street like this? How will people work, go to school, and access other social service agencies? Closed off, outside of the city, behind a fence. It feels like a concentration camp. This is -- does not feel like dignity. And I wonder when we're all here working together, saying that we want to work together to address homelessness, to find a solution, why is the village being set up to fail? And the only answer I can come up with is that it won't. It will not fail. Despite all odds, despite whatever place you'll force them to go to, we will succeed. They'll continue to work hard and be dedicated to their vision of community. They'll continue to work together and show that dignity is an answer, is a solution, and it will succeed. And I believe I just saw a little bit of the video up there. That would be really great.

Katz: I think that's --

*****: I just would like -- if it can be possible for you all to see, you saw the beautiful vision of dignity, you know, up there, the video of what dignity is right now, or was a week ago before we started breaking it down. And where you talk about where you want to go -- that's the Columbia River Correctional Facility.

*****: We went back out this afternoon, instead of an entire open asphalt parking lot, it fenced off an area specifically for the villagers. An area the size of where they're currently camping. [inaudible]

Katz: All right.

*****: I have to say that the first day I was there at street roots and we started organizing this, I have so much admiration, I sat in that meeting for three hours last night and the conclusion was that they would. They would take the high ground and continue to work with the city. But I want you to take a hard look and see what kind of thing you're putting them through.

Katz: Thank you. [applause] [gavel pounded] I will clear the chambers if this continues. I understand that. Karla, go ahead.

Diane Tweten: My name is Diane Tweten, it's my hope the city will continue to work with dignity village to reach a solution that is acceptable to both sides. The residents of Dignity Village have a right to some basic control over their lives. This is something we all need. Just going with the flow is degrading everything in our lives. The Willamette and the Columbia are among the most polluted rivers. Young people can barely afford to represent, let alone buy. My mother's nine-day hospital stay cost \$10,000 a day. Her share is 20%. The only medical insurance my family can afford has a \$5,000 per person deductible and the premium just increased 45%. Our food, unlabeled and without our consent is full of GMO ingredients. Is this a system that cares about and tries to respond to the needs of people? Had I wanted to retire at any of the last three companies that I worked for, I couldn't have. Two moved out of state and one went bankrupt. Our own small business seems more secure without the threats of layoffs. No person could be the master of his own fate in such instability. Dignity Village is just a temporary band-aid. This is also about

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globalization. We need to regain community stability by supporting local businesses and preserving our farmland. Those at the bottom of the pyramid who aren't helping to feed the economic fires which keep growing can become an annoyance, reminds of us of what we're losing. Basically our humanity. We're losing track of what life is all about. We are losing our ability to meet basic needs. Some people would like to say that if people live in dignity village, it's their own fault. This sustains the belief that it could never happen to them. As the headwaters of the economy keep rising, where will all the economic refugees go? One of the dynamic growth industries, prisons, are already bulging over. Where would ever larger numbers of people go so we don't have to think about them or feel badly or uncomfortable about what is happening to them? We don't have to accomplish it overnight. We just have to move in the right direction. And make decisions that support life when our systems support life there isn't an enormous burden on us as individuals. No one really wants charity when they have a choice. When we support the lives of others, our lives are in turn supported. We are all helping to create the world we live in. Dignity village is about all of us.

Katz: Thank you.

Cheryl Ramette: I'm cheryl, I am a citizen. I work at Portland state university, but i've also given quite a lot of my time over the past two decades to work on issues of hunger and homelessness, nationally, internationally, locally. One of the things that i've learned that I think is becoming fairly well known now in a global level is that it is the sort of activity that is generated and implemented and carried out by the people involved in any given circumstance that these are the kinds of solution that's are the most effective and long-standing. It's not always just doing more of what we've already been doing or trying to do better of what we've already been doing or maybe sometimes thinking we should do less of what we've already been doing, but having the courage to think differently, and in that usually follows having different kinds of solutions come to light. So I really hope that we as a city, the council, mayor Katz, us as citizens can be courageous enough to support this effort with a group of people who, as it's been mentioned, do have the will, certainly have the compassion. Could I echo all of that. I had the privilege of spending monday evening at lee larson's birthday party in the village. It was my first visit. It -- I was bowled over by the generosity of the people, and their really deep commitment to fulfill the commission that they've set for themselves. So I really do hope we can support that effort and get them decent and appropriate place to develop their community while they work themselves into a permanent location. And also that ultimately Portland won't be the only place for something like this. Although I should certainly think it would be a place where something like this is possible as a starting ground.

Katz: Thank you. Karla?

Katz: Go ahead.

Grace Hague: My name is grace hague, a resident of Portland. I've spent some time with some of the residents of dignity village, and i've been very impressed by their passion, their resourcefulness, and their hard work to create a sustainable community to support homeless people and in their quest for adequate and appropriate housing. I am very concerned about the choice of sunderlin yard as place for dignity village. This is a way to get the villagers out of sight and out of mind. I the also believe it's an extremely inappropriate location. It is remote, noisy and dirty, and as we saw on the slides, it's not a good place. I believe it's an attempt to hide the homeless and promote Portland as a livable city that meets the standards of "money" magazine and the association for Portland progress. I believe many of the neo liberal policies that are being promoted today, such as welfare reform, nafta, and the gat policies that have impoverished

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hundreds of thousands of americans and by removing the welfare safety net and good paying jobs, have created much of the homelessness we see today. And yet many of the governments who choose to perpetrate these on sis choose to harass and remove homeless people, and these are people who are not to blame for their condition. We need to move beyond these band-aid solutions and we need to work toward developing policies that make homelessness unnecessary. We need to work to develop living wage, affordable housing, and we need to be penalized in corporations who move out of the country in order to have cheap labor and taking jobs with them. That is a true -- what creates homelessness. The people of dignity village are also residents of Portland, just as much as those of us who live in houses. And a large number of people in Portland, myself included, are just one or two paychecks away from being on the streets ourselves. These people deserve an opportunity to help themselves, but not under these extremely difficult conditions being placed upon them by the city council. Thank you.

Lynda Barnes: My name is lynda barnes. I came into town a year ago on a freight train. I came here to give my husband divorce papers. I found him clean and sober. He's been clean and sober for a year and two months, thanks to the Portland rescue mission, who does a lot of good work here in Portland. But what I saw here in Portland broke my heart. I went out -- I wound up living on the streets for two months when I got here. Because there was no place for me to stay. None. I left an apartment in texas, and moved up here. And there was no place for me to stay. The place that got me off the street has since been closed down because the catholic church evicted them. The homeless problem is not going to go away. And moving it way out by the airport is not going to help. All that's going to do is make the situation worse. Not only is it bad publicity for the city council, and I think y'all are going to find that real soon, but it's gone jaw hurt the problem worse than it's gonna help. And i've had some help from the police here. I remember one night I was camping, and an older police officer and his young trainee came up, the trainee said, you've got to get off the street. Why don't do you to a shelter? Why don't you do that? And the older officer said, can't you see she's got two dogs? She can't go into a shelter. They're older dogs. She's had them for a while. She can't just give them up. Those are her family. I found compassion here, but what I also have found is absolute inference. Sometimes -- indifference. Sometimes in the social agencies I have gone to to try to get help. One agency I went to, that shall remain nameless, but one of their people came up here and spoke, their counselor they sent me to called me a bum. Because I needed clothes to look for work in. Something needs to be done. I know i'm breaking down and I didn't mean to. But these people are working, trying to help themselves. I'm lucky. I'm smart. I had a little resources. I found a place to stay. But it was hard work. Join couldn't help me because of my animals. They had a hard time helping me. Most of the people at dignity village, a good majority of them, have animals. And that's one reason why they're on the streets. Portland just built an \$8.3 million shelter for animals. You know?

Katz: Your time is up.

Barnes: Let's have a little compassion here.

Katz: Your time is up. We got the point.

Katz: Go ahead.

Carl Roberts: Mayor, council members, ladies and gentlemen. My name is carl roberts. I'm a part of an organization, i'm so grateful to be a part of to do service work to the community of Portland, sisters of the road. I am a recovering addict, alcoholic. I'm a survivor from insist, abuse as a child. I was in the military, had a nervous breakdown, so I have some disabilities, emotional, and also physical. I have lived in this community ma -- the majority of my life. I was an Oregon army national guard at one time for over a year. I was homeless for over a year. The only way I

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could find a place to sleep was to go up to larch mountain and build myself a lean-to, and that's how I lived. Out in the woods. Because I did not want to lower myself in a doorway and let somebody take advantage of me. And that they would. In the city, you have all kinds of people. But the major thing I want to get my point across is with homelessness, mental illness, addiction, abuse, with those you have crime. With homelessness, with people with no money, no food, they're going to steal to get what they need. That's only human nature. I've lived here for over 41 years. I'm in -- right now, clean and sober housing. I celebrate ten years of sobriety september 7th.

Katz: Congratulations.

Roberts: One day at a time. And I so humbly ask madam mayor, council members, to please consider what you would do if you were in our places. Thank you.

Katz: Thank you.

Mama: My name is mama. That's what i've been called since I was 3 years old for some reason by a nanny or a woman. All I have to say, and I don't have a prepared speech, is, madam mayor, council members, take a good look at me. Do I look like a threat to anyone? I hope not. Because I don't want to be a threat to anyone. None of these people won't be a threat to anyone. Much less themselves. But without the dignity that they deserve, the hope and the prayers are being unanswered. We need those hopes and prayers answered. And as long as I can put my feet on the ground, I am not homeless. God gave me earth as a home. The only thing I am is houseless. I am also allergic to my own perspiration. Being out there in that heat will give me risings and other things. But I will go through it if necessary for these people I love and I call my family.

Katz: Thank you.

Mama: I hope it doesn't cause any loud racket. Thank you.

Katz: Okay. Thank you.

Kristin Wellen, Program Director, Friendly House: My name is kristin wellen, i'm the program director with friendly house community and family services. Which is a social service agency in northwest Portland, and among other things, our program has a housing program for homeless families. I hope that my being here today and speaking to you all is somewhat helpful with my perspective of many years in working in established agencies in Portland with people of poverty and people who are homeless. Because dignity village is in the neighborhood that northwest -- that friendly house serves, i've become very familiar with them and friendly house has been supportive of them in coordinating meeting space for -- coordinating meeting space for training they had on nonviolence, and also providing food for the village on a weekly basis. So friendly house is an agency, is supportive of their -- what you're calling an experiment. But what I also hear maybe a longer term project, and that -- I appreciate commissioner Sten's remarks about recognizing the reality that homelessness is a long-term situation and is not going away, and from that perspective, we'd like to encourage an open minded approach toward this long-term view of the village that mark lakeman presented, rather than just an experiment for the next couple of months. What really strikes me above everything else about this project that I can compare to in my years of working with homeless populations is the spirit of community, which happens there. That does not happen in a lot of programs and shelters, and other situations. As we know, from research, one factor that contributes to homelessness as well as being a symptom and an effect of being homeless is social isolation. What the villagers have managed to create at dignity village is really something remarkable, and something that I think I and many people are thankful to them for. The other two quick things I wanted to add from my perspective in working in social services, I just want to

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remind us all how close many, many people are to becoming homeless. That it is not a permanent condition, and -- just a second. I'm trying to keep it short.

Katz: Your time is up.

Wellen: Okay. One more thing. I have to tell you this, because i'm in the situation daily and many people are. Turning away people from shelter. I can't tell you how hard that is. I'm sure on both ends. But being in a position every day turning families and quote unquote individual singles who are not in families away. There's not enough in this town, and I wish we could be referring more and more people to places like dignity village, but they don't exist.

Katz: Thank you.

Eddie: Hello everyone. I'm eddie. I live at dignity village because the shelters will not take my mother and I because she needs my help, and we go to a shelter, they'll -- they always want to put her in one spot, me in another. The housing list is five years backed up. And dignity village is a very good place for a lot of people to get out of the doorways that are even on those lists so they can at least have a place to wait. And the spot y'all are offering is bad for dignity village, and I am willing to go there, even though I have health problems. The heat alone could kill me due to my asthma. And I -- a whole bunch of us that are in the village have health problems that -- the fumes of some of the stuff there and the heat alone could affect and possibly end up in the hospital if not kill them along with me.

Katz: Thank you. Karla?

[pause in captions while relief captioner takes over]

Patty Katz (cont'd): So I was totally protected from the elements but it is my job to carry the message of strengths and hope. I went to the village and I was totally amazed, it was clean. There wasn't a cigarette butt anywhere on the ground the port-a-potties had sanitation times posted on the walls, and I am quite sure their bathrooms are cleaned more than the hotel's bathrooms are cleaned. I kept going back there. We go every week for a meeting there, and when I was driving home from the public meeting we went to, that night, I was humiliated at myself. One of the hats I wear is i'm trying to break the stigma of how people perceive, people in recovery, and here I am, driving down to the village, with the stigma of homelessness in my mind. I was humiliated and embarrassed, that i, of all people, had blinders on to homelessness. What I have seen in the last few months going down there, is I see people with hope in their eyes and light in their eyes. I see people drawing together as a community, and having purpose. I see people recovering from drugs and alcohol. I see people recovering from bad breaks. I would like to share with you that I was one of the people that was a throw-away person. I happened to be able to get clean and sober housing. I happened to be able to get support in my community, and I am here to offer that for the people in the village. Thank you.

Katz: Thank you.

Phyllis Malandra: Good afternoon. I am phyllis, and I have a letter of support for dignity village from the Multnomah monthly meeting at the religious society of friends and quakers. Multnomah meeting hereby endorses and offers to support the efforts of dignity village to become an independent self-regulating community of otherwise homeless people within the greater communities of Portland and Multnomah county. The Portland metropolitan community has failed to provide shelter adequate in either amount or quality for an adult homeless population. Many homeless people although employed cannot afford current prices of rental housing. Given such circumstances, the efforts of the residents of dignity village to create, regulate, and manage their own community deserves support by the larger Portland community. We recognize that housing is a fundamental human right, and we call upon the mayor of Portland, the city and county

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commissioners, and the Portland police department to support this setting contribution toward the solution of a major civic problem. We expect to keep ourselves informed of the developments at dignity village, and we will urge our political leaders and representatives to help further the goals of its organizers. We also commit ourselves to providing material support to the residents of dignity village. Thank you.

Katz: Somebody start.

Orion Gray: Hey. I am Orion Gray, and I've been with the village since February. I am an urban studies master at PSU so I was going to talk about urban study stuff and how Portland is a model city, and I'm proud to live in a model city but I think that you can't be a model city without taking care of your poor people. Transportation is great. Ra-ra. And development is great. But we need to take care of our poor people, or we are not much of a model for anyone in the country, and that's all I heard for two years, is Portland is the model: So, you guys, let's keep it that way. And what I have here in these boxes, and this doesn't look like it, but this is 1600 postcards. These were filled out by citizens in Portland, just dog rumors, wine merchants, coffee jockey, got some gallery owners in here I talked to. All kinds of people. I talked to a lot of people. And they are all here and we checked all these names to make sure that these were real people, so these are 1600 citizens who support dignity village, and this card is addressed to you, Erik. But, it's to all of you, really. Dear Commissioner Sten, as a citizen of Portland and a supporter of dignity village I request your office take the following actions. Stop criminalizing homeless people for dwelling in nonconventional housing, due to economic necessity. Work with dignity village to implement the long-term vision of the community and do not allow dignity village to be disbanded as negotiations proceed, and village residents continue to build the community. Sincerely, Carl from 812 Southwest Oaks Street. So, anyway, these are for you.

Katz: Why don't you give them to Karla. Make sure that Eric gets them.

Katz: She will accept them. [laughter]

Katz: She will accept them on behalf of commissioner citizen, who will probably respond to every single one of them. [laughter]

Katz: I am teasing. [laughter]

Katz: Dan, go ahead.

Dan Handelman, Portland Copwatch: Mayor, commissioner, I am Dan Handelman and I live in north Portland. I am a member of Portland Cop Watch and we forwarded you all a letter from Peace and Justice Works this, but I am here today as an individual, and to preface my remarks I will say that I have spent some time in my life living out of my car, and I know what it's like when you get the tap, tap, tap on the window and you don't know if the police officer on the other end of the flashlight is going to hurt you or be friendly. So, I want to remind people, too, that I don't know if they still do it, but they used to do an immersion people to help people live as a homeless individual would, and I think it's an important experience that people who are on city council should try, and people who are going to be on our police review board should try. I also, I think the most important thing I can tell you is that to repeat something that was said in housing earlier, that while you are working on a comprehensive plan that includes dignity village, you can't also be passing the sidewalk laws, and you can't also be continuing to enforce the anti-camping ordinance because as dignity village takes people out of their village, they don't want to be pushing them into the hands of the police because those folks are violating some other laws. You have to take a comprehensive view, that means you can't criminalize poverty, and so you can't pass all these other laws at the same time. I think that it's important that to note that the Oregonian writing editorials is writing them in an air-conditioned board room and we shouldn't be paying very much attention to

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what they are saying, and that, perhaps, you should be prepared to create 35 dignity villages, there are 2000 people out on the streets, if you need to. I had some vague ideas of places you might be able to work on, perhaps we could cap one block of 405 and set that aside for dignity village camp.

Or we could just use pge park since a lot of people aren't obviously using it now. [laughter]

Handelman: And maybe the grounds at whitaker school lots being closed down for repairs. So, these are just some ideas that I had that might be better than the asphalt lot by the airport that was shown before. And thank for you your time.

Katz: Thank you. Go ahead.

Jon Rhodes: Hi. I am jon rhodes, I am a hydrologist and just here as a citizen. I think there's been some rather hypocritical statement from the city here today, both in terms of rhetoric and substance. They talk about dignity village being less than perfect, and therefore, resisting it somewhat. Maybe it is less than perfect. The city has no track record or no, no record of creating perfect homes, housing for the poor. People can't live in the future. They live in the here and now.

They have said that the site out at, near the airport is less than desirable. It's not less than desirable. It's horrible. I am a hydrologist and I work in the columbia basin for about 12 years, it's probably the super-fund site, aside from the rest of the issues. I don't believe the city's rhetoric that they -- I mean, there's two problems. The city believes that this is a good-faith bargaining with the village. I think they are either being less than forthright or they have some cognitive problems. And I think -- I agree with dan. I think that there should be several dignity villages. I am a homeowner in southeast Portland. I live four blocks from colonel summer's park. I would love to have dignity village there permanently. Thank you for your time.

Katz: All right. Let's keep going.

Katz: Show spoke already. Go ahead.

Ken Calvin: My name is ken calvin. I am a former professor sociologist at kansas state. The last time I talked to this group was 30 years ago, and you were all sitting at that end, and you were different people. [laughter]

Calvin: But, I worked in all kinds of projects and programs -- my background is in sociology here in Portland, including model cities, oeo, and I did a two-year study of the personnel system here, that you could tell we fixed the personnel system so we will never have any problems again. But, I ended up in l.a. And I spent about 15 years there. Got involved with the homeless movement there, where on the skid row, they were sort of sweeping the homeless, periodically, rather brutally, and it was -- I got involved with a guy named ted hayes, who became -- started a thing called justiceville, became, he was a homeless president for home for the homeless, and I was the nonhomeless president of home for the homeless. It was kind of fun. And the policy that we had, I think, was to squat, wait for the sweep, wait for the press, and start over again, and every time there was a sweep, we got stronger. For one thing, ted hayes is a very articulate personality on tv, and it was a strategy that worked very hard for los angeles. I understand this is not los angeles. And that, that those sorts of tactics wouldn't work here but ted operates a thing called dome village. They have received at least a million dollars from a variety of places, including arco, given about a quarter of 5 million dollars and arco has one of the largest buildings in l.a. And looks right down on the dome village, which is where the 5 or 10 sort of intersect. I am impressed with the dozen or so meetings i've been to here at dignity village. I am impressed with the kinds of people that are there. I am impressed with the division of labor. I am impressed with their ability to recognize problems to be responsive. They are way ahead of where we were, a long time ago, and I don't think that they are going to have to go through the kind of process that we did in los angeles to get

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attention and to ultimately, I think, win. Here, I think, they are going to get a lot of cooperation and a lot of help and it's going to be wonderful and interesting thing to watch.

Katz: Thank you.

Marc Batko: My name is marc, and I am a new resident of Portland. I've been here for two years.

Katz: Where did you come from?

Batko: From san francisco.

Katz: Oh, okay.

Batko: This is a very bizarre city. It's a very wealthy city, it's a tourist city so they are swimming in money and yet the quality of life can just go downhill and the one certainty you are left with is that the buses are going to break down in the morning. [laughter]

Katz: I am sorry I asked.

Batko: I would like to share several points with you. Housing is a human right, as the professor emphasized, in an essay that I would like to give you, translated essay. Although it's subverted by speculation, in switzerland, protecting the sharks from the sardines, is the main consequence of the right of speculation. Housing is a creative project, he emphasizes. We are not clams. We are not born with a built-in housing. So, locally, communally, nationally, housing should be a priority, just as economic justice should be a priority, or new identities for the military should be a priority. Dignity village has proven itself and deserves to continue, an example of self-government, and -- an example of self-government, and communal living and understanding. The third point is that Portland is tested and whether it makes the poor invisible and criminalizes the homeless, the language of solidarity can replace the language of resentment. Jew and is christians should be united in solidarity as they are united in being exiles. Provisional on the way to, to the future. Actions are important, not decorations. Jesus once said that, as earthly fathers, would have given a stone for their children when they asked for bread. How much more compassionate should, should the heaven the father be. The tax collector returned home justified after only praying god be merciful to be a sinner. Not the pharisee who said god, I am not like the others -- not like the pharisee who said, I am not like the others. We must be wounded to be healed of the homeless need a lobby, and they need dignity village. And the final point, is that we must be aware of right-wing populism. A higher light. Prejudice against scapegoats cannot be solved rationally or critically since they are deeply rooted in irrational feelings and serve as compressions. Unsolved problems lie behind the pre-pregnancy. The polarizing distinction between friend and enemy was important in austria. One pole was the we, and the other was the others. We are positively stylized with conservative values like home, family protection, under the family, patriotism. While the other is seen as an adversary, as a threat. I plead with you, that you will allow dignity village to continue in a true human environment, and I thank you for your time and for your efforts to make Portland more human.

Katz: Thank you.

Katz: We have one more.

*****: Linn ford.

Katz: Don't worry, just go ahead.

Bill Bradley: I have got to thank you for it. I think a love-fest may be over before I got here, but if you would have held this next week I wouldn't have an address to put on, so thanks for having it this week. I know you didn't want repeats but I do have to -- I can't not say that, that, to talk about the lack of resources, while continuing to apply and appeal the -- any camping ruining and according to what I saw in the paper, putting resources to investigating the association for Portland

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progress, want to totally own the sidewalks. I mean, those are costing money. Could be going to something. As far as giving some of these people up. The figure I have heard people say, is 2000 people in the streets. Well i've been going through the process of losing my housing, the figure that I have heard before is 3,000, and every single professional I mentioned that to, while i've been dealing with a number of really great agencies, some which have been here today, is that it's low. One person who I have known for a while, was kind enough to buy me breakfast in the course of that, started missing that layoff and this layoff that I hadn't kept track of all of them. They are all in four figures. It's not going away. By having a whooping 60 people out of 3000, that's 2 percent. It's the very least that can be done. I think you want to do more than think about, coming up with more of a solution because I have a hard time having too much pride, we just accept, you know, thousands of people living in the streets. Thank you.

Katz: All right.

Dimitris Desyllas: My name is dimitri. I am here as a student snore from Portland state university. Many snores have signed support to dignity village recently. We are about to pass a unanimous resolution, as well. I have learned about dignity village a few months ago, and I came to know a lot of the people in the village. There are some amazing people there. They are not just homeless. Homeless is a label. Behind that label, there are human beings. Just like behind any label, there is a human being. We need to look at them as human beings. They have done so much for themselves in the last few months. They have created a community. They are taking care of themselves and they are trying to get out of the streets and they are doing it. The criminalization of the homeless people is a crime in itself. The city may choose to spend taxpayers money because it cost money to put them in jail and process them, and send the police out to get people off the streets. The dignity village is saving the city money right now from 80 people, that are living there from doing that. That's a lot of money. In the city, there were 11 resolutions that I saw. One of them was that dignity village has to get their people into affordable housing. Well, this morning, the Oregonian ran an article that the city acknowledge that is they don't have enough money for affordable housing, that seems to me like the resolution is set up to make them fail because if the city, with millions of dollars in their budgets don't have enough money for affordable housing, then how is dignity village going to find it. Now, I know the city has been in both before, with corporations or businesses like, like mcminamins, where they took a million dollars from affordable housing from low income housing and gave it to them so that they can erect the building and affordable housing went away from that area. So I would usually the city they find a million dollars for homeless people, for affordable housing, as well. If the government can provide for its own, then what do we need the government for. That's the first, the first reason that we need a government for, is to provide for its people. And I would urge you that you take a look at that resolution again and you look at those 11 conditions again because there is some serious issues there.

Katz: Thank you.

James Baca: My name is jimmy baca. And I am currently living underneath the bridge. I do not stay in the shelters, the mission, or any of the shelters, city or county shelters. Nor do I reside at the dignity village. I would like to say that i've been all over our country. I've been to new york city and phoenix and los angeles and san diego and back in 1994, I was in san luis, and they had a soup kitchen in the center of downtown, and a catholic mission that was 200 years old. And the city and the business community wanted to remove the soup kitchen, basically, out in the county some place. So, also, I want to say that the catholic mission there, it wasn't just the catholics there, it was also supported by 30 different churches. Basically what I am getting at is I posed the idea of

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moving the folks out to the airport, and I just think, you know, you are going to isolate the folks there, and i'm asking, please don't do this. Bring the folks into the center. And let us be part of the larger community also, it's a separate community. A community has a right to exist, but also, to let the community be part of the larger community, as well. And also, I want to say that, you know, I was also in Chandler, Arizona, and this is where they had the, the Japanese people during World War II, at the concentration camp there. And it does make one wonder, you know, the place you put the folks are is on cement. They will be surrounded by fence, and it does make the people, at least I think wonder, about if there is a parallel there. So, please don't do this. Thank you.

Katz: Thank you.

*****: I've got some written testimony to submit.

Katz: Identify yourself.

*****: Oh, i'm sorry.

Laura Campos: My name is Laura Campos, 3419 Southwest 1st. I have some copies for council. First I would like to say that while I am a board member of one of the neighborhood's association, I am not speaking as a representative of the neighborhood, I am here representing my own views in support of Dignity Village. During the summer, I've had the opportunity to witness first hand not only how well the village operates but I have also attended meetings between village representatives and Commissioner Sten's office. I have been impressed with the good-faith efforts exerted by them, as well as their stellar records of exceeding some of them. I would like to address two issues. First is a letter dated August 16, sent by the director of parks and the second is a resolution that you have before you today. And I have those attached. Mr. Jordan's letter addresses the possible siting of Dignity Villages in Powers Marine Park but it getting into the pros and cons I would like to discuss the process used by the city in this situation. I have been told that based on this letter to Powers Marine Park site was taken off the table. The concern I have regarding this letter is that it appears to be using environmental criteria to exclude people deemed to be undesirable. In over 20 years, as a neighborhood activist in Portland, I have never witnessed environmental standards so stringently applied. Usually there is some accommodation made for development, ie, exemptions, exceptions or other criteria used to balance the need for such development. If you want to address environmental degradation along the river front look no further than North Macadam but the city, as far as I have seen for the past 17 years starting with the central city plan has spared no expense in coming to the aid of the North Macadam developers. Why hasn't the same aid been extended to Dignity Village? The irony of this situation is that while the city has adopted a knee-jerk reaction to the possible siting of Dignity Village at Powers Marine Park the land use committee of the nearby neighborhood association, Ctlh has voted unanimously to, quotes, engage in an ongoing dialogue with Dignity Village to identify issues relative to the neighborhood and discuss ways to address these concerns, end of quotes. Is that the end of my time?

Hales: We have got the rest of the written statement so if you wouldn't mind, we would appreciate it. Thank you.

Jennifer Ruth Japhet: I am Jennifer Ruth Japhet, and my middle name is after my great grandmother, Ruthy, who emigrated over here. She is now dead, but, from Germany, about three years ago. Anyway, with respect to here, I do not own a cell phone. I do not own a car. I do live close to downtown Portland. I have an apartment, a studio apartment. I am married. I have held a job for a year and a half. I have taken care of my medication for my thyroid problem. I have been in Portland for three years. I was homeless for a year and a half of that. And I do have a place. I had a place for about a year and a half now. And I work at street routes where I got papers and I

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sold them in front of the library and in front of food front as you say see some of the other street vendors selling the papers. I went to Washington mutual. I had one piece of id. They wanted two.

But, they were lenient with me and gave me a bank account for \$11 which I earned with the newspaper company, which is located on morrison street downtown. And if you move people out from this downtown area, which, you know, you are going to, even though, you know, people have already agreed to that, but you have to understand that it's hard for them, and for all of the efforts that they have done. This is the hard thing. I live three blocks away from the village. I visited it. They are extraordinarily organized. They say, you know, how can we help you, -- when the security approached me and said, how can I help you. I have given donations twice. I have gone just to visit twice. And they have offered me a cup of coffee. They are very organized. I mean, I am an ex homeless person. I have a house. I know that these people at dignity village consider it their house, and you have to see that. You have to see that and not push them out of the downtown area. You and my are all the same. They have done a lot of work, and they deserve to be directly in Portland. And they have made a great name for themselves, so just go with this trust and do not look at it as embarrassment, look at it as a pride and you will be a leading city. Thank you.

Francesconi: Mora, commissioner Hales is right we have this in writing but, the audience doesn't have it, so if you wanted to just take a half a minute to summarize any points on page 2 for the benefit of the audience.

Campos: Regarding the resolution. I just wanted to remind council that back in 1987, and i've been a citizen activist for over 20 years, but I recommended housing down at the river front, and I know city staff didn't think that was a good idea. They wanted to build office buildings but currently, pdc is, is developing that land as housing and homer williams will be purchasing that. So I guess the point I am trying to make is that commissioner Francesconi said, he doubted whether dignity village could work because they had paid staff but from my experience it has been citizens, like the skid-more fountain says, good citizens are the riches of the city so I am asking that you listen to the citizens because I think they can bail you out. Thanks.

Katz: Thank you. Dignity village.

Katz: How many more do we have after these three?

Moore: That's all that signed up.

Katz: Anybody else want to testify? That was poor grammar. All right.

Paul McAdams: My name is paul mcAdams. You know, it's kind of hard, about 10 years ago, 12 years ago, I slept for 17 days out on the steps out here, and erik remembers that. When the homeless, and then we moved up to that field up there, and camped up there, and I was honored to go back to Washington, d.c. And sit on the u.s. Capitol steps with mitch schneider, and with the national housing now, and you know, to me, it's the same as usual, you know. I mean, to me, the people from dignity village, it's almost, you know, what they are doing is, like I don't know what the center for created nonviolence is, but this is what, what is becoming here in Portland. The people are started and you know, I mean, I see people getting -- I take pictures of people, you know, of the homeless being hazard by the police and everything because they put their blanket down on the ground, and, you know, in the city of miami, I am talking to any attorneys out there, like alu, or national lawyers guild, the city of miami, same thing happened there, and what happened was, the u.s. Federal judge ordered the city of miami to give a safe camping place for the homeless. And it was, and there are documents there that was filed, the u.s. Federal judge, and I mean, I just, you know, I see the same thing going on and going on and going on. And -- here in Portland, and, you know, it's -- it hasn't changed much. I mean, you know, the -- a lot of the places have closed. Now they have become drug and alcohol, and we went and evaluated all the shelters.

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I was not living in a shelter. You could not pay me. I am not homeless. We went out and we checked shelters out and you could not pay me to be in a shelter back then. I mean, I mean, it just - it's really hard, you know. Like I said, I sat there on the capitol steps. I had people come from all over the united states. We had disobedience for 48 days at the capitol, and, I mean, I just, you know, it's real hard, you know, what is going on with the people here, and I mean, when I look at this place out here, you know, it reminds me of a camp, I mean, concrete, fences, barbwire, and just like what they did to the native americans, and now they are wanting to do it to their own, and people are going to stay out there.

Katz: Thank you.

Doreen Binder: Mayor Katz, I am doreen binder, the director of binding projects. I am not going to take any of this personal today.

Katz: Bring the mike closer to you.

Binder: You know, I actually -- could not decide whether or not I wanted to come to this meeting today or whether I wanted to speak. We were involved in the shelter, except for you, mayor Katz, and, except for you, mayor Katz, and jim was there this morning. I would invite you all too come to the shelters. 30 years ago, there was a big controversy. Homelessness has been around forever. It has not improved. It's gotten worse. The issue you need to be discussing is 0 to 30% housing. We can -- 20 to 30% housing. We did projects seven years ago. It expanded so much that joint started, and joint now has become main-stream and now we have camp dignity. You need to get to the core of this issue and we need to build housing. I know that there was -- there was, when I came to this-- when I came to this city, and the issue of shelter was so controversial. Susan emmons and my cohorts and the other directors of the program said, we don't need shelter. It only takes two weeks to get somebody in housing, if in fact we have shelter, it shouldn't be longer than two weeks. And then the shack opened, and even this county realized that, you know, the shack opened with a two-week span, two weeks to a month. Within two months it expanded to a three-month stay. We have people in the shelter for three to four months. The housing wait list is six months, and longer. So, what do we do? Keep the person in the shelter for three months and then we say, sorry, for the next three months while you are waiting for housing you have to live on the street? You need to build housing. I have listened today, you talk about affordable housing, and I will not talk about affordable housing. I want 0 to 30%. Affordable housing is something I live in. Affordable housing is something that erik lives in and jim lives in because that's what you can afford. These are people who can't afford, affordable housing. We need to get from 0 to 30. I sit ironically, and I don't take this personal because I have to tell you, as weird as it is for a homeless person to walk into shelter that's how weird it is for me to go to the river district meetings and sit with homer, and I have to tell you I can't say a word because it's so alien to me what these people are talking about, and when I sat in on the river district meeting at the beginning, and I am not going to stop, when I sat in on the river district meeting at the beginning, the river district was very well defined. When, when the city mandated that you had to represent all, all economic portions, the river district expanded their borders to include old town and chinatown so that they could then take credit for the housing that was build, 0 to 30 in old town chinatown. You need to have a talk with homer and yourselves. And what is your responsibility because you can sit here and I can listen to all the people talk about, we need 60 camp dignities. No, we don't need any. We need housing.

Katz: Thank you. Time is up. Sir.

Bill Bradley: I am bill bradley, and I work in a shelter. Services to run away youth, and I am also a shop steward and a delegate in the union of shelter workers and the letter that I am reading enjoys

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the unanimous support of our union. In 65069 industrial workers of the world. The nonprofit social service workers of iwwiu 650 are here today to convey the support of the whole union for the brothers and sisters the dignity village. Especially we who work in homeless shelters are too aware that the needs of the homeless far exceed the limits of our current shelter system. Through dignity, many who were homeless have organized themselves to meet their needs together. And we applaud their successes and offer whatever aid we can. We also applaud the consistently democrat and participatory character of dignity and it is in that spirit that we come here before this Portland city council as workers and neighbors to solve our problems together. We urge you to follow through on the good-faith effort to help find dignity village a home. However, we agree with many dignity villagers that the northeast 33rd and sunderland site is completely unacceptable and really quite prison-like. To push the village so far away from social service agencies, opportunities, and basic services like laundry and grocery stores, is ridiculous. It would be a dishonor to the vision of dignity to set the project up to fail. We hope and expect you to do right by the community at this time. We appreciate that you have been up to now willing to help dignity without having to be overwhelmingly pressured to do so. Efforts like this are a fair reflection of who we are as a people. May we rise to reflect what is sacred to us all.

Katz: Thank you.

Bradley: And I want to add, just for myself, since I have some time, that the work that we do in shelters, we organized a union of people who do that work because we assert and we refuse to accept that our society does not value that work. We insist that it be valued. I dare anyone to watch the folks at dignity village and realize and not come to the realization that what they do is the valuable work of society. These are our fellow workers and I think that there's a very well meaning sentiment that has been said here and I don't mean to disrespect the people who have said it but when people say, we need to provide houses for these people I am reminded of the words of leo tolstoy. Feed the people. Feed the people. Who do you think feeds you? And I want to ask, how the people, how is the people, did you build your house? These are things that we provide for ourselves. And I have no doubt that the village of dignity deserves our support. The question that I want to close with, is will we be willing to be worthy of dignity village? Thank you for your time.
[applause]

Katz: Thank you.

Tracy Marshall (Rayne): Hi. My name is tracy marshal and I am now called rain. I came to Portland in 1990 with a pregnant and a newborn son and I was homeless for the first eight months. I was promised housing within four months, and it took them eight months to get me on the list for section 8 and took me another three months after that to actually get an apartment in section 8. Okay, since then, I have gotten jobs, gotten off welfare, you know, a whole bunch of other things, and just last summer, I was evicted from an apartment where I was assistant manager and no repairs were being done, okay. I am homeless now for a year. I found dignity village. I have heard about them for about two or three months, and I didn't have a safe place to go. I was going from area, to area, worrying about people coming in, possibly raping me, stealing from me, robbing me, killing me, and I heard good things about dignity village and I went there and now I am an assistant kitchen coordinator at the village. I am in charge of keeping the area sanitary and full of toilet paper on the off days that they are not cleaned. I don't think I can handle living on a blacktop. I have supplied for myself all of my life, and this is what you are offering and this is just -- it's a crock. Thank you.

Saltzman: Is your child living there with you?

Marshall: No, I had to put my son up for adoption after a while of being homeless.

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Katz: Thank you. Carla, what is this? Oh, okay. Go ahead, sir.

Eli Spevak: My name is eli, I am a project manager of the housing development center, and i've been -- volunteering with dignity village for a few months now. I was inspired to lend my efforts at dignity village because I work in the field of community development. Community organizing is important to me and dignity village was doing it more than I saw in a lot of the organizations I got to work with and frankly the work I got to do myself. I came here late so I am sure a lot has been said so I will try and pick something that maybe is a little new. One of the greatest assets I think dignity village brings to Portland is the tremendous leadership that we found within our homeless community in Portland. They are just fantastic leaders out there, that pool together, a self-governing system from scratch and implement all the things that they have done. A lot of times out of necessity, but I see jack and abraham and the leaders of dignity village as setting an example that we really can learn from. I mean, this is hard work. I've been in a lot of group houses and it's hard, and as j.p. Said last night, this was a hard group to organize, frankly. And they pulled it off, fantastically, for eight months despite all kinds of difficulties, and I think it's incredibly valuable for a city which desperately mediums any community organizing strength that we can get to turn to the folks we already have here who are doing it. And to see as they continue to train new leaders, like lorraine was stating, she has taken on leadership responsibility and that's a good asset for the city and I expect it will continue going forward because they are there and they are doing it.

Katz: Thank you.

Alice Woodward: I am alice, and I live in the northwest neighborhood, and I have given you a packet and the bulk of it, don't worry, you don't have to read it, these are your own publications. I believe that at some point, somebody needs to address some of the problems with dignity village, and their existence and I am the one that's going to step forward to do that today. I can appreciate all the devoted supporters and the community leaders and the members of the social services in the Portland area who, who, from their heart, are trying to help the issue of homelessness and are trying to help people make movement forward and have positive elements in their life.

Unfortunately, I don't believe that dignity village is about homelessness. I don't believe that this is an organization or an event that is intended to solve the problem of homelessness or find housing for people. I believe this is a political action, and I have some very specific concerns and questions that I believe I would like to have answered by the council before you make that decision to vote to support this organization further. The northwest neighborhood has suffered from the ongoing city-approved presence of dignity. Their objectives and actions have and will affect any community which dignity establishes itself in. Yet the proposed action requires that dignity has little to no negative impact on its neighbors and can demonstrate how positive impacts would mitigate negative ones. I would like to ask, what actions in compliance of Oregon law did the city of Portland take to involve the neighborhood in the discussions and decisions related to dignity's ongoing presence in the northwest neighborhood? I would like to also ask, what action in compliance with the Oregon law are they taking to do with other impacted neighborhoods.

Residents in the northwest neighborhood have frequently notified Portland police, commissioner Sten and mayor Katz's offices to report crime, complain about the effect dignity has had in their neighborhood, the consistent response has been that the police are taking a hands-off approach and the city is working on finding a solution to the problem. I decided this is no longer the city that works, the city that's working on it. My one question with this to start is what explanation does the city have to defend their role in creation of a lawless community where transient campers are allowed to exist and crime has exponentially increased. What city --

Katz: Excuse me. Talk about respect.

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Woodward: What rights -- do the city services would you have to create the future neighborhoods, neighbors of dignity expect to be able to be made available to them in relation to the presence of dignity. Dignity residents have respected, or have represented that they need special accommodations which substantially vary from the codes and standards that the city of Portland has established for the health and well being of the society as a whole.

Katz: I will give you 30 seconds because I interrupted you and then your time is up.

Woodward: Okay. I would appreciate -- I would appreciate a little extra time considering I am the one person that's presenting some additional information.

Katz: It's up to the council.

Woodward: What special circumstances merit the creation of this action, which within the vagueness of its text agrees passively for dignity to avoid compliance of the codes of which we are all supposed to oblige. What prevents dignity from utilizing channels and initiate pilot projects. Today's action causes the city of Portland to require and to allow that dignity not accept minors as residents, what are the city's intentions and purposes to exclusively restrict residents by not accepting minors. If the city's intentions to protect children from the ultimate contact with sexual predators and other people, then wouldn't be it better in a nonlegal solution to ban sex offenders rather than children, how does the city of Portland plan this is in compliance with their obligation to meet federal, state, and local fair housing laws.

Katz: Thank you.

*******:** Thank you.

Katz: All right. Anybody else?

Katz: We have two chairs. You will have to just wait a second, bruce. Go ahead. Which one -- all right, go ahead.

Kate Suisman: Hi, I am kate and I work at a social service agency in Portland. We have seen, over 200 people more in july for food, clothes, rent, prescription, bus tickets and all the things we do than we saw last july and as a provider I am really, really concerned for the winter because this is supposed to be our quiet time, and the time when people are doing better. So, I feel dignity is a step in the right direction as opposed to getting rid of affordable housing and building new condos and other things. This is something that's actually helping in the other direction. And I know tons of social service agencies have actually referred to dignity when there's nowhere else to send people and shelters are constantly full and it keeps being stressed in the papers and other people that these people don't like shelters but I don't think that's what it is for most people. There just aren't shelter beds, if we are saying there is 400 shelter beds and 3000 or 2000 homeless people it's just, it's really interesting to me that people can get together and find this alternative solution with some support from the city but basically on their own. My organization can't support the numbers we are seeing, and this is something that's actually helping us. A side note I am confused if you guys wanted to put these guys in a parking lot why did you choose out there because there are lots of other parking lots and if you found a beautiful grassy area, with a stream out by the airport, I could understand that, but that place looks toxic, and there's wire around it and it seems like a real slap in the face to have chosen that place to me, thanks.

Katz: Okay.

John "Helpful" Francis: My name is john, I get mail addressed to john for about five years. I lived in manhattan, and I saw homelessness, and I was numb and frightened. I believe that dignity village, as it sits now is a therapeutic community, and I believe it cost like 1/100th or 1/10th of what a prison, mental hospital, or some other care place like a nursing home might cost. I think it's

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a net savings for the government. I think it creates community, not just within itself, but within the larger community, I think it shows that we do care, even though it hurts to care. Thank you.

*****: Number one --

Katz: You need to identify yourself.

John Paul Cupp: I am john paul cup. Number one, I would like to point out that it is absolutely necessary for dignity village to remain in or near the urban center where homelessness is located. Should you decide to send them out on some sort of reservation, there will be urban resistance. Number two, I would like to say that if you look for from a pragmatic standpoint, every neighborhood in Portland has homelessness as dirty cardboard, beer cans, sleeping bags, we could debate whether or not the economic system creates a personal vice. That doesn't matter. The problem is if I was pragmatic and cheap, I would think, hey, centralized, organized, why do I want to cut their population. Why do I want to fight them. We could just kind of, hey, these people keep themselves halfway tidy. You know, and number three, I would like to point out that every day you can read in the newspaper about the human rights violations, and in after fan stan and cuba and china and in nigeria, and they never talk about amnesty international's human rights violations in the united states and their report is, is thick on us as any other nation on this earth, and none of you are excused from this today, and if we were not the wealthiest nation in the planet that controls the united donation you would stand before the united donation, human rights commission, if you were to fight us.

Katz: Thank you. All right. Let's have some other -- anybody else? 248 be our last word.

*****: Good afternoon. Mayor and council.

Katz: Good afternoon.

Bruce Wright: My name is bruce wright and I have been here in Portland for 2.5 months. And I am really -- when I come here, I have found one of the best cities in the country to live in. Because this city has a warm heart and a good, warm community. And I am really appalled at the action of taking dignity village and throwing them into a concentration camp. I am native american. And I know what happened to my forefathers and I don't think it's fair at all. And I would point out for the best interest of the public, the dignity of the city, and the dignity of the people in the village, do not put these people on the parking lot. Thank you.

Roger Morris Simms: My name is roger sims. I reside at dignity village. I am new here to Portland. I've been here about nine months, eight months. Been through shelters. Been through programs here. The only issue I am really seeing is it's a control establishment, that's stable for some of the residents. That do reside there. My problem with the shelters, they operate on a lottery system. You have got to pay money to get in. Some people are struggling trying to save, conserve money, so they can take steps further ahead. So far I have been at dignity village. I have a fiancee. That's one of the reasons why I started going to the shelter because she needed somebody strong that's going to be by her and help her get stable. The sights I have seen, I don't see anything wrong with that. We keep it controlled. We keep it somewhat chaotic. And we keep it organized. And that's what it has been there, they are running this organization for some time. And I am not going to really say an organization, a way of life because some of the people there are actually building their own homes, and existing as human beings, and I actually, and are enjoying it as a family household. The sight I have seen, and I haven't really seen it. I have been playing a back role because I am trying to get established. I am trying to get work, you know, everything else back to standards how I used to be but meanwhile, I see something that, that's meaningful and that's going to make an impact for the near future. Regardless of the officials, security, police, it's going to, it's going to take steps forward. I would just say, take deep consideration on every human

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being that spoke here. What I have seen, people here in Oregon or Oregonians here, they appreciate their pets more than they appreciate human beings. That tripped me out. [laughter]

Morris-Simms: For real. I really had to take a look. I hadn't been through 15 different cities, 15, 20 states. This is the only first time that I have seen a way of life, and it's a first for me. And I enjoy it, and all I am looking for is stableness.

Katz: All right. All right, council. Do you have any questions. Any discussion? Anything that anybody, you want to ask anything of? All right. Then we have a roll call on the resolution.

Francesconi: Believe it or not I was subpoenaed for jury duty today. [laughter]

Francesconi: There were times this week that I wished that I had gone on jury duty. But not today, not listening to this terrific discussion. With great people. Last night was a special night, special summer night, and it was a special night for me. My wife met me at city hall here, we took the streetcar down to the pearl district, and we had an italian celebration with the governor. We played botchy ball. I had a very good bottle of wine. I had a very good dinner and a very good desert, and it was a great moment to be in Portland. And we need those, all those thing I just mentioned. Makes our city special. Then my wife and I walked ten blocks to dignity village, and we saw the folks there, and we had a tour. We walked around. I walked around by myself. My wife stayed in the -- she was nearby. [laughter]

Francesconi: So anyway, and it was a great place, and the people were great, and it was clean, and people were reading and people were sleeping. And people -- and the ground was clean. And I had talked to neighbors, dignity village people twice before. Businesses nearby. And I also have a secret source, the radio cab drivers, who are located very nearby. So, it took a lot of guts for neighbors -- or the person to come here and testify, but my experience based on my observations, as well as people that I know, as well as the good work by commissioner Sten, the mayor and police, is that I think that you folks are doing a good job on trying to keep this thing clean and safe.

So, I left that night, kind of with, last night with a conflict frankly between my heart and head. My heart, when I went to bed, wanted to do what maybe the easier thing, which is to let this thing move on. My head was telling me that there's some problems here. The resolution has 15 requirements on dignity village. Four of which you are going to get help with from people that really are dedicated people that care about you and know what they are doing. You are going to have to figure out how to only stay there six months, and then enforce it, yourselves. You are going to have to figure out, you know, what you do if more than 60 people show up. And frankly, I don't know how you are going to do that. And in my frank conversations with dignity village folks, they told me they couldn't do that. And I appreciated your candor. So, then the next morning, I also -- this morning, i, before I went to the shelter, I went out to the site and I looked at the site, and I have to tell you, commissioner Sten and I don't know all the efforts, but he and his staff and bob and the mayor, as she said, they looked really hard for you to find you a site, and they have really worked because they believe in you. And the results are a site that is not acceptable. We can't -- it is not acceptable. In this city with a streetcar. In this city with this city hall, in this city with a pearl district, that that's the site. Now, in my belief is, then I went to the shelter. Because I wanted to see for myself. And I talked with staff. And I saw the shelter and I saw the computers. And I saw the dedicated staff and I saw the happy residents, by the way, who were there. And it is difficult because you have sacrifices to make, but at least before we get to the permanent solution, which is housing at 0 to 30, these are the kind of places that we need. From my own prior experience, which is not in the area of homelessness, but based on conversations with people that I truly respect, based on some of the testimony here today, based on my own experience in community organizing, folks, you need some professional help to crack the issue of homelessness. You can

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disagree with me, and that's fine. That is my belief, and I have that strong belief. So, for the reasons that, and the last reason I want to tell you, is just the practicalities, we have such a homeless issue in this city, we are talking about 60 people, so are we providing campsites for 2000 people? We are not, folks. It isn't going to happen. So, you know, perhaps, perhaps if you had plans worked out, if you had a permanent site, if you had more of a strategy, if I knew what the city's role to help you was, perhaps, then I could, I could support this resolution. But, I can't today.

And I also don't believe it's the area of our primary focus. I believe, as one person here testified today, that the primary focus has to be both short-term and long-term. On the short-term, there are -- we have a problem so, if I am not going to support this, what am I doing? On the issue of not enough beds on the street? When you are asking church people and 75 church people were asked to support 60 people, that they don't really know, it's a tough ask. Our church community is wonderful in this town. They do a terrific job. But, if you ask church people to adopt four people, or five people, or six people, I think we could do more in the short-term. Ecumenical ministries ask for participation from us, I haven't responded, that's the kind of short-term thing. The other thing we need to do on the short-term, we had a discussion yesterday about tax increment and the issue of blight. I am not going to get into the technical discussions, but in the short-term, tax increment dollars that were used for appropriate things, like parks, and expensive parks that are going to be great parks, Jamieson Park, East Bank Park, expensive projects like the streetcar, tax increment wasn't used but expensive remodels, expensive projects like gardens, we can use tax increment, including for more shelters or fixing it up. Folks, it's not camping that you need. What if I had come to that camp in November or December or January? Now, I know I am not going to be in your camp. I have to say, oh, that could be me or that can be my kids. That's never going to be me. That's never going to be my kids. Because I have got money. I have got access to that. [applause]

Francesconi: So, the question is --

Katz: Wait a minute, wait a minute.

Francesconi: That's all right.

Katz: No, no. It's not okay. Somebody else is speaking. And whether you agree with them or not, we will provide the respect that we all provided everybody that came and talked with us before.

Francesconi: So, we need to use resource to say help you build more permanent shelter in my view, but the real answer is the discussion that we had yesterday, the, on the issue of 0 to 30 and low income housing with the lead of commissioner Sten we have a \$40 million gap that has to be filled. \$40 million so the question is, how are we going to fill this gap and how are we going to do it and also provide more money, I believe, to case managers to help you with employment, drug and alcohol, mental health issues, et cetera. Those -- that's the kind of strategy we need. Commissioner Sten has taken the lead on the real estate transfer, with support, but the issue of a bond measure, which is being talked about needs to be explored, but there's -- the -- and I think that does make sense, as well. But, when you do a bond measure, it transfers the cost to property owners, only. And a lot of residential property owners. The question, I think, is, and it's going to be difficult, but other cities have done this, the idea that commissioner Kafoury keeps talking about, about linkage fees, where when you pay for the cost of development, which is driving up the cost of housing, which is driving up the rent, linkage payments paid, as well, by the development community, going into a pot with other sources, is the only way we are going to get there. In combination with these others. So, I felt like since I've rejected, for now, at least, one solution, I

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had to take some time to tell you where, where I think our efforts. Listen, if there's ever been one vote, and I hope I am wrong, I hope this is it. No.

Hales: Well, I may be oversimplifying the decision here because this resolution basically declares a work in progress. It doesn't declare that we have reached a solution that's acceptable to all, and first of all, I want to thank you, erik and mayor for your willingness to take on what's obviously a difficult issue, no good deed goes unpunished, and I appreciate your willingness to take this on. I also appreciate ecumenical ministries of Oregon, the faith community willingness and the nonprofit willingness to work with people here. And deal with this difficult problem. I don't like the sunderland site. Nobody else does, either. I hope we can do better. This resolution doesn't say that that site is the one that we are going to stick with, and obviously, having heard this hearing, I am sure that you have the same feeling that I do that we have got to be able to do better than that and we ought to redouble our efforts and look at other sites. But, what this resolution does say, is that we are a community that is a civilized place. We like that, and it's not just how we look, how our neighborhoods look, it's how we treat each other. And if this, that this is an appropriate thing for us to do to act in a civilized way, and that we are, we are a community that values self-help, and there's some wonderful self-help going on here, and we ought to support that. The rules are less important, than the direction. This is the right direction. Aye.

Saltzman: Well, I want to thank the mayor and commissioner Sten for, and their staffs for the really hard work that's been involved both in, well, mainly in trying to find a site but also -- and I want to thank the dignity village folks. I think you have shown extreme good faith and willingness to work with the city and you know, frankly here in the city, we have rules and we are elected to, to uphold those rules. So sometimes we can see, seem inflexible and intransigent but you have shown a willingness to recognize our constraints and we have, I think, shown, in return, a willingness to accept some of your constraints, as well. But, you have worked in good faith and I believe this agreement, this pilot project is an extension of that agreement to work further in good faith. So, I think you have given us a successful model, and I think that it deserves taking it to the next step. But, I also want to say that, as many people said, I think rob justice said, commissioner Sten said, and I think as a resolution, itself, says, I am not prepared to accept the idea of camping as a permanent element of our homeless shelter system. We need housing. We need roofs over people's heads, and while I think there's been a particular constellation of people that have aligned themselves with dignity village, you have sort of enamored a lot of people with your vision, and it may work for dignity village, but I am not prepared to take the next step and say that the next camp that comes along, no matter how well organized, should become the permanent fixture of our system. That, to me, is not the way this system needs to go, and I have to say that the only thing that bothers me about the efforts of dignity village are the, the slams on the shelter system. And, you know, it's easy to slam the shelter system but, the city and the county have worked hard to provide a system that deals with homeless single adults, homeless families, victims of domestic violence. And I think that we have a pretty good system. There's not enough capacity. We all know that and we need more capacity and we need more affordable housing. But, I don't think it's appropriate to slam the current shelter system. I think that we have done a good job and I think that we would hold our heads high with respect to other cities in this regard. That's the only part that does bother me and I hope that we will tone down the rhetoric on that element, as well. But this is an experiment, that deserves taken to the next step, and it's going to be a lot of hard work involved on all sides, and again, thanks to the leadership of, of commissioner Sten and mayor Katz and their staffs for, for taking this to the next step. Aye.

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Sten: Well, I appreciate all the great testimony today, and all of your hard work and heart. Just a couple of comments to put a couple of things in perspective because I think there's a lot of things going around and a lot of things that people are thinking, and I just want to be clear with both where the mayor and I are coming with this resolution. It is really not about the site and I want to get back to the site after this. What the resolution says and I am going to read the title again so people can see, assuming this passes, which it looks like it will, the city council declares support for working with dignity village residents and its pane supporters, ecumenical ministries of Oregon and the community at large over the next 60 days to explore the creation of dignity village pilot project to address Portland's growing homeless population. That's what is passing, is an intent and now it will become a city policy to work with all of you to try and make this work. I really don't know whether this can work or not. What I do know is that the shelter system is full. And the streets are overflowing with people. I also know that in January I did not think you could pull this off, but I gave it an effort and you have pulled it off. Those are the two things that I know for sure. I think that warrants a further look and a further try, and I actually, and the reason that people have talked about the 11 or 15 conditions, in two different categories, it's my firm belief that, what we are trying to support here is a safe place for people who are on the street for a variety of reasons. I am very, actually, I don't think -- I think the shelter system needs work but it's better than a lot of places and I worked on it myself for ten years. What I also know for sure is that there are legitimate reasons even when the shelters have space, there are legitimate reasons why some people cannot go to them. I personally believe that if we had more space, that would be the best place for a lot of people but not everybody. Everybody is unique and individual human being and the shelter system is the best case scenario that we can do with an inadequate budget so it's imperfect. A cookie cutter system that's good for a lot of people but not everyone. Something like dignity village, if you accept that some people cannot get into the shelter system and for other reasons, some will not, and some of those reasons are very, very legitimate, dignity village becomes a safe place to be for those who will not end up in the shelter system on the path to hopefully a permanent housing. To have something like this work in the long run I think there has to be a demonstrated ability to make it that kind of stepping stone. I also think that there has to be an extraordinary amount of work and energy and commitment to work this out with whatever neighborhood it's in, and that's where the conditions come from. They are designed to lay out to you what I think as the co-sponsor of this resolution it would take to be successful. Of course, I don't think you can control whether or not people get off out of the village in a certain amount of time but if the goal and we are not making every effort, then it really is a permanent encamp element and I don't think that's the answer. Of course, some people would be there on a more permanent basis, and this may never, may never work but it's designed to try and say, can question agree on what the goals are? I think what happens in this kind of hearing, and believe me, I am glad to, to take it on and do it, the 1600 post-cards are addressed to me. I am not the right person to address those to because what I am trying to do, and I am glad to do it, I probably will write back to everybody and explain this because I would like everybody who signed that post-card to understand the context of this. Because I have got -- and maybe there's some people who can help but what I think we have got to do here if this is going to work is build a very, very difficult consensus and that's going to take a whole lot of operating agreements and thought and I think that, I think you have started on this but I don't think that we are there yet and that's what this resolution is really designed to do, is to put an intent forward to work with, with good, good intention, to try and create something that works. And whether or not that can be done depends on everybody in this community, not just this council, but what you have to do by a majority vote of the council is, is a willingness to work on it.

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That's not enough to do this, but it's enough to keep moving, and it's a lot more than we have had. Let me talk to you briefly about the site because it's very, very, very painful to hear the description of a concentration camp and other things. There is certainly no intention of that. Here's where the site kind of falls in my mind, and you don't have to agree with it, as I am sure that many of you will not, and I agree with commissioner Hales that we should try and find a better site that works. The land that's on now, and I think it may not be always clear to everybody who is a supporter, is not the city's land. It's owned by the state, and dignity village moved onto it and I am not being good, bad or indifferent about it, just factual without the state's premise. The state's response was to request a sweep from the police as just about any property owner would, if a village moved onto it, the mayor negotiated an eight-month stay, which was not really where we started on this, and at some point if we are going to build the kind of consensus and the kind of working guarantees that might make a longer term project possible, we on the city council must honor our word to the other partners out in the community and the word we gave was July 1st. We then asked very graciously for a 60-day extension, we were given that, I feel it's not a good strategy in the long run to not honor what we said to the state of Oregon. In July, we said September 1st we have got to move. In July, for two months, I have had just about -- I have had Marshall on this just about full time and Bob on it, constantly, Heather and Tanya, along with many of you, it's not like they have been doing anything different, and at least Marshall and the others, Sam Adams from Mayor Katz's office looking at this. This may shock you but we haven't found a site where all of the players around it are the ones who own it, welcome the village. And I personally think that putting the village into a place where either it's being dramatically argued by the property owner, if there's a split vote we looked at a park site, for example. The park's department is not interested in that. It's counter to all park's policy. As we looked at those kinds of things I think that trying to put the village, which is still in its infancy into a contentious situation, is probably doom it go to fail. I have had the great pleasure of sitting through an eight-hour debate on a community center on a swimming pool. When you go onto public land people fight hook, line and sinker for every side of things because the public owns it and it will be a contentious debate so the goal was, because the time was running very short, we got to within one week of the eviction date which for a lot of reasons, I think we have to honor. It's not our eviction. It's the state's but the state has asked the police to enforce the law and we have to agree to that at some point. What I was looking for, and I think this is kind of not a great site, was some place where it could move without controversy and allow the 60-day period to see whether or not something could develop in terms of the longer-term agreement and whether or not some more permanent site could be found. It is, to put this on a permanent basis and by permanent, I really think a pilot project. I think some amount of time that could be agreed to, whether it's six months, a year, to see if things can work, is going to take an incredible amount of work that as hard as we worked, we are not there yet. We do not have that consensus yet and I don't know of a site where we could put this without erupting in controversy. I am not saying that maybe that's something that we could handle as a community, but the goal on this site was to find some place where, where a move could be done, meet the deadline, and stick towards looking towards the future without, without having a huge bruhaha, which I think ultimately makes it harder and harder. My e-mails are besieged by people that think we shouldn't do anything and people that think that we are not doing enough. I have yet to have anybody say that we have got it right, not one. [laughter]

Sten: But I am full of both other sides and so I have a sense of kind of where the greater community is on this, and where my sense is, that people are willing to give it a slot but it's got to be well thought out. So, the Sutherland site was okay, here's a place, the city owns it, it's on the

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busline. It's got some big open space. It's ugly. The barbed wire is the prison. It's not around -- that's nearby. It's not around that piece but it was, you know, here's a place and this was yesterday.

You know, this is yesterday, the deadline is saturday. Here's a place where you can -- we can actually say, this works. Nobody is going to fight it. There you are for 60 days. Maybe it will not work out. I don't know but I just wanted to give that context on it because it's not as if there have this big conspiracy, you should see, I have people in my office who aren't sleeping over this but we have not been able to land a place where it could move without a big fight and the deadline was this week. So that's how we ended up with what is, obviously, a somewhat remote site. Remote site makes it easier to actually move there. So, we are going to have to keep thinking this through.

I am very, very open to trying to figure out a better site. I would point out this is the only site in nine months that anybody has ever been able to get approved. Including the best efforts, and we have been working in good faith so i'm not really saying this is a great site for this place. It's a site that, as things went around is available. That's all it is. And I think we should, as commissioner Hales said keep looking very hard right now for something better. If we can get to a place where there's something that actually could, could give you a chance, I think the kind of, the kind of requirements and the kind of aspirations that are in this resolution, I hope you will each take a copy of it and read it and think about it. It's a resolution, not the law. It's just what our intent is, and look at this, those are the things that must be in place to get, to get, I think, the greater community to support an ongoing experiment. That's why those things are there. This is about staying on track, crime-free, clean, and about getting people off the street. Those are the things and we tried to articulate and you never get it exactly right so I have been long-winded but I felt a little inclined to share with people where all this is coming from. It's coming from a good place, a good effort, mump the same effort that you are making. I don't know that it can work but the goal is to work together. And my sense would be, let's see how it goes at this site. It really is an interim site and let's keep working towards the goals that are ascribed in the resolution and, you know, obviously it's not a great thing that the deadline came on this site but it's a very great thing for the future of this operation, that dignity village has decided to hold its commitment to move, to stay peaceful. The way you are handling this, it tells me there is a shot at this. I wish I had a better site to move to immediately but that's the one that we have been able to come up with. Not for a lot of -- for the for lack of a effort, but just a tough thing to figure out. I pledge to work with you and I think you heard today that the city council will, as well. And we have got a very, very overwhelming problem. And you have made, in honest and forthright, and I think innovative and actually, quite shocking just how well it's happened for the last eight or nine months, effort to take it on and we ought to keep working with you. Aye.

Katz: Commissioner Sten said everything that I had wanted to say, so let me get a little bit personal. I truly believe, and this is how we said it in the legislature, and this, probably, dates me. That where one, we are one man away from welfare. It's one paycheck away from welfare. And I am a firm believer in that. However, I never thought that I would be sitting today supporting a resolution that supported camping. For the homeless in our community. Because, because the value in this community has always been to provide a roof over somebody's head. Stabilize their personnel life, and then look for employment, so people have some income and with that income, comes choices. You might want to travel. You might want to buy a camper. You might want to camp outside on a levelly campsite and then come back into your own home. And that's then my thinking. And I want to thank some of the members of dignity village that have I have visited with but especially commissioner Sten, who kept coming into my office and saying, do you think this will really work? Do you think we really ought to take a risk on this? He was way ahead of me.

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Don't misunderstand me but he had to kind of drag me along to think about, you know, when I first ran for office, I saw myself as a change agent. I wanted things to be better, and that meant that you had to listen. You had to learn. You had to think out of the box. Most importantly, you had to take risks. Commissioner Sten identified all the potential risks. And I don't need to repeat them. And so in our last conversation, which I think was a couple of weeks ago. I looked at him and I said, yes, let's think of this as a pilot project. Let's do something that neither he nor I originally ever wanted to do. But, I also believe that we are not as seminar as we think we are. That we think we understand homelessness, but we may be wrong. There may be another step in our shelter configuration plan. I told commissioner Sten a couple -- well, actually it was almost a year ago, during the heated campaign of what, 18 or 21 candidates, that I thought we needed a, to rethink the shelter, reconfiguration camp shelter plan because of what all you said. We have backlog, takes too long, we don't have enough beds so thinking about, how do we begin looking at not only additional housing, but also additional shelter space, little did I think that we were we were going to be sitting here today talking about camping. So, I agreed that this is probably a chance that we would take. The challenge is on both of our parts. It's on camp dignity 2. I commit to continue working on it. We have, in our conversations with 75 plus people, have potentially three areas that still will require further investigation in terms of sites. But, as commissioner Sten said, neighborhoods are critical, your neighbors are critical, it will be a tough, it will be tough going. We are willing to work through those issues, and I commit to you that all of us, not only, not only commissioner Sten and i, but all of us are committed to continuing working with you. I want to thank somebody else that I forgot to thank. I want to thank sergeant powell, and the officers that worked with camp dignity. It hasn't been easy for them all the time, but I think a relationship was built and sergeant powell feels like you are part of his family. Don't laugh. It's true. And he has -- he has his job to do, but he also cared about what was going on and made life not very difficult for the residents there. So, I do need to give credit where credit is due. So, so, we begin something very different in Portland today. And it is a risk that all of us are taking, and I hope the community, as a whole, can understand that. There are those who think that we are absolutely crazy for passing this resolution. There are those who think that we are absolutely crazy for identifying a site for 60 days and moving a camp dignity there. And I commit to the city that all of us will work very, very hard to make this work, to provide a sense of place that we always talk about, and a sense of community to residents in our community that in her experienced it before. So, with that, I vote aye. Thank you, everybody. And we stand adjourned. Now you can clap. [applause]

At 5:31 p.m., Council adjourned.