

GREEN STREET STEWARDS

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

NAME (PRINT)

ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE *(Optional)*

Email *(Optional)*

✓ Star Stanffer		

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June 13, 2017

Ted Wheeler, Mayor  
City Council  
1220 SW Fourth Avenue  
Portland, OR 97204

Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners,

I am writing on behalf of the Urban Greenspaces Institute to support amending Code Section 17.32.070 that will allow Green Street Stewards to remove sediment from and plant vegetation in public green street facilities and to discourage removal of dead plantings.

Green Streets are among the many green infrastructure strategies to improve water quality, protect the city's investment in the "Big Pipe" by reducing the amount of water entering the city's piped sewer system, reducing urban heat island impacts, and greening of neighborhoods. To be successful over time it is critical that they continue to look well-tended. These landscaped spaces have proliferated throughout the city, growing in number from three facilities in 1999 to almost two thousand today. The Bureau projects there will be more than 2,300 by 2020.

There is no way the Bureau alone can maintain these facilities. Therefore, BES has engaged citizens in helping maintain the facilities through its innovative Green Street Stewards program which currently has enlisted volunteer efforts of 145 Stewards. One major obstacle to their work is a prohibition of installing new plants and removing sediments that accumulate in the facilities.

The proposed code amendment will eliminate these barriers to much needed maintenance of the facilities by allowing the Stewards to plant new vegetation and remove accumulate sediment, with written approval of the Bureau. This will allow the Stewards to maintain the appearance of the facilities which is critical to continued neighborhood support of Green Street facilities and to maintain the facility's functionality. One important provision in the code amendment involves prohibition of removal of dead or dormant vegetation which, to the novice's eye, may appear dead. Treatment of dormant trees or other vegetation should remain the purview of trained professionals. The proposed amendment should remove language that authorizes removal of dead/dormant vegetation from Green Street Facilities.

Respectfully,

Mike Houck

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June 14, 2017

**Re: Testimony to the Council, City of Portland**

Widmer Brothers Brewing supports the Green Street Stewards program. As one of the longest running and largest breweries in the region, we are committed to supporting our local community and the environment through our sustainability efforts. With the help of the Green Street Stewards program, we have become caretakers of seven green street facilities in our neighborhood and are filtering pollutants from stormwater to protect the watershed that is critical to making great beer in Portland. Our employees volunteer their time for clean-up events, and we have partnered with other community organizations such as Portland Surfrider Chapter. Widmer Brothers Brewing would love to see the important Green Street Stewards program continue to be funded and grow.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony. Please reach out with any questions.

Julia Person

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julia Person".

Corp. Sustainability Manager, LEED AP BD+C, CEM

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# BEER WEEK

ALAMEDA BREWHOUSE

— AND SURFRIDER —

# COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

*June 15*  
*5:30 - 7pm*

SURFRIDER PORTLAND AND ALAMEDA BREWING  
PRESENT A FAMILY-FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP!  
WE'LL BE CLEANING UP LITTER ON FREMONT AVE.  
TO HELP REDUCE WASTE FROM REACHING OUR WATERWAYS.

JOIN US FOR A **POST CLEANUP PARTY AT ALAMEDA BREWING**  
AND ENJOY BEER, SNACKS AND PRIZES.



ALAMEDA BREWING: 4765 NE FREMONT ST, PORTLAND, OR 97213