

CITY COUNCIL MEETING 12-19-2012

Mayor Adams and Council members thank you for the opportunity to testify regarding the Old Town Entertainment District.

My name is Gary Cobb and I am the Community Outreach Coordinator for Central City Concern (CCC). CCC neither supports nor opposes the proposal at this time. However we have real concerns around livability issues in the district.

Over the last couple of months we have had community meetings with residents in the Estate Hotel, which is home for 190 residents to get their thoughts on what it's like living in the entertainment district.

Here are a few highlights and concerns from these meetings.

NOISE is the #1 Issue for residents

- I am worried that the closure is going to increase the crowds and make things louder.
- Will there be an end to the party? Is there a way to cut things off at 2:00am and not let people hang out in the street late into the night/early morning?
- The music is the hardest thing to deal with.
- The street bucket drummers are really loud.
- Security guards use bullhorns to close things down at night. Can this be stopped?
- Speakers outside certain venues on Tuesday and Wednesday nights that are very loud.
- Can the bars carry a message that residential buildings are in the district and respect is necessary. (as anyone wants their neighborhood to be respected)

ACCESS is the #2 Issue

- We have at least 3 mobility impaired tenants in the building. How will they be able park near their home? How will a ride (Trimet lift, friend) pick them up?
- There are staff in the building who are already impacted by the lack of parking on the weekends. They are concerned the closure will eliminate spaces and make things worse for them.

Solutions can be forming "good neighbor agreements" with the clubs to address NOISE issues.

Identifying parking or drop off spaces to accommodate those with mobility devices can address ACCESS issues.

A Memorial Service for

Donald Eastep

and others, is being held at
Good Sam at 11:30 AM,
Wednesday, September
14, in their Chapel, which is at
the west end of the 3rd floor of
the main hospital building.

1015 NW 22nd Avenue.

Portland Streetcar stops at
Lovejoy and 22nd, one block
from Good Sam.

OLD TOWN ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT STREET CLOSURE PILOT PROGRAM

IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO CITY COUNCIL, PRINT YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND EMAIL.

NAME (print)

ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE

Email

✓ Steve Entwistle	1175 W Stark Street	sentwistle90@yahoo.com
✓ Jack Lavell	2374 NW Lovejoy Street Portland, OR 97210	
✓ Carol McCreary	411 NW Flanders #704 Portland 97209	carolmcCreary@comcast.net
✓ Ryan Hashagen	345 NW Everett St 97228	portlandpedals@gmail.com

185833

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Calen Kennett [calenk@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, December 08, 2012 3:48 AM
To: Commissioner Fritz; Adams, Sam; Commissioner Fish; Commissioner Saltzman; Leonard, Randy; Moore-Love, Karla
Subject: Regarding pedestrian areas for drunks

I grew up in NE Portland and I live in NW Portland since I graduated from college. I used to love Portland and brag about it when I travelled, but lately I have to say that our city is filling up with obnoxious, entitled people and I am having a hard time dealing with it.

Over the past couple years, my neighborhood has gotten louder and louder on the weekends. We used to have a nice neighborhood and now we have screaming in the streets until 4:30AM on any Friday or Saturday night when it doesn't rain. There are people drinking liquor out of bottles while sitting in the trunks of their cars outside my bedroom window and broken beer bottles in my driveway and on my front steps, people peeing on my car or girls taking off their clothes in my driveway. To make matters worse, the city recently changed the parking outside my bedroom window to 1 hour parking, so it is only drunks parked by my house on Friday night and not local residents (we are a block to any commercial zone and surrounded by residential parking - I complained to the PDOT but got no response). We have a couple of rental units in our house and it is getting harder and harder to keep them occupied because of the noise. I have taken to staying up until 3AM guarding our street corner, but the bar patrons have become less and less respectful of my requests. I have take to lying and saying I have a sleeping daughter and that is now ceasing to work. They now mock me and scream even louder. I have filed complaints with the OLCC, called the police non-emergency number MANY times. We plan to sell our house and get away as soon as it is financially feasible. Portland is the only home I have known and I don't know what we will do when we can afford to sell our house, but in the meantime I feel we have no recourse.

Now I hear that the city council plans to cater to the drunk screaming idiots?!? Public drunkenness is a crime, drunk driving is a crime. Having a life and a business to run is not a crime.

As a small business owner (who has just hired my first full time employee), I am finding it more and more difficult to concentrate on my business after countless weekends without sleep.

PLEASE: increase enforcement of public intoxication and drunk driving. DO NOT encourage this lifestyle in our city! ESPECIALLY do NOT allow food carts to be open for all hours of the night in our neighborhoods.

I got an illegal late night food cart shut down in front of Silver Dollar Pizza on 21st and Glisan and since it's closure it has helped clear the neighborhood of the drunk screaming people much more quickly. It is now usually quiet by 4:30AM when it used to be 5:30 or 6AM.

Portland is a city of passion and drive, of commitment and service. Please do not make us a city of public drunkenness, and lewd and disrespectful behavior. They can go to Vegas for that.

Thank you for your consideration

Calen

12/12/2012

P.S. To demonstrate the point: I serve on the Board of Directors of a local not-for-profit. I am writing this email at 3:45AM because I was woken up because of the yelling in the streets (there is still yelling in the streets) and I have to wake up at 6AM to attend a board function tomorrow morning, and after that I have a full work load to prepare for the next week of sales and marketing meetings with consultants and my new staff member. This sucks. Please make Portland more livable and workable, not more drunk.