#### **TESTIMONY**

2:00 PM TIME CERTAIN

# CENTRAL CITY POTENTIAL SWIMMING BEACH SITES EASTBANK CRESCENT RIVERFRONT PLAN

37294

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

_	NAME (print)	ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE (Optional)	Email <i>(Optional)</i>
~	SUSAN WEST	1730 SW Herballey 7520 SW MILES PL	Suran@ blue monestolegy ca
<b>✓</b>	DENIS SCHURE	7520 SW MILES PL	
1	Joshua Otchis	5257 52 47 th Are	SBBORN @ AOL. COM
1	Kaspar Murer	2710 SW Ridge Driva 97219	concest, not
<b>/</b>	KEITH JONES	1088 NE 7TH AVE 97232	keithmj255emac. (om
	FRAN SUMIDAPAK		Franpalk@msn.com
1	Dametus Harrson	1954 SELADD AV 97214 303 SW 1240 Ave 97219	danielnsuhv@gmail
	laura Freeman	13445 SW Gallop C+ Beaverton 9700	2 Lauraishome Com
lest !	BILL BURGEL	21258E GRANTS PORTLAND, 97214	
1	Dan Rohlf	3546 SW NewadaC+ Portland 9721	rohifalclark-edu

#### **TESTIMONY**

2:00 PM TIME CERTAIN

# CENTRAL CITY POTENTIAL SWIMMING BEACH SITES

37294

### **EASTBANK CRESCENT RIVERFRONT PLAN**

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

	NAME (print)	ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE (Optional)	Email <i>(Optional)</i>
<b>\</b>	CARY MORRIS	1819 6W 5th Auc	CARY MORE BEGINNI)-10W
V	DAMEL ELLIS	1327 SETACOMA, 97202	and the state of t
	lostie Walk	1809 SE Hawthore 97214	i.
	Jean Ownsey	5688 Ridgety Lt Lo 97035	jaquinsey@gmail.com
/	Cassond va Schremer	HOFFland OR 97212	Kass. Schueman Domail. con
<b>V</b>	Rick Geib	3048 NW 111 TER Portland, OR 97229	ursræme.com
	Juan Olhnien Powers	1805 NE 515+ ANC 97213 Portland, Oregon	oobrien powers 18 @ Jesuitmail. 200
	Denise Schurke Kranowski	1 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	aquaursa@yahos:com
~	Malka Marin Kranowski	24215 Butterille Rd. NE Aurora, DR. 97002	mmk@bizalgo.com
	Juliet Hochman	2815 SW Montgomery Drive, Portland OR 97201	jbthochman egmail.com

Agenda Item 644 & 645

#### **TESTIMONY**

2:00 PM TIME CERTAIN

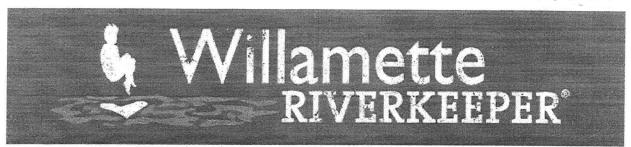
## CENTRAL CITY POTENTIAL SWIMMING BEACH SITES

37294

### **EASTBANK CRESCENT RIVERFRONT PLAN**

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

NAME (print)	ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE (Optional)	Email <i>(Optional)</i>
Souchim landding	6272 NW Queens Dr PDX	
Amy Johnson	5836 SE Madison St. Potters 97215	
Craig Mosbaek		
	6773 NE Davis St PUX, OR97213	
Dena Mashall	3587 SE Sheman St Portland 97214 1515 SE Water Ave Poly	
trains Williams	1515 SE Water Are All	
ANDREA MILANO	5848 NE 31St Ave, P.OX, OR, 9721	l
*		



June 7, 2017

Ted Wheeler, Mayor City Council 1221 SW Fourth Avenue Portland, OR 97204

Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners:

On behalf of Willamette Riverkeeper I provide the following testimony regarding the Draft Concept Plan for the Eastbank Crescent. Willamette Riverkeeper works to protect and restore the Willamette River's water quality and habitat. In that work, we have a strong belief that connecting people with the river is essential, and over the years we have enabled many thousands of people to enjoy the Willamette River through our work, whether via the Willamette River Water Trail, our River Discovery Trips, various volunteer work parties, and Paddle Oregon. In relation to the Eastbank Crescent, the nexus between healthy habitat and access for people is critical - that is why we support Concept 1.

We believe that it is essential to restore habitat first and foremost in the downtown reach. Given the benefits of healthy habitat for a range of species (including people), taking advantage of the *very few* areas that provide a good foundation for natural ecological function is critical. In that vein, we believe Concept 1 provides the necessary balance between habitat and recreation.

The blend of in-water habitat, along with riparian and upland habitat represents a strong anchor in this reach that can benefit a range of wildlife. Such an area would also provide a strong educational opportunity for the general public - showing that such habitat can exist in the urban core, and that the close proximity to native fish and other species is very meaningful.

Willamette Riverkeeper has long advocated for access for people, from the Portland Boathouse dock, to multiple points to reach the river on both the east and west sides, whether to canoe, fish or swim. As a founding member of the Portland Boathouse, we recognize that there is a long-standing need to enable people to get to the water. In this light we again strongly support Concept 1 which provides for the needs of wildlife, and people. Given the hundreds of rowers, canoeists, kayakers and others who use the low freeboard dock that was instigated by the Portland Boathouse community in the late 1990s, it seems that this infrastructure should not only be maintained, but improved. Further, this dock receives nearly year round use by a wide range of paddlers.

In looking at the whole of the Willamette River in this area, Concept 1 balances healthy habitat, expanded river access for enjoying the sun or swimming, and access for paddlers of all types. Given the other areas currently available to swim and sit on the shoreline in the downtown reach, we feel that the Crescent should provide continued access for paddlers of all types. In what is often called a "River City" Portland has done a relatively poor job of providing good access for all.

As the recent swim study indicated, there are various locations that work well for sitting along the beach, or to get into the water other than the Crescent area. The Crescent is more clearly suited for paddling access and ecological restoration.

I urge City Council to accept the *Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan* and *Concept* 1 and to provide the necessary funding to implement this plan.

Thank you for your consideration.

Travis Williams

Riverkeeper & Executive Director

Mayor Wheeler, Commissioner Fritz, Commissioner Fish:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today and share the story of the Portland Boathouse and the long standing community of light watercraft users in this City.

My name is Bernie Thurber and I have been the President of the Portland Boathouse since its inception in 2004.

The Boathouse is a 501(c)(3)nonprofit organization that provides facilities to each of our six organizational members, which are also nonprofits. Briefly, they are:

Rose City

Portland State

Station L

University of Portland

Wasabi Paddling Club

Willamette Riverkeeper

Collectively, the Boathouse and our member organizations have over 1000 members and well over 100 years of experience in providing opportunities for Portlanders to access Willamette River in all forms of human-powered watercraft: rowing shells, canoes, kayaks, dragonboats, outrigger canoes, and stand-up paddle boards, and to engage in advocacy to support and improve the health of the river. In a minute you will hear from 2 representatives of these organizations about the inspirational activities that occur regularly at the boathouse.

On behalf of the Portland Boathouse, I'd like to thank the staff from BPS and the other bureaus for studying opportunities to improve the Eastbank Crescent and for producing this Plan. Thanks also to you, Mayor Wheeler, and to the Council for supporting improved access to the river and for this opportunity to support the Plan.

We believe that both concepts in the Plan have merit, and support a balanced approach that draws from elements of each. We would welcome the opportunity to work with the City to achieve tailored access for both swimmers and boaters while also addressing the clear need for habitat restoration.

The Boathouse, in conjunction with the Wind and Oar Boat School, is currently planning to raise and invest over \$3MM in a new River Center to be located on the OMSI Campus just south of the Eastbank Crescent.

Such a River Center could become a powerful magnet for all Portlanders with an interest in the river and light watercraft, and would enable us to offer increased programming to dramatically grow the number of river users and increase public awareness of issues related to the river's health. In addition, the River Center will be a unique partner with OMSI to expand its educational programs to include direct interactions with the river, further enhancing community stewardship of the river. If successful, this investment would provide significant leverage for whatever investment the City is able to make in the Crescent.

The willingness of the Boathouse, its member organizations and the Wind and Oar school to remain on the Eastbank Crescent will depend largely on the presence of a dedicated dock designed specifically for use by light watercraft, as is the Holman dock, which we currently use. However, the Holman dock was built by PDC as a temporary dock in 2004, and is nearing the end of its useful life. We are extremely grateful that both concepts in the Plan recognize that a new dock should be created to serve the light watercraft community, and that additional facilities are also necessary to support the increasing needs of swimmers.

We hope that this Plan marks the beginning of a new era in which expanded access for all Willamette River users will be maximized in the future.

Thank you. I'm happy to answer any questions now or after you've heard from my companions, Kathy Frederick and Connie Flesuras.

#### **Portland River Center**

#### A New Home for Portland's Light Watercraft Community

#### Vision

Portland River Center will be a multipurpose 30,000 square foot facility providing unprecedented access to the Willamette River for educational and recreational watercraft users. The River Center, which will be home to the Portland Boathouse and the Wind & Oar Boat School, will be located on the campus of the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI) along the waterfront across from Downtown Portland and will be open to all light watercraft users.

#### **Background and Mission**

The River Center is the vision of the Portland Boathouse and the Wind & Oar Boat School. The Portland Boathouse is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation the facilitates access to and education about the river.



Over more than 25 years, the member organizations of the Boathouse have taught thousands to row and paddle in rowing shells,

canoes, kayaks and dragon boats, and have educated Portland citizens about the river's ecology and stewardship, first aid and water safety.

Wind & Oar Boat School is a nonprofit youth education organization dedicated to engaging and inspiring young people through the art, science, and craft of building wooden boats. The school has operated classes in schools throughout the Portland region and is now seeking a permanent home to both house woodworking operations and provide access to the river for the unique wooden boats constructed by its students.

#### **Portland Boathouse Members**

Rose City Rowing Club provides competitive rowing for middle and high schoolers with 175 active members. Partnerships with New Avenues for Youth and Friends of the Children, and past partnerships with Catholic Charities of Portland, Self Enhancement, Inc., Boys' and Girls' Club and Big Brothers Big Sisters Columbia Northwest.

**Station L Rowing Club** supports adult rowing including learn to row programs with over 180 members; founded and hosted the Row for the Cure since 1994.

Wasabi Paddling Club supports competitive Dragon Boat and Outrigger Canoe teams with over 400 individuals, including nearly 300 women, ranging from youth to paddlers over 80 years old; supports teams for the visually impaired (VIP), the developmentally and physically disabled (Special Dragons), and women cancer survivors (SOAR).

Portland State University Crew is a student-run rowing club with men's and women's teams that participate in collegiate rowing regattas throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Willamette Riverkeeper works to protect and restore the long-term health and quality of the Willamette River though onriver education, volunteer monitoring,

#### A New Home

The Boathouse was the first occupant of the former Holman Building (now RiverEast Center) in 2004 and collaborated with Prosper Portland (formerly PDC) to permit the Holman Dock, a light watercraft dock on the eastbank of the river. Due to a change in building ownership, the Boathouse is required to move by August 2019. In addition, Wind & Oar and the Boathouse organizations are experiencing growing demand for their services and have outgrown their current spaces. The ability

of these organizations to serve a broad, diverse range of river users depends on a new facility that can house both existing and expanded outreach programs.



A new River Center, as either a stand-alone building or in an existing building, would be magnet for Portland residents with an interest in the river and would offer the programming to dramatically grow the base of river users. In addition, the River Center will be a unique partner with OMSI to expand its educational programming to include direct interactions with the river. The facility will include 15,000 square feet of boat storage space with immediate proximity to the river to allow for safe and efficient transporting of boats. In addition, the facility will include a workshop for Wind & Oar, as well as workout space and locker rooms for watercraft users.

#### **Next Steps**

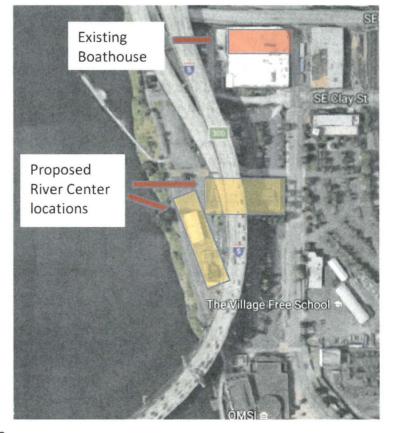
The Boathouse and Wind & Oar have agreed to make the River Center part of OMSI's master plan, ideally on a site adjacent to the river bank. The River Center partners will shortly embark on a \$3 million capital campaign to fund the development of the facility, with the expectation that a new facility will open in 2020. While there may be opportunities for public funding of the River Center, especially for future public programs to expand access to the river, the development of the River Center is not dependent on public funds.

The River Center, however, does depend on the implementation of the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan by the City of Portland and, in particular, the presence of a dedicated light watercraft dock upgraded to meet the growing needs of the city's light watercraft users. Because of the Boathouse, light watercraft activity in downtown Portland has been centered on the Eastbank Crescent for over a decade. Given its central location and public transit options, it remains one of the most publicly accessible locations for all users to interact with the river.

The proposed River Center represents a significant opportunity for the City to leverage its potential investment in the Eastbank Crescent with a privately-funded facility to serve Portland for decades to come.

For more information on plans for the Portland River Center, please contact Bernie Thurber, President, Portland Boathouse at

bernie.thurber@comcast.net or (503) 329-5778.





Oregon Museum of Science and Industry

1945 SE Water Avenue Portland Oregon 97214 503 797 4000

omsi.edu

June 7, 2017

The Honorable Ted Wheeler and the Portland City Council

Ms. Karla Moore-Love Council Clerk City of Portland Office of the City Auditor 1221 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Room 130 Portland, Oregon 97204-1900

AUDITOR 05/05/17 PM12:3

Re: Resolution No. 645

Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan

Dear Mayor and Commissioners:

You have before you today a non-binding resolution from the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability proposing that the unadopted Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan, February, 2017 be used as a "guide to future redevelopment of the Eastbank Crescent area." OMSI is concerned about the resolution because much of the area covered by that plan is owned by OMSI.

A significant part of OMSI's future is its undeveloped land, which is approximately 18 acres. That land is critical to generating long-term income to ensure the financial stability of OMSI and the educational services OMSI provides to the public and for possible expansion of OMSI's campus.

OMSI has two significant concerns. First, the plan calls for laying back the riverbank to a more gradual slope. The effect of that regrading will require that more of OMSI's land will be undevelopable because it will move the proposed 50' riverbank setback line (the "top of bank") further inland. The solution is to leave the east edge of the 50' setback where it currently is, regardless of future alterations to the slope of the riverbank.

Second, under the City's proposed Central City District Zoning Code, OMSI is required to do a Central City Master Plan ("CCMP") before any of its property can be developed. OMSI has been working with its consultants and City staff for over 15 months to develop its proposed Central City Master Plan. That plan was adopted by the OMSI Board on May 15, 2017 and will be presented to the City in the near future for public review and approval by the City. That master plan addresses all of OMSI's property, including the property covered by the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan. OMSI's master plan is a comprehensive and integrated plan, including plans for access and infrastructure, as well as new developments and a riverfront esplanade.

We believe it is best if the City reviews OMSI's master plan in its entirety before imposing concepts from the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan. Without doing so may lead to conflicts between the two plans. OMSI has responded to the City's mandate for a Central City Master Plan by completing such a comprehensive plan. We think that the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan should be held in abeyance until the City reviews OMSI's Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan.



The Honorable Ted Wheeler and the Portland City Council June 7, 2017 Page 2

OMSI acknowledges that the resolution before you is non-binding and does not legally regulate OMSI's property. However, it is all too easy for such "guidance" to take on greater regulatory effect.

Very truly yours,

Hancy Dueber

Nancy Stueber President and CEO

By messenger: June 6, 2017 By e-mail: June 6, 2017

(karla.moore-love@portlandoregon.gov; cctestimony@portlandoregon.gov



From:

tony@projectconniption.com

Sent:

Wednesday, June 07, 2017 12:24 PM

To:

Council Clerk - Testimony

Cc:

Moore-Love, Karla

Subject:

[User Approved] Written Testimony for Agenda Item 645

Attachments:

Eastbank Plan City Council

Please accept my written testimony for City Council Agenda Item 645, I had planned to speak in person but am volunteering at the Wilson High School graduation at 3 and this looks like it might go for awhile.

Thanks,

Anthony Hansen

6/7/2017

RE: Agenda Item 645- Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan

Dear Mayor and City Commissioners:

My name is Anthony Hansen, 10450 SW 55<sup>th</sup> Ave. I am Crestwood NA President and proud dad of Anna Hansen, a freshman at Wilson High and second year rower with Rose City Rowing Club (RCRC).

I would like to encourage you to accept the findings of the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan, and work to implement its Concepts with regular dialog and seeking specific input from Nicholas Haley of RCRC and the other leaders at The Portland Boathouse.

I'd like to call your attention to the cover of the East Bank Crescent River Front Plan: In the Shadow of massive raised freeways, under bridge approaches and straddled by a forest of concrete pillars, sits the corner of Portland that RCRC and the other rowing clubs in The Portland Boathouse call home. Hundreds of rowers come here daily, and thousands through the year to take advantage of our unique downtown rowing opportunities among blue herons, bridges and beautiful skyline.

RCRC hosts a regatta here in the fall, bringing more rowers and their families from all over the Northwest to our downtown. They also developed and host a summer rowing program, Rowing Outreach on the Willamette (ROW) for disadvantaged youth, in conjunction with Big Brothers Big Sisters, Catholic Charities of Portland, Friends of the Children, New Avenues for Youth, Portland Trailblazers and Self Enhancement, Inc.

RCRC is such a catalyst for bridging all the different neighborhoods of Portland. My daughter has amazingly close relationships with students from Grant, Cleveland, Lincoln, St Mary's, Roosevelt, Catlin Gable, Central Catholic and other area schools. RCRC dominates other rowing clubs in Oregon, and regularly bests clubs from all over the Northwest, including those in the Puget Sound area. Both the male and female varisty boats earned entrance to the National Championships in Sarasota FL and are competing there this week. We have many graduates of our high schools now on full scholarship to row for colleges and universities all over the US.

Both Concepts in the plan make mention of support and access for swimmers and non-motorized boaters. I urge you to support the plan and make sure the most knowledgeable voices for non-motorized boaters-the leaders from The Portland Boathouse- are included in the discussions.

Thank You.

Anthony Hansen 10450 SW 55th Ave Portland OR 97219

From:

B Lawson <sweetmimis@comcast.net> Wednesday, June 07, 2017 11:45 AM

Sent: To:

Moore-Love, Karla; Council Clerk – Testimony; Wheeler, Mayor; Commissioner Fish; City

Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero; Commissioner Fritz; Commissioner Eudaly; Commissioner

Saltzman

Subject:

[User Approved] Written Testimony - Crescent Riverfront Park

Dear Mayor Wheeler and City Council Members,

I am writing to express my support for the plan to establish the Eastbank Crescent.

My wife and I both grew up on Portland and have raised our children here. Both our daughters have rowed on local club teams. Our 16 year old daughter is a current member of Rose City Rowing Club and part of the Jr. Women's 8+ crew representing Portland and the Northwest in Sarasota Florida at the National Junior Regatta this week. She is on the river 6 days a week. She will also be rowing with the USA Jr National Team this summer because of the great resource we have in RCRC and their ability to have a boathouse and river access so conveniently located for students in the city.

They can easily get there before and after school.

Portland does not have as many river access opportunities in the East side downtown area. Youth rowing programs teach the children valuable life lessons in teamwork, commitment and the benefits of staying active throughout life. Hopefully OMSI will be able to accommodate the Portland Boathouse on the adjoining property also.

We all run, bike, kayak and row along and in the Willamette. Providing a park and maintaining river access on the east side would be a great development for the downtown area. The Portland Boathouse, as well as many other kayakers, paddlers, dragon boat teams, etc. use this area to access the river for their water activities. Most of the watercraft that use the dock at the Portland Boathouse are human powered, so they do not have a negative impact on the river and surrounding environment.

Your support of this project is much appreciated.

Thank you,

Brent Lawson

503.803.1512 sweetmimis@comcast.net

From:

Joe Cates <catesjoseph@gmail.com> Wednesday, June 07, 2017 11:02 AM

Sent: To:

Council Clerk - Testimony

Subject:

Testimony: Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan

Dear Council Members,

I am writing you to show my support for the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan. As a citizen, as a Portland resident, as someone who values this community and the people within – I see value in supporting the utilization of our space, of supporting local organizations that have long supported us, and providing access to resources that may otherwise be limited by demographics.

For me, this issue is both personal and practical. I have both rowed, and coached for Nick Haley, the Director and Head Coach of Rose City Rowing Club (RCRC). I attribute much of my professional and personal success to the perspective, self-confidence, and acceptance I experienced at RCRC. The lessons they teach to our youth extend beyond a sport, or a race – RCRC is a value-driven organization teaching our youth about setting goals, critical thinking, working hard, physical and mental fitness, and the importance of team-work and community (to name a few).

Yes, these lessons can be taught in many places – but why limit the opportunities? These days I feel like we are often voting on 'band-aids.' Short-term solutions or stop-gaps to mitigate damage of long-term problems. This is an opportunity for an actual solution.

Rowing is one of the few youth sports where all genders attend practice together. It's fairly common to see them all even rowing together in the same boat – particularly for novice youth. Everyone gets to interact with everyone, everyone gets to see everyone working hard, succeeding, failing, working together. RCRC is also a club sport, which allows them to include youth from schools all over the area – it's a community that develops inclusivity, perspective and empathy.

As an added bonus, the Portland Boathouse adds adults into the mix, and this dock adds the public! One of the most challenging aspects of coaching at RCRC was having to share space with the public, and with all the other boating organizations – Dragon Boating, Station L Rowing, the college rowing teams, and on and on. I dreamed of just being able to have a private court or field, insulated from the inconveniences of the world – but I wouldn't change a thing.

This integration of youth and adults, public and non-profit and private, competitive and recreamonal, brings

value to everyone involved. We talk about the importance of diversity and inclusivity – well here it is. We complain about the degradation of values and community – well here they are. And it's all right in the heart of our city, front and center; accessible by foot, by bike, by public transportation.

This plan benefits so many different entities, with such varying priorities, and I think this is a testament to the value of this opportunity. The community needs access to the river, they need it downtown, and they need it in a way that is safe and practical for both light watercraft, and swimmers.

I would encourage any plan to involve the Portland Boathouse and other stakeholders, and the final design of the dock to be subject to their input.

Thank you for your time.

Joe Cates

From:

garrett martin <tterrag67@gmail.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, June 07, 2017 10:34 AM

To:

Council Clerk - Testimony

Subject: [User Approved] City Council Agenda 645 - Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan: Written

Testimony

Dear Mayor Wheeler, and City Council:

We all know that Portland is a pretty special place. Maybe we come for the food and the 'weirdness' but we stay for the bigger things. We stay for the ability to step seamlessly from a vibrant and convenient urban existence into direct communion with the natural world. We don't just look at the view, we get out into the view and wrap ourselves in the wild forces of nature, using our bodies to take us places inaccessible by machines. And we don't let the regional climate get in the way—we embrace it, we work with it. We climb the local mountains, then ski down them, we kayak and windsurf their streams, we surf in the ocean, we hike everywhere, we walk, run, and bike through our city and countryside as though the car was never invented. We wear our environmental responsibility on our sleeves, we walk the talk of ecological sustainability, and have become known the world over as a vanguard of Green innovation. We are not just any other post-industrial river city.

But what about the Willamette River, at our very heart? Like so many cities worldwide, Portland is a post-industrial river metropolis, having moved only recently from exploiting our central waterway, to recognizing it as a natural artery for the biological health of the region, as well as a vital public amenity.

Recently we've made great strides in improving the biological health of the river—from the Big Pipe project to many habitat restoration projects underway. But what of its presence as a public amenity? Currently bounded by steep banks, rip-rap and seawalls, offering amenities only for watercraft-borne occupation, using our river is like occupying a State Park from inside a car, on a freeway. With so many seemingly less-enlightened municipalities already implementing creative and enriching public access strategies, Portland is in danger of losing its leadership role as a city which promotes connections between its residents and its beautiful natural features.

But this is not stopping the people. Like it or not, the swimmers are here and they are here to stay. As public-access swimming pools in the Central City continue to close their doors, increasing populations are looking for alternatives. Must we turn them away and lose them to the suburbs and outlying cities? As the population is beginning to realize how clean the river is, more people are discovering the river at our heart for their relaxation, exercise, and enjoyment. The last few summers have seen a public inundation of the Fire Station Dock and the Holman boat dock near OMSI. The Big Float and the Portland Bridge Swim are now well-established events in the city's summer

37294

calendar, hosting growing numbers of residents as well as visitors from afar. Not only is the Willamette in our local radar, but the world outside is taking notice.

Do nothing, and people will continue to find a way to the water—possibly at great risk, and increasing embarrassment for you, our city leaders.

Implement Option 1 of the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan, and I guarantee people will continue to swamp this feeble plan, and possibly undermine many of its design goals.

Implement Option 2 of the Plan, adopt a Safe Swimming Communication Strategy, and the city will begin to move toward providing much-needed access and enjoyment for our growing community of river-users.

Leverage Option 2 of the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan as only the first small step in a comprehensive vision for human access of our treasured river, and Portland may once again walk the talk of urban ecology, health, and happiness.

Thank you for doing the right thing.

Signed,

**Just Another Swimmer** 

garrett martin

From:

Samuel Gray <sam.w.gray@gmail.com> Wednesday, June 07, 2017 10:05 AM

Sent:

To:

Moore-Love, Karla

Cc: Subject:

Council Clerk - Testimony Letter of Support: Portland Boathouse - Crescent Park

Attachments:

Portland Boathouse Letter of Support.pdf

#### Good Morning,

Attached please find my letter of support for incorporating the Portland Boathouse into the plans for the proposed Crescent Park.

Thank You

Sam

541.968.7353

RE: Crescent Park - Future of Portland Boathouse

#### Commissioners,

I am writing to express Portland Vancouver Rowing Associations, as well as my personal support for finding a new home for the Portland Boathouse. One of the options currently under consideration is incorporating the boathouse into the proposed Crescent Park. The prospective location would be ideal, as it maintains access to the existing dock and the public transportation network critical for providing equitable access for all water sport enthusiasts.

Competitive and recreational rowing programs provide an outlet for the life-long pursuit of fitness, competition and camaraderie. Facilities, like the Portland Boathouse, provide community access to a sport that embraces hard-work, accountability and working together as core values. Whether a novice or 50-year veteran of the sport, these values benefit the individuals participating and the communities in which they live.

Mayor Wheeler has noted that the Willamette River is an under-utilized resource in Portland. A commitment to the Portland Boathouse will help ensure that generations of rowers, paddlers and dragon boaters will continue to have access to the river which helps define our city.

Feel free to contact myself at 541-968-7353 if you have any questions.

Thank You

Sam Gray President

Portland Vancouver Rowing Association

From:

Alison Adair <alison.adair@gmail.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, June 07, 2017 9:06 AM

To:

Moore-Love, Karla

Subject:

Written testimony in support of Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan

Dear Mayor Wheeler and the City Council:

I am writing in support of the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan. My family has benefited greatly from the existence of waterfront access at the current Portland Boathouse and dock, and this plan will allow generations to come to benefit from this type of access. As a family we have participated in both rowing and dragon boat clubs from both the east and west sides of the river near downtown.

Daily exposure to the river and City from the shore has provided excellent recreational opportunities and also increased the understanding of the adults and children in our family of the Willamette River's importance to both the health of the environment and the health of the City's residents.

The increased public access to the City's waterfront since I moved to Portland in 1991 has been a great achievement. Please continue to support and expand this access.

Sincerely, Alison Adair PO Box 14906 Portland, OR 92793

From: Sent: Karen Cook <karencook31@gmail.com> Wednesday, June 07, 2017 8:50 AM

To: Subject: Council Clerk – Testimony; Moore-Love, Karla comments on Eastbank Crescent Riverfrount Plan

Dear Mayor,

Our family supports and is very excited to hear about the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan. What a beautiful way to showcase the city and allow the community to enjoy the river and nearby businesses. We have discovered how enjoyable being down by the river is this year as our daughter has joined Rose City Rowing Club and we have spent many hours walking the esplanade, the Tillkum crossing bridge and the local cafes. Allowing Non motorized boats and groups like Rose City safe access to the water benefits so many in our community. This improvement is a great idea!!

Thank you, Karen and Tim Cook NW Portland 503-206-4043

From: Sent: Laura Jackson <kekbeka@hotmail.com> Wednesday, June 07, 2017 8:37 AM

To: Cc: Council Clerk – Testimony nick@rosecityrowing.org

Subject:

Crescent Park and the Portland Boathouse

Mayor Wheeler and Portland City Council,

Back in the late 1990's, the City, under Portland Parks and PDC, convened a citizen's advisory committee to look at building a community boathouse on the east side and the ultimate development of "The Crescent." Carol Mayer-Reed had been hired as the designer for the Eastbank Esplanade and was also providing concepts for the boathouse and Crescent area.

Committee members were from local rowing clubs and canoe/kayak/dragonboat teams, a wooden boat building school, and community based youth groups who were looking for water-based activities. Parks and some other City departments were also represented. I served on the committee representing a kayak racing team and rowing clubs that were then based at Oaks Park.

As the project progressed, the ODOT-owned Holman Building was targeted as the community boathouse and possible incubator-office for non-profits like Riverkeeper, with the long-term dream of having a true boathouse, in the style of the classic boathouses on the Charles in Boston, Boathouse Row in Philadelphia, or more modern ones in Oakland. Ms. Mayer-Reed developed concepts for such a boathouse and river access in The Crescent, and the members of the committee were thrilled.

A few more years passed, and the Holman was developed and began functioning as a community boathouse. It was filled almost immediately! The building was sold, the boathouse space remodeled and reduced in size, and now is facing eviction. Promises were made, dreams became reality, and hundreds of youth have thrived through Wasabi and Rose City Rowing's youth programs.

During the study phases, we discovered an interesting bit of trivia; one which still holds true today. For a city with the population of Portland, half of our shoreline, and our thriving economic status, we are the ONLY city in the world with no public watersports center.

At Oaks Park Community Boathouse, we support the groups at Portland Boathouse. While we do not have space to accommodate them, we realize that all of our clubs and teams in the Portland area will be stronger if we all help each other.

Time and time again, sports such as rowing, outrigger canoe, and dragon boat have been shown to build teamwork, cooperation and character in our youth; they provide healthy outlets for adults and seniors to stay in shape and be members of a strong community. Studies have shown that getting kids on the water helps them understand why things like stormwater management and water pollution laws are so important - creating a new generation of

37294

environmental advocates! Nationwide, we now have models for community boathouses that thrive, without draining public coffers, through public-private partnerships which guarantee the boathouse function.

Please keep the promises that were made, and allow groups like Rose City Rowing and Wasabi to continue to thrive and serve Portland youth by creating a community boathouse in The Crescent. Many of your constituents today and generations of future Portlanders will thank you for your forethought.

Sincerely,

Laura Jackson Former Eastside Boathouse Committee Member President, Oaks Park Community Boathouse

From:

Mark Kallgren < mark.kallgren@gmail.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, June 07, 2017 8:00 AM

To: Cc: Council Clerk - Testimony

Moore-Love, Karla

Subject:

Agenda item #645 Fund the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan / Portland Watercraft Center

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Portland City Council Members:

I'm submitting this written testimonial in lieu of attending your meeting on Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, at which you will be discussing potential plans for Crescent Riverfront Park.

I've been a resident of Portland for 22 years. As a fisherman, runner, kayaker, rower and, most importantly, the parent of a son of the Rose City Rowing Club, I would like to fully endorse proposed plans to establish Crescent <u>Riverfront Park</u>, including a dock for small watercraft and a new location for the Portland Boathouse.

Rose City Rowing Club, like all organizations housed within the Portland Boathouse, provides a unique and irreplaceable service to the Portland Community. RCRC brings together 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students of both public and private schools throughout Portland. These schools include, but are not limited to, Lincoln, Grant, Catlin Gabel, St. Mary's, Wilson, OES, and West Sylvan. The program has consistently experienced year-on-year growth, with more than 130 students on the roster this past spring. RCRC offers financial support to those who need it, and goes out of its way to ensure that kids from all economic backgrounds have the opportunity to become rowers. Regattas such as the Portland Fall Classic draw adult, collegiate and youth teams from all over the Northwest, who stay in our hotels, eat in our restaurants and enjoy our beautiful waterfront over the course of long weekends. Over 4000 Oregon families have participated in RCRC since its inception!

My son's experience at RCRC is a common one. He came to the team in 9th grade having tried many of the traditional sports: football, lacrosse, and basketball, but not having found one in which he excelled or felt immense passion towards. Thanks to an amazing coaching staff, an extremely tight and supportive team, and our beautiful river, Louis immediately fell in love with rowing. Three years at RCRC has transformed him into a young man who sees himself as an athlete and a teammate, and who takes pride in his body and his athletic achievements. As mentioned above, as a member or the boys' varsity boat he will be competing at the Junior National Championships in Sarasota this weekend, having earned an invitation by beating all other Washington and Oregon crews at the NW Regional Championships three weeks ago. The girls' team has also been invited to represent the Portland community at Nationals.

Unfortunately, unlike in Seattle and many other cities, Portland offers few potential locations for youth rowing programs. There are very few riverfront properties that students can get to via TriMet or a simple commute and, of those, the subset that offers access to the water via a graded slope or dock is miniscule. The Southeast Waterfront is essentially the only option there is, and we are hopeful that OMSI will incorporate plans for a new boathouse into their development plan. Crescent Park, a new Portland Boathouse, and an improved dock provide fantastic opportunities to revitalize the southeast waterfront and to make our beloved city even greater than it already is. Your support is much appreciated.

Mark A. Kallgren, MD

Sent from my iPad

From: Sent: SCOT <scotbelli@comcast.net> Wednesday, June 07, 2017 7:47 AM

To: Subject: Moore-Love, Karla; Council Clerk - Testimony; Pamela Belli

Agenda item #645 Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan

#### To whom it may concern:

I am writing in support of the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan/Portland Water Craft Center. As a parent of 2 athletes currently rowing for Rose City, I am compelled to explain the profound impact this sport, and in particular this team under the guidance of coach Nick Haley, has had on our family.

As scholarship athletes in college, my wife and I appreciate the benefits of being part of a team and working toward a common goal. When our children were growing up we desperately tried to find some type of team activity for them to engage in. In addition to mainstream sports, we tried drama and robotics. A friend suggested looking into the "learn to row" program offered by Rose City Rowing. My initial impression of rowing was that it is an elitist sport that is like cross country running in a boat: I was completely wrong. Part of coach Haley's philosophy is to make rowing available to EVERYONE, regardless of financial situation. Rose City offers scholarships and it's location is easy to get to from ANY Portland public high school using public transportation. 12 months after participating in the learn to row program my oldest daughter (15 at the time) would wake up at 4:30, 5 days a week in the summer to get to the boat house and be ready to row by 5:15! On the 6th day she was allowed to sleep in until 7:00. She was excited to row with friends and be part of something bigger than herself. After that summer she had the opportunity to represent Rose City at "The Head of The Charles" in Boston. Currently, her boat is representing Rose City at the youth national championships in Sarasota, Fl. Her discipline and hard work are paying off in a tangible way! She. and our younger daughter, are continuing to work hard, be disciplined and be a good teammate. These attributes would serve ANYONE well.

I would suggest that ANY program that helps adolescents learn the benefits of hard work, disciple and team work is worth keeping. Currently, there are over 100 student athletes training at Rose City. Coach Haley has been named one of the 50 top teachers in Oregon and has coached over 4000 young women and men in the Portland area! Partnering with OMSI and having a larger facility would help Rose City Rowing have a positive impact on more middle school and high school students.

In closing I would invite the council members to come to the boat house. You can see, hear and yes smell the hard work these young athletes are committed to!

Sincerely, Scot Belli

From:

Marny Lawson <sweetmimis@comcast.net>

Sent:

Wednesday, June 07, 2017 12:27 AM

To:

Council Clerk – Testimony; Moore-Love, Karla; Wheeler, Mayor; Commissioner Fish; City

Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero; Commissioner Fritz; Commissioner Eudaly; Commissioner

Saltzman

Subject:

#645 Fund the Eastbank Crescent

Hello,

Sent by Marny

From:

Arkady Mak <arkadymak@gmail.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, June 07, 2017 12:22 AM

To:

Council Clerk - Testimony; Moore-Love, Karla

Cc:

Chester Ching

Subject:

[User Approved] agenda item #645, Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan

#### To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of my family I am writing in support of the development of the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan and Portland Watercraft Center.

My husband and I have lived in greater metropolitan Portland for 20 years, during all of which my husband has worked in Portland, and most of which I have. Our children were born in Portland. During their younger years, while living in our home in Laurelhurst, we visited numerous Portland Parks, categorizing the parks by the height of their climbing structures—toddler-friendly or for bigger kids. Wintertime, we also visited PP&R indoor gyms for toddlers. Summertime, our kids played in wading pools and park fountains. As they grew older, our kids participated in PP&R classes and activities. As a family, we rode our bikes on the Eastbank Esplanade and Springwater Corridor. When a bit older, the children rode their bicycles or took a school bus to PPS schools. While in high school, our older child rode public transportation to the southeast waterfront to row with Rose City Rowing Club. All this is to say that for many years our family has used City services and is pleased that our taxes support these nonemergency uses.

It is high time that our wonderful River City has safe eastside public river access for swimmers and a public dock large enough to safely accommodate light watercraft, from dragon boats to racing shells. We need a dock that we can be proud of as we annually host the Portland Fall Classic, which draws collegiate and youth crews not only from throughout Oregon but also from California and Washington.

A park with a watercraft center with a large direct-access dock utilized on a daily basis by Rose City Rowing Club and other rowing and paddling groups would connect the waters of our river to the recreational lands of our parks. Our river is part of our City identity. Let's get on it and in it, not simply drive, walk, ride, and run over and near it.

Regards, Arkady Mak

From: Sent: Nicole <rnrmmiller@gmail.com> Tuesday, June 06, 2017 11:28 PM

To:

Council Clerk - Testimony

Cc:

Moore-Love, Karla

Subject:

Crescent Park and waterfront access.

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Portland City Council Members:

I'm submitting this written testimony to add to the discussion of potential plans for Crescent Park and waterfront access.

I've been a resident of Portland for 20 years. As an environmentalist, boater, kayaker, sailor and, most importantly, the parent of a member of the Rose City Rowing Club I would like to fully endorse proposed plans to establish Crescent Riverfront Park, including a dock for small watercraft and a new location for the Portland Boathouse.

Rose City Rowing Club, like all organizations housed within the Portland Boathouse, provides a unique and irreplaceable service to the Portland Community. RCRC brings together 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students of a variety of schools throughout Portland. These schools include, but are not limited to, Cleveland, Lincoln, Grant, Catlin Gabel, St. Mary's, Wilson, OES, and West Sylvan. The program has consistently experienced year-on-year growth, with more than 130 students on the roster this past spring. RCRC offers financial support to those who need it, and goes out of its way to ensure that kids from all economic backgrounds have the opportunity to become rowers. Regattas such as the Portland Fall Classic draw adult, collegiate and youth teams from all over the Northwest, who stay in our hotels, eat in our restaurants and enjoy our beautiful waterfront over the course of long weekends.

My daughter's experience at RCRC is a common one. She came to the team at 14 and thanks to an amazing coaching staff, an extremely tight and supportive team, and our beautiful river, Rachel immediately fell in love with rowing. Three years at RCRC has transformed her into a confident young woman who sees herself as an athlete and a vital teammate as a member or the girls varsity boat. She will be competing at the Junior National Championships in Sarasota this weekend. She is one of 18 local youth who will represent both RCRC and the

Portland community at a national level. Pretty amazing for someone so young to have that opportunity and to show Portland pride at a national level. Although we are novice parents to this sport we can see the huge benefits it has made to our daughter physically and more importantly mentally. She has a confidence that we truly credit to her participation in this sport. The boats and athletes practicing on the Willamette river are an inspiration to all for their quiet beauty, the rowers strength, hard work, and commitment. Another reflection of Portland's colorful and diverse character and offerings.

Seattle and many other cities are investing in these type of river facilities as water sports in general grow in popularity. Unfortunately Portland offers few potential locations for youth rowing programs. Current docks are inadequate for the demand and space especially on sunny days. It is dangerously inadequate between sun bathers and launching boats. There are very few riverfront properties that students can get to via TriMet or a simple commute and, of those, the subset that offers access to the water via a graded slope or dock is miniscule. We are hopeful that OMSI will incorporate plans for a new boathouse into their development plan. While I'm obviously concerned about rowing programs (including Station L, which operates an adult program out of the same boathouse), the opportunities to serve those in our community who prefer kayaks, canoes, paddle boards, dragon boats, and other light watercraft over rowing shells is immense. Crescent Park, a new Portland Boathouse, and an improved dock provide fantastic opportunities to revitalize the southeast waterfront and to make our beloved city even greater than it already is. Your support is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely, Nicole and Ryan Miller

From:

Pam Belli <pamelajanbelli@gmail.com>

Tuesday, June 06, 2017 11:23 PM Sent:

To:

Moore-Love, Karla; Council Clerk - Testimony; Wheeler, Mayor; Commissioner Fish; City

Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero; Commissioner Fritz; Commissioner Eudaly; Commissioner

Subject:

[User Approved] Support for the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan and Portland Watercraft

Center

#### Dear Mayor Wheeler and City Council Members:

My name is Pam Belli and I am writing you to show my support for the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan and Portland Watercraft Center. I was born and raised in Portland, OR and have seen a lot of change in this amazing city over the years. The Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan and Portland Watercraft Center would provide a great opportunity for many Portlanders to enjoy our Eastbank waterfront area, but also provide Rose City Rowing Club a desperately needed permanent home.

Rose City Rowing Club is run by Nick Haley, who started RCRC in 2004 (and prior to that coached for 10 years in the Portland area). Throughout that time, Nick has coached over 4,000 Portland youth. RCRC is a very special program, not only because of the superior coaching skills of Nick and his staff, but because of the coaching philosophy that focuses on developing young men and women into leaders and exemplary teammates. I know this as my two daughters row at RCRC. My oldest daughter is rowing at nationals in Sarasota, FL this weekend and because of her love and passion for the sport, will likely have college opportunities that would not have been available to her without rowing. Both of my daughters tried many other sports with varying degrees of success, but they have truly found their passion in rowing. RCRC also brings many teams from neighboring states and communities to the Portland area. For regionals, there were over 50 teams from Oregon, Washington, Idaho and California and the Portland Invitational brings rowers from all ages (middle school to seniors) to our community.

While I am passionate about RCRC, I am also very interested in the positive community impact this new watercraft center would have. The center would also serve those in our community who enjoy kayaks, canoes, paddle boards, dragon boats, and other light watercraft. Additionally, RCRC is looking at a partnership with OMSI to bring rowing programs and education to many of their customers.

Crescent Park, a new Portland Boathouse, and an improved dock provide fantastic opportunities to revitalize the southeast waterfront and to make our beloved city even greater than it already is. Your consideration and support of this very important initiative is much appreciated.

Best Regards, Pam Belli (cell) 503-780-8411

From:

Andrea Milano <elleroy@hotmail.com> Tuesday, June 06, 2017 10:59 PM

Sent: To:

Council Clerk - Testimony

Cc:

Will Levenson

Subject:

Acceptance of Poet's Beach and East Side Crescent improvement plan

Dear Council, I write as a 20+ year resident of Portland who has reveled in the innovative and forward thinking changes I've experienced here. Most significantly in my mind are the green zones that provide a visible and safer environment for Bicyclists. I live in the NE neighborhood and every time I cross Going St. it makes me happy to watch the cyclists zooming by. And this innovation benefits all cyclists; commuters, racers, families, kids. In my mind, those green zones were the embodiment of our City acknowledging that bikes would be in and on the roads, sharing space with cars, regardless of whether they were protected.

It has been my observation in recent years that the people of our City are increasingly using the Willamette River for recreation. Whether they be families, teenagers, paddle boarders, kayakers, or open water swimmers, they are out there. Finding a way to make them all more visible and giving them the means to recreate in a safer manner just makes sense to me. I believe that Portland is on the brink of losing that edge of innovation that I love and brag about to friends all over the country. If we can't work together to take advantage and treasure the open space that the Willamette River represents, I fear we are losing out on an opportunity to stand in the limelight with cities like Boston, Pittsburgh and Chicago (not to mention Paris). Do me proud, Portland, and establish safe swimming zones, install lifesaving rings, and post signs that warn people of the hazards to swimming in open water rather than signs that just say NO. Welcome the diversity of use, and the reward will be a change in attitude toward the Willamette, and yet another feather in Portland's cap.

Thank you, Andrea Milano, Librarian and River Hugger.

From:

Ramzy Al-Mulla <ramzymulla@gmail.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, June 06, 2017 10:45 PM

To: Subject: Council Clerk – Testimony Written testimony for item 645

My name is Ramzy Al-Mulla and I am a recently graduated rower at Rose City Rowing Club (RCRC), which uses the small boat dock located on the Eastbank Crescent. For myself, along with countless others, access to this dock has allowed an integral part of our lives to function. This includes not only my fellow young rowers at RCRC, but also the adult rowers at Station L, the dragon boaters, and a multitude of others who rely on this dock in order to have access to the river. The ability for these organizations, moreover, does not simply mean that we get to continue doing our hobbies. It means for many of us—particularly those of us in high school—that an integral part of our formative years will remain intact. Rowing at the Portland Boathouse has taught me a myriad of life's lessons such as the importance of resilience and the power of comradery. It also taught more pragmatic lessons such as proper time management and how to approach adversity. These are lessons that would have remained obscure were it not for access to the dock allowing RCRC to exist, and I therefore implore you to ensure that future students are able to benefit from the same experiences that have been so important to my development as a young adult.

From:

Lisa Watzke sawatzke@gmail.com> Tuesday, June 06, 2017 10:33 PM

Sent: To:

Council Clerk - Testimony

Subject:

Testimony for 645, 6/7/2017 Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan

#### To Whom it May Concern:

I would like to submit the following to advocate for the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan on the City Council agenda on June 7, 2017, at 2:00 pm. As a parent of a high school rower currently with Rose City Rowing Club (RCRC), I am very excited about the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan for the redevelopment of the Eastbank Crescent. RCRC is an incredible organization that draws participants from all areas of Portland to this central location to join together on the river. Our children are not only able to learn to row but to enjoy and appreciate close-up, the beauty of the river and the City of Portland, on almost a daily basis. RCRC is exemplary in the world of youth rowing due to the dedication of coaches, rowers, and families.

We believe that the development of the park will ensure a stable future for generations of rowers to come and provide the city a gateway to the river for light watercraft. Although not the only organization currently located in the Portland Boathouse, RCRC is known for its exceptional program for youth rowing and is a vibrant, thriving club that would greatly benefit from this redevelopment plan.

We have high hopes that the plans for enhancing the Eastbank Crescent will be accepted and development will begin as soon as possible! It is an incredible opportunity for the City of Portland to make this area along the Willamette a treasured portal for accessing and enjoying the river.

Sincerely,

Lisa Watzke (mom of rower Bela)

From:

Maritza Martel <martel.maritza@gmail.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, June 06, 2017 10:09 PM

To: Subject: Council Clerk – Testimony; Moore-Love, Karla Agenda item #645 Fund the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan/Portland Watercraft center

Dear Portland City Council,

We would like to express our strong support to the development of the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan/Portland Watercraft center that would provide Rose City Rowing Club a permanent home. We have been part of the rowing community at RCRC for the last 4 years as our son has rowed with Rose City his 4 years of high school. He has developed a love for the sport, his coaches have offered unconditional support and dedication, and rowing has opened a world of opportunities including being recruited to row in college.

Like our family, thousands of Oregon families have been part of RCRC since it started. It provides kids from multiple schools and diverse backgrounds a wonderful opportunity, not only to explore the sport of rowing and become strong athletes, but offers a community and a safe environment that helps our kids become better individuals.

The club also puts Portland in the spotlight as it holds annual regattas inviting clubs from other cities and states and participates in national and international events. For two years in a row the boys 8 varsity boat has won the NW Championship, competing against some of the strongest teams in the country.

We will not be able to attend the session June 7 to support this proposal as we will be traveling to Florida to support our son and RCRC in the National Championship this weekend, but we would like to provide this written testimony to express how important it is for our city to provide a permanent home to RCRC, so it can continue to allow our kids to enjoy such a wonderful program in our beautiful city.

Sincerely,

Maritza Martel

Cel 203 605 6357

martel.maritza@gmail.com

From: Sent: Hayley Nunn <hen5f@hotmail.com> Tuesday, June 06, 2017 9:32 PM

To: Subject: Council Clerk – Testimony Testimony for agenda item 645

To the Portland City Council:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the city's Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan. As the park develops, I hope you will prioritize keeping and improving the dock that currently serves this area of the river.

As you know, the Willamette River is a central point of our city. Supporting access to the river allows for a vibrant river community, with more people utilizing and caring for this great feature of Portland. An open, functional dock will make the park a gateway to the river for all of Portland.

I serve as a board member at Rose City Rowing Club, and am a member of Station L Rowing Club, both located at the Portland Boathouse on Water Avenue. I learned how to row on the Willamette River over twenty years ago as a high school student, and have been a rower ever since. Both as an athlete and as a coach, rowing has given (and continues to give) me some of my best memories, my best friends, my best personal attributes. A public park with access to the river will provide permanent opportunity for more people to experience the river as I have.

Please include a dock in the city's plans for this park, with ongoing input from the light watercraft community to create a long term resource for Portland that will serve those accessing the river.

Thank you for your consideration, and for your enthusiasm in keeping our river accessible.

Hayley Nunn

7952 SW 46th Avenue Portland, OR 97219 503-816-9464

From:

Eddie Peterson <etppdx@gmail.com> Tuesday, June 06, 2017 9:22 PM

Sent: To:

Council Clerk – Testimony

Subject:

Written Testimony for Wed. June 7th Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan

My name is Eddie Peterson and I am a freshman at Grant High School. I have been doing rowing since summer of 2016, and it has done many things for me. Rowing has brought me an understanding of how important the river is to the city. I, and 100s of my peers have established a community at our rowing club, allowing us to expand our friends to all over the city. Most of all, I have understood why so many care about access to the water when we go out 5-7 days a week to enjoy the sport we love. Having recreational access to the river is important to me, and to others who have yet to develop a love for the water as I and 1,000s of others have. Thank you.

From:

Holly Golightly <golightlyholly181@gmail.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, June 06, 2017 8:35 PM

To:

Council Clerk - Testimony

Subject:

[User Approved] Testimony on Eastbank Riverfront Plan

Dear Mayor and Commisioners,

My name is Holly Golightly. I am a junior in high school and I have been rowing with Rose City Rowing Club for three years now. I have never been as dedicated to anything as I am to rowing right now, and that is partly due to how I have grown because of the sport.

When I first began rowing, I expected that I would just come to a few practices per week and have some fun because rowing on the river sounded pretty cool. By the end of my novice year, I had realized the amount of work that I would have to put in if I ever wanted to be a successful rower. I think that my second year was when I really decided to "plug in" and focus on rowing. I have learned how to be independent, and yet work as a temmate at the same time, and I have learned what it really means to have good character and to work hard. Rowing with Rose city has been such a great experience for me that I have decided to continue to row in college, which is something that I never would have thought about three years ago.

My dedication to the sport is also because of what an amazing team Rose City is. The coaches' passion for the sport is evident in how much time and effort they put into not only helping us improve our rowing, but bond as a team. My teammates are my best friends. Being able to take a break from the stress of school by coming down to the boat house and focus on just rowing with my teammates is my favorite part of every day, hands down. We find ways to spend time with each other outside of rowing even though we go to different schools because we all truly value each other. Not to mention, we wake up at 4:30am five days per week during our summer vacation to practice rowing. I personally can't wait for summer season to start in a couple weeks from now.

I am very grateful for the opportunity I have been given rowing with Rose City, and I know that the other athletes feel the same. The boathouse has had a huge impact on my life, and I hope that future classes can have the same access. It would mean so much to the Portland Boathouse if you keep them in mind while you make plans for a new park.

Thank you for your time.

Regards,

Holly Golightly.

From:

John and Lisa <johnlisahome@gmail.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, June 06, 2017 8:25 PM

To:

Council Clerk - Testimony

Subject:

Testimony on Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

I am the parent of a teenage rower at Rose City Rowing Club (RCRC). As you are aware, RCRC utilizes the Portland Boathouse and Holman Dock. This area is under redevelopment consideration under the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan.

I write today to encourage you to work with RCRC and the other Portland Boathouse associations in maintaining access to the river throughout the design process.

Three years ago when my daughter joined RCRC, I had no idea what a "rowing community" meant. Years later, I can honestly say that I have never seen a more respectful, bonded, cohesive, supportive group or team. It is a culture across all rowing clubs and the sport, not only RCRC. But RCRC is the only link to the sport in Portland. It is a treasure. I wish that every child could be afforded the opportunity to row and grow. It is truly an amazing sport that teaches and inspires.

So I am happy to see the Holman Dock included in the plans, and encourage you to involve RCRC and the rest of the boathouse in every step of the planning process so that Portland is able to continue to provide this invaluable resource to the community. If you have never done so, I encourage you to visit the boathouse when RCRC is in season and meet the kids they have cultivated, and hear their stories of how rowing has changed their lives.

Regards, John Golightly 2723 NE Mason St. Portland, OR 97211 (503) 281-0093

From:

Carole Schmidt Davis <cschmidtdavis@gmail.com>

Sent: To: Tuesday, June 06, 2017 8:07 PM

Subject:

Council Clerk – Testimony; Moore-Love, Karla Agenda item 645 Fund the Eastbank Riverfront Plan / Portland Watercraft Center!

Attachments:

Support the Portland Watercraft Center.docx

Agenda item 645 Fund the Eastbank Riverfront Plan / Portland Watercraft Center!

June 5, 2017

Mayor Ted Wheeler and Portland City Council Commissioners

City Council Testimony: <a href="mailto:cctestimony@portlandoregon.gov">cctestimony@portlandoregon.gov</a>

City Clerk: <u>karla.moore-love@portlandoregon.gov</u>

It's a Friday afternoon in late fall. Picture thousands of PPS and visiting families strolling the shores of Portland, waving flags and banners, cheering for their kids --and master rower parents--at the Portland Classic Regatta. The crowd-popular Dragonboat races have dozens of new entries at this Portland fall festival. Delighted conventioneers are canoeing, families are enjoying paddle boats, and local residents are paddling owned and rented brightly colored kayaks. Hotels are selling out, restaurants are booked and cooking, parking meters are fed, and national and local media are filing stories about this exciting, annual, west coast tradition/event centered at the new signature Portland Watercraft Center, the flagship of the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan..

I ask you to fully support and fund the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan / Portland Watercraft Center for the City of Portland and its millions of residents.

Providing a suitable dock with a waterfront launch point (and recovery dock) at that location is critical—and beneficial—to the City of Portland!

Why is the Portland Watercraft Center (and waterfront launch)—and the funding for this effort—warranted for the city?

- 1. Both sides of our waterfront should be a showcase for this beloved and growing city. This city is naturally blessed with a beautiful, but under-utilized, waterfront campus, ripe for attracting millions of new visitors and thus, capable of producing enormous revenues for our beautiful and deserving city.
- 2. A light Watercraft Center will respect and maintain a harmonic relationship with the Willamette's natural beauty. Other than the occasional safety vehicle, note that all of the watercraft mentioned above are minimal-impact because they're human-powered. This approach is consistent with our Portland resident commitment to a green and sustainable future, and reinforces our value of a healthy, outdoorsy culture.
- 3. Thousands of our youngest residents already do, and will continue to, benefit from the exposure to water activities and water safety. We are one of more than 4000 Rose City Rowing Club families—comprised mostly of Portland Public Schools students—who have been welcomed and encouraged to participate in rowing. We have personally observed our daughter and other PPS students becoming Portland's best (and proudest) young citizens. A new wooden sailboat and oar program will provide even more classroom teaching, another enhancement to Portland education programs all over the city! Making the new Portland Watercraft Center a premier focal point for Portland gives young families another reason to remain engaged and active in the city of Portland, reducing sprawl and keeping needed tax dollars right here in the city.
- 4. You can depend on Rose City Rowing Club to help lead the development of the Portland Watercraft Center in a fiscally responsible and Portland-beneficial way. Rose City Rowing Club (along with Station L and other Portland watersports clubs) has already demonstrated its ability to run a successful and rapidly growing program and facility. Just this year alone, there are 170+ families who are part of the RCRC program. At this very moment Nick is again coaching Rose City Rowing Club's top two boats at the U.S. Rowing Youth National Championships in Sarasota FL, against over 1500 athletes are vying for national titles in 18 boat classes! These accomplishments bring positive and healthy global attention to our beautiful city.

5. **ALL ARE WELCOME!** The new Portland Watercraft Center will be a premier welcoming venue for global visitors and Portland residents, free of discrimination in employment or in any of its programs, procedures, and practices. This center is another opportunity for Portland to demonstrate its bold leadership on the global stage, which will certainly encourage more businesses, conferences, and people to choose Portland as their home, securing Portland's bright future!

Fully support and fund the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan / Portland Watercraft Center for the City of Portland!

Sincerely,

Carole Schmidt

8810 W 36th Ave, Portland OR 97219

630-209-3062

June 5, 2017

Mayor Ted Wheeler and Portland City Council Commissioners City Council Testimony: cctestimony@portlandoregon.gov

City Clerk: karla.moore-love@portlandoregon.gov

It's a Friday afternoon in late fall. Picture thousands of PPS and visiting families strolling the shores of Portland, waving flags and banners, cheering for their kids --and master rower parents--at the Portland Classic Regatta. The crowd-popular Dragonboat races have dozens of new entries at this Portland fall festival. Delighted conventioneers are canoeing, families are enjoying paddle boats, and local residents are paddling owned and rented brightly colored kayaks. Hotels are selling out, restaurants are booked and cooking, parking meters are fed, and national and local media are filing stories about this exciting, annual, west coast tradition/event centered at the new signature Portland Watercraft Center, the flagship of the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan..

I ask you to fully support and fund the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan / Portland Watercraft Center for the City of Portland and its millions of residents.

Providing a suitable dock with a waterfront launch point (and recovery dock) at that location is critical—and beneficial--to the City of Portland!

Why is the Portland Watercraft Center (and waterfront launch)—and the funding for this effort--warranted for the city?

- 1. Both sides of our waterfront should be a showcase for this beloved and growing city. This city is naturally blessed with a beautiful, but under-utilized, waterfront campus, ripe for attracting millions of new visitors and thus, capable of producing enormous revenues for our beautiful and deserving city.
- 2. A light Watercraft Center will respect and maintain a harmonic relationship with the Willamette's natural beauty. Other than the occasional safety vehicle, note that all of the watercraft mentioned above are minimal-impact because they're human-powered. This approach is consistent with our Portland resident commitment to a green and sustainable future, and reinforces our value of a healthy, outdoorsy culture.

- 3. Thousands of our youngest residents already do, and will continue to, benefit from the exposure to water activities and water safety. We are one of more than 4000 Rose City Rowing Club families—comprised mostly of Portland Public Schools students—who have been welcomed and encouraged to participate in rowing. We have personally observed our daughter and other PPS students becoming Portland's best (and proudest) young citizens. A new wooden sailboat and oar program will provide even more classroom teaching, another enhancement to Portland education programs all over the city! Making the new Portland Watercraft Center a premier focal point for Portland gives young families another reason to remain engaged and active in the city of Portland, reducing sprawl and keeping needed tax dollars right here in the city.
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Fully support and fund the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan / Portland Watercraft Center for the City of Portland!

Sincerely, Carole Schmidt 8810 W 36<sup>th</sup> Ave, Portland OR 97219 630-209-3062

09375

From:

Edington, Becky <Becky.Edington@nike.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, June 06, 2017 7:08 PM

To:

Moore-Love, Karla; Council Clerk - Testimony; Wheeler, Mayor; Commissioner Fish; City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero; Commissioner Fritz; Commissioner Eudaly; Commissioner

Subject:

Written Testimony - Crescent Riverfront Park

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Portland City Council Members:

I'm submitting this written testimonial in lieu of attending your 2:00 meeting on Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, at which you will be discussing potential plans for Crescent Park. During your meeting I will be on my way to Sarasota, FL to watch my son and his Rose City Rowing Club teammates compete at Junior Nationals, otherwise I'd be there in person.

I've been a resident of Portland for 25 years. As an environmentalist, runner, kayaker, rower and, most importantly, the parent of two members of the Rose City Rowing Club I would like to fully endorse proposed plans to establish Crescent Riverfront Park, including a dock for small watercraft and a new location for the Portland Boathouse.

Rose City Rowing Club, like all organizations housed within the Portland Boathouse, provides a unique and irreplaceable service to the Portland Community. RCRC brings together 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students of both public and private schools throughout Portland. These schools include, but are not limited to, Lincoln, Grant, Catlin Gabel, St. Mary's, Wilson, OES, and West Sylvan. The program has consistently experienced year-on-year growth, with more than 130 students on the roster this past spring. RCRC offers financial support to those who need it, and goes out of its way to ensure that kids from all economic backgrounds have the opportunity to become rowers. Regattas such as the Portland Fall Classic draw adult, collegiate and youth teams from all over the Northwest, who stay in our hotels, eat in our restaurants and enjoy our beautiful waterfront over the course of long weekends.

My son's experience at RCRC is a common one. He came to the team in 8th grade having tried many of the traditional sports: soccer, baseball, basketball, tennis, and swimming, but not having found one that he liked or was good at. Thanks to an amazing coaching staff, an extremely tight and supportive team, and our beautiful river, David immediately fell in love with rowing. Three years at RCRC has transformed him into a young man who sees himself as an athlete and a teammate, and who takes pride in his body and his athletic achievements. As mentioned above, as a member or the boys' varsity boat he will be competing at the Junior National Championships in Sarasota this weekend, having earned an invitation by beating all other Washington and Oregon crews at the NW Regional Championships three weeks ago. The girls' team has also been invited to represent both RCRC and the Portland community at Nationals, as they too have had a remarkably successful season. I, like all parents of RCRC athletes, take immense pride in the accomplishments of the entire team (the second, third and fourth varsity boats as well as the novices all had great seasons) and will remain diehard supports of the program long after our children graduate.

Unfortunately, unlike in Seattle and many other cities, Portland offers few potential locations for youth rowing programs. There are very few riverfront properties that students can get to via TriMet or a simple commute and, of those, the subset that offers access to the water via a graded slope or dock is miniscule. The Southeast Waterfront is essentially the only option there is, and we are hopeful that OMSI will incorporate plans for a new boathouse into their development plan.

While I'm obviously concerned about rowing programs (including Station L, which operates an adult program out of the same boathouse), the opportunities to serve those in our community who prefer kayaks, canoes, paddle boards, dragon boats, and other light watercraft over rowing shells is immense. Crescent Park, a new Portland Boathouse, and an improved dock provide fantastic opportunities to revitalize the southeast waterfront and to make our beloved city even greater than it already is. Your support is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

37294

Rebecca Edington

Beky.edington@nike.com

503-927-4072

From:

Shelley Marchesi <shelleymarchesi@comcast.net>

Sent:

To:

Subject:

Tuesday, June 06, 2017 6:16 PM
Council Clerk – Testimony
testimony for June 7 City Council meeting
Crescent\_Park\_testimony.pdf

Attachments:

I would like to submit the attached as written testimony for the agenda item on Crescent Park at the council meeting on June 7.

Thanks very much, Shelley Marchesi

June 6, 2017

RE: Testimony on Crescent Park

Dear Mayor Wheeler and members of the Portland City Council:

My name is Shelley Marchesi, and I live in Northwest Portland. I am writing in support of Crescent Park and a launching dock for light watercraft.

A dock will serve scores of Portland residents who participate in a variety of water activities, including youth rowing at the Rose City Rowing Club. RCRC is a gem of a community resource that gives kids from high schools throughout the metro area a chance to participate in an athletic program that promotes discipline, dedication, and hard work in a positive team environment.

RCRC has a stellar reputation in a region known for outstanding rowing. Kids from Rose City regularly get scholarships to college rowing programs in part because the club is known to develop good citizenship along with athletic prowess.

RCRC is just one of several rowing programs using the dock currently on the east side of the Willamette near OMSI. Our team shares a boathouse with the masters team, Station L, the Portland State and University of Portland teams, and a dragon boat team. Each fall several of the teams join to host the Rose City Invitational, a regatta that brings high school, college, and masters teams from across the Pacific Northwest to our city. The crews launch from the east side dock and compete on the downtown stretch of the Willamette. It's an opportunity for Portlanders to watch some great racing, and friends and families of the rowers bring tourist revenue to Portland. I've stood on the banks of the Willamette over the past several years as a spectator and overheard many a compliment about our city and its hospitality.

Our family has benefitted tremendously from the Rose City Rowing Club. Our daughter Nicole rowed and then coxed for the team and was recruited as a coxswain on her university's team. As we toured prospective colleges on both coasts last year, we were impressed to learn what a great reputation RCRC, and by extension Portland, has among college coaches.

For all of these reasons, we are hopeful you will move Crescent Park and a dock for light watercraft from vision to reality. Based on our family's experience, we can assure you they will make a positive difference in the lives of many Portlanders for generations to come.

Yours sincerely, Shelley Marchesi

From:

Jock Vondeling <jvondeling@shelter-products.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, June 06, 2017 3:09 PM

To:

Council Clerk - Testimony

Subject:

Testimony in support of a new Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Willamette River plan (including

a light watercraft dock).

Dear City planners,

I am writing this e-mail (and plan on attending the meeting on Wed) in show of support of the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan. More specifically, I am very much in support of the inclusion of <u>a dock</u> that could be used by Rose City Rowing club and other light watercraft. My daughter rows for Rose City and the experience has been nothing less than transformative for her. The program is extremely well run and stresses hard work, dedication and a healthy lifestyle. The program also sends 10-20 athletes to top notch universities with some sort of scholarship every year.

So in conclusion I am definitely in strong support of either of the models as long as there would be a <u>dock included</u>. The future of the waterfront looks very bright, and I am excited to see what comes from this exercise. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely

Jock Vondeling

Jock Vondeling Shelter Products, Inc. 503-872-3643 866-941-2865 503-715-7705 cell 503-872-0601 fax www.shelter-products.com



From:

Tim Davis <tdavis2958@yahoo.com> Tuesday, June 06, 2017 12:36 PM

Sent: To:

Moore-Love, Karla

Cc:

Council Clerk - Testimony

Subject:

Written testimony for city council meeting June 7th

Attachments:

Written testimony for Portland City Council mtg 6-7-2017.pdf

Testimony regarding possible park near east side of Hawthorne Bridge and access to the Willamette River.

Tim Davis 8810 SW 36th Ave Portland, OR 97219

Sent from my iPhone

Tuesday, June 06, 2017

Tim Davis 8810 SW 36<sup>th</sup> Ave Portland, OR 97219 503-545-9136

Light Watercraft access to the Willamette in downtown Portland

Dear Mayor of the City of Portland and members of the Portland City Council:

As a resident of this city and frequent (mostly daily) visitor and user of the area near the boathouse of the Rose City Rowing Club, Station I. Rowing Club, and Wasabi Paddling Club, I am pleased this area is being considered for a new park.

I can testify to the benefits of having light watercraft access in the area located at the east end of the Hawthorne Bridge. My daughter has been a member of the Rose City Rowing Club (RCRC) for 3 years now. Over 4000 young women and men have gone through the RCRC program and are better athletes and more importantly better human beings as a result of this program. I can attest to this and any will attest to this too, just ask.

A development of this type is an excellent idea and would enhance this area AND be a valuable development. But, the amount of usage and commerce this area would get from a new development of this type would be reduced if the current light watercraft access was not continued.

I wanted to put my voice of support behind this development project and to note that enhancing facilities for light watercraft access and housing rowing/paddling clubs would be an excellent, cost-effective, and advantageous benefit for this city, its residents, and visitors

I take full advantage of this area as do many city dwellers and visitors to our city. For example, Rose City Rowing Club hosts the Portland Fall Classic each year, bringing hundreds of rowers and teams into the city, residing in hotels and dining in restaurants.

Given the amount of activity and commerce, including and enhancing access for light watercraft in the new park/OMSI area will be a benefit to the entire downtown area and provide even more commercial value to the city.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Tim Davis

From:

Tim Braun <planet.braun@gmail.com>

Sent: To: Tuesday, June 06, 2017 9:21 AM Council Clerk – Testimony

Subject:

Testimony in favor of Crescent Park

I am writing to express my strong support for the establishment of Crescent Park near OMSI on the Willamette River. My son has been rowing with Rose City Rowing Club for almost two years now and the experience has transformed his life.

City dwellers NEED to get on the river. We need to see the city from the river's perspective. Kayaks, canoes, rowing shells, paddle boards, pedal boats, etc. are healthy ways to get out on the river, but we need good access points in order to do so. Crescent Park would be that portal and it would also make a statement about who we Portlanders are and what we value.

We need the park and dock that would give access to the water. The river is why the city is here. Give us access to it! Please!

--Tim, Lena, Jesper, and Sofia Braun

Tim Braun planet.braun@gmail.com mobile: 503-799-6873

From: Sent: David Bath <dbath4@comcast.net> Monday, June 05, 2017 11:44 PM

To:

Council Clerk - Testimony

Cc:

Ruth Bath

Subject:

In Support of Agenda Council Item 645 - Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan

To the County Clerk and City Council,

We want to register our support and enthusiasm of the proposed Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan. The site plans, by looking at the Concepts 1 & 2, appears to take an already vibrant civic area and make some very needed improvements both from a mixed use standpoint but also one that will provide a reasonable degree of natural habitat restoration.

At the same time, we are long time supporters of the Portland Boathouse, and look forward to a fruitful and integrative public/private planning effort that will allow for the Portland Boathouse in a new space along wth other light watercraft recreational users to continue to access the river at the Crescent location.

We feel that the Portland Boathouse Crew community adds greatly to the vitality of this area by virtue of providing a recreational outlet on the river, as a conduit to providing high school youth and adults from all across the Portland area with the experience of rowing crew, and the hosting of the annual Portland Fall Classic Regatta, drawing crew enthusiasts from other West Coast communities and organizations. It is our hope that after a chosen Eastbank Crescent development becomes reality that the Boathouse would continue to significantly add to the civic life of this great city for years to come.

Sincerely and With Appreciation for this Undertaking,

David and Ruth Bath 11407 SW 56th Avenue Portland, Oregon 97219

Home Phone: 503-244-1568

From:

David Setter < dsetter@fumanchu.com>

Sent:

Monday, June 05, 2017 9:19 PM

To: Cc: Council Clerk – Testimony nick@rosecitvrowing.org

Subject:

Crescent Park and the Portland Boathouse

Mayor Wheeler and Portland City Council,

My name is David Setter. My wife Sarah Copeland and I moved to Portland in 2015 having no idea which neighborhood or high school to choose for our children. Both of them were already competitive high school rowers, so we searched for a club and contacted Nick Haley, head coach at Rose City Rowing Club. I explained to Nick that I was going to be giving him two new athletes and, so that they could make friends, I asked him where most of his rowers attend school. Nick told me that he coaches 120 athletes from all over the city, but that many of his athletes attend Lincoln High School. He suggested we search for a house in the neighborhoods which feed Lincoln High. Sarah and I moved to Southwest Portland specifically so that our kids could go to Lincoln and row for Rose City at the Portland Boathouse.

When we spoke, Nick explained to me that while he is very happy winning competitions and sending top athletes to national regattas such as The Head of The Charles, to San Diego Crew Classic and Junior Nationals, "the prime motivation of the Rose City Rowing Club is to build great adults".

We sent our kids to the Portland Boathouse and our kids have thrived.

My daughter represented Rose City at Head of the Charles and, largely due to her time at Rose City in the Portland Boathouse, was recruited to row for the Canadian University champion crew, The University of Western Ontario Mustangs. Our son rows for Rose City in the Junior Varsity boat. Our two kids have been so happy being part of Rose City that when we accepted an Italian exchange student this year, we sent him to Lincoln and the Portland Boathouse as well. Edo was embraced by the club. Because kids from all over the city row out of the Portland Boathouse, Edo made many new friends from Catlin Gabel, Grant, Cleveland and Wilson High Schools as well.

I sit as Treasurer of the Oaks Park Community Boathouse. In that capacity I met with representatives of the Portland Boathouse to address their imminent loss of a home. Although there is no room for more rowing clubs in our boat house at Oaks Park, OPCBH pledged our strong support for the work that Rose City, Station L and the Wasabi Paddling Club are doing and pledged to help them, in any way possible, to maintain and to grow a strong Portland rowing community.

Please, as you review and discuss plans for the newly proposed Crescent Park, I urge you to consider a new permanent home for the Portland rowing and paddling community. A continued central location is invaluable to serving the city with much needed access for light watercraft to the Willamette River. By voting to grant a new home to competitive and recreational rowers and paddlers of all ages and their many supporters, I believe many of your constituents today and generations of future Portlanders will thank you for your forethought and planning.

Sincerely,

David Setter Treasurer, Oaks Park Community Boathouse

From:

Megan Gooding <megansgooding@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, June 05, 2017 7:38 PM

To: Subject: Moore-Love, Karla; Council Clerk – Testimony Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Park Proposal

Dear City Council,

My name is Megan Gooding and I am emailing you today to approve the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Park Plan. I am an alumni of Rose City Rowing Club (RCRC) and am currently rowing Division 1 at George Mason University due to this program. RCRC and the Portland Boathouse are essential to the city's development and goals to create a better waterfront environment. It is essential for both organizations to have continued access to launch light weight boats off this part of the Eastbank.

I joined RCRC as a sophomore in high school not having a clue about rowing. I soon fell in love with the sport. In addition, I had only been on the Willamette a handful of times, despite being raised in Portland since the age of two. As a rower, I saw the city from a completely new view.

RCRC taught me not only responsibility and teamwork, but it also taught me about the city of Portland. I had the chance to meet other teenagers from almost every high school in the Portland Metro area. I made lifelong friends at Rose City and without it, our paths wouldn't have crossed.

RCRC gave me the opportunity to receive multiple division 1 scholarships to go to colleges I never dreamed of. I'm currently in Peru on a study abroad with limited wifi, but I felt the need to write this letter. Mayor Wheeler and City Council members please approve this plan so RCRC and Portland Boathouse can continue to provide opportunities, teach invaluable lessons, and create a healthy and fun environment for everyone.

Regards,

Megan Gooding

From:

Linda Brumder < lindabrumder@gmail.com>

Sent: To: Monday, June 05, 2017 5:45 PM Council Clerk – Testimony

Subject:

Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my enthusiasm for the new park near OMSI and strongly believe it should include a boathouse and dock for light watercraft similar to the current Portland Boathouse which is home to Rose City Rowing Club, Station L Rowing Club, Wasabi Paddling Club, Portland State University Crew, Alder Creek Kayak & Canoe, University of Portland Crew, and Willamette Riverkeeper. It's important to keep such a spot for our community to access the river.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Brumder 464 5th Street Lake Oswego, OR 97034 503-550-5596

From:

Daniel Scarpine <daniels@aguariusenv.com>

Sent:

Monday, June 05, 2017 4:06 PM Council Clerk – Testimony

To: Subject:

Written Testimony in Support of June 7 Agenda 645 Accept the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront

Plan

#### Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in support of the City Council supporting the eastbank crescent riverfront plan.

The lack of river access for non-motorized craft in Portland is desperately needed. The eastbank is the perfect location for such access with proximity to the pedestrian path, OMSI and the various paddling clubs. The current mix of the eastbank dock being used by rowing and paddling organizations as well as sun bathers, kayak, SUP is at best annoying and often extremely dangerous for all involved. Improvements to the eastbank crescent would improve river access and safety.

There is a thriving paddling community here which fosters stewardship of the river, fitness and community that the City should continue to support.

sincerely,

Daniel Scarpine 3204 NE 40th Ave Portland 97212 5034278368

From:

Ron and Debbie Williams <rdahwilliams@comcast.net>

Sent:

Monday, June 05, 2017 3:24 PM

To:

Council Clerk – Testimony Nicholas Halev

Subject:

Testimony regardying Eastbank Crescent Riverfron Plan

Testimony from: Debbie Williams 10278 SW Todd St. Portland, OR 97225 503-421-6445

I would highly recommend that your review and planning of the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront (between the Hawthorn and Marquam) include the integration of the Portland Boathouse and it's multiple rowing clubs. My daughter has been rowing with Rose City Rowing club for over a year now. I find this community of rowers to be very welcoming and inclusive. The Boathouse uniquely combines youth to masters programs in addition to college clubs and programs for the disabled and disadvantaged. Having a non-motorized craft clubhouse with so many diverse programs centrally located in Portland should be vital to Portland inner city development values. I don't know how many times I mention that my daughter rows and someone immediately says they have seem them on the river. The rowing clubs are very visible and centrally located to be able to include all of the school systems not to mention a very vibrant master's program within walking distance of many rowers workplace. Rose City Rowing and its coaches and directors have very high standards of behavior for their youth rowers and teach them many life lessons around competition, team, growth, effort, healthy lifestyle and community. We as Portlanders should be very proud of this segment of our community and the benefits it brings to our youth and how they connect with our waterways and the health and safety of our waterways. These kinds of programs are what makes Portland one of the most livable cities in the country. Thanks for your time,

**Debbie Williams** 

From:

Elisa Klein <elisaklein@comcast.net>

Sent:

Monday, June 05, 2017 1:43 PM

To:

Moore-Love, Karla

Subject:

Written testimony in favor of the Portland Boathouse

Dear Mayor Wheeler and City Council members,

I would like to submit written testimony in favor of a Portland Boathouse on the OMSI campus, right on the river at the top of the current dock ramp. This would be a wonderful location and it is critical it is that there be a launch point in the heart of the city on the river for light watercraft.

My daughter is a rower at the Rose City Rowing Club and it is a very valuable, healthy and rewarding experience. She worked hard, is going to the US National Regatta and received a scholarship to row at Gonzaga University. She is very proud of these notable accomplishments, all made possible by RCRC. The Portland Boathouse and RCRC are terrific organizations worthy of support in our community. The have a positive reputation throughout the US and shine a much needed light on the outstanding youth of our community.

Creating a new river center for boaters right in the heart of the City is a big undertaking, but will be worth it for the vitality of our great city. It is rare to have the opportunity to help our youth and raise the profile of the Rose City with such an admirable project that just makes sense. Please thoughtfully consider this proposal.

Thank you, Elisa Klein Portland, Or.