

STREET VACATIONS: NE DEERING & NE 112TH AVE

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

NAME (PRINT)

ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE (Optional)

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From: Fran Cafferata Coe <fran@cafferataconsulting.com>
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 11:45 AM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Subject: Written testimony for Agenda item 372 Street Vacation
Attachments: Testimony_NE Deering Drive Street Vacation.docx

Attached please find my written testimony for the NE Deering Drive Street Vacation for NE 112th & Marx LID.

Thank you,
Fran

Fran Cafferata Coe
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March 7, 2018

Portland City Council
City Hall – 1221 SW Fourth Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

RE: Comments from Fran Cafferata Coe, Certified Wildlife Biologist® on NE Deering Drive
Street Vacation for NE 112th & Marx LID

Commissioner Saltzman and Council members, thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

For the record my name is Fran Cafferata Coe, I am a Certified Wildlife Biologist®, and I work as a consulting wildlife biologist for the City of Portland, Bureau of Transportation on various projects. Most recently, I was responsible for the environmental documentation and permitting for the NE 112th & Marx LID project. As I worked on this project and made several visits to the site, I witnessed deplorable conditions that made me feel unsafe in the process of my work. Implementing a stewardship plan for this area would be a win for the environment and the for the people that live and work in this area.

I'm excited about the NE Deering Drive Street Vacation in the vicinity of the Columbia Slough. The Columbia Slough provides habitat for many fish and wildlife species native to Oregon. Natural areas within the City are especially important because they provide movement corridors for wildlife. The Columbia Slough and its tributaries (including Whittaker Slough) offer refugia for salmon and other listed aquatic species. In addition, this area is home for western painted turtles (an ODFW Conservation Strategy Species). Birds including hawks, great blue herons, and many song birds also use this area to feed and rest while moving from habitat to habitat.

Allowing the street vacation returns the ownership to the landowners in this area and empowers a public-private partnership to manage and maintain the banks of the Columbia Slough with native vegetation that will go a long way towards providing habitat for many wildlife species in an area where little other habitat exists.

I encourage you to support the street vacation.

Thank you

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