

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Marianne Fitzgerald <fitzgerald.marianne@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 9, 2019 8:21 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony; Wheeler, Mayor; Commissioner Eudaly; Commissioner Fish; Commissioner Fritz; Commissioner Hardesty
Cc: David Martin; John Tappero; Bogert, Sylvia; Layden, Dan
Subject: Sept. 11 City Council Agenda Item 867, Barbur Sidewalk Infill Project
Attachments: Barbur Demo Project and Alternative Projects for grant funds.pdf

Dear Mayor Wheeler and members of the Portland City Council:

Agenda Item 867 is on your Consent Agenda. Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc. understands the need to make changes to the original Barbur Demonstration Project grant proposal, but we want to clarify the community involvement paragraph that is discussed on the last page under "Impact Statement."

This grant is a replacement for a previous grant that was awarded to construct sidewalk improvements on Barbur Blvd. PBOT made the decision to cancel the Barbur Demonstration Project because of the likelihood that improvements will be made on Barbur associated with the Southwest Corridor Light Rail Transit project. PBOT made the proposal to replace the Barbur Demonstration Project with the four projects in Exhibit A in the City Council materials that are projects in support of the SW Corridor Light Rail Transit project.

Please accept into the record for Agenda Item 867 the attached letter from SWNI dated November 13, 2017 to Commissioner Saltzman that states that SWNI "supported reallocating funding from the Barbur Demonstration to construct SW 26th (from I-5 to SW Taylors Ferry Road) to meet the needs of all vulnerable road users. The SW 26th project design must include sidewalks on one side of the street, bicycle paths on both sides of the street, and stormwater management facilities that support current and future populations." The SWNI letter further states that "we insist that the full grant funding amount (\$1.9 million plus PBOT 10% match) be redirected to the alternative projects" yet the grant agreement is for \$1,709,404.34, clearly less than the original grant amount.

SWNI clearly was behind the idea of doing SW 26 the right way before considering the other three projects. SWNI was also clearly behind full funding for the replacement project.

Please consider SWNI comments regarding the grant project as PBOT moves forward with implementing the grant, and do it right.

Sincerely,
 Marianne Fitzgerald
 on behalf of the SWNI Transportation Committee



Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc.

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November 13, 2017

Commissioner Dan Saltzman
City of Portland
1221 SW 4th Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

Re: Barbur Demonstration Project and alternative projects for the grant funds

Dear Commissioner Saltzman:

As a follow-up to our June 29, 2017 letter, staff from the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) attended Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc. (SWNI) Transportation Committee meetings to discuss the alternative projects for use of the Barbur Demonstration Project Grant that was awarded in 2014 but that PBOT and ODOT recently deemed infeasible.

PBOT staff selected alternative projects from the Southwest Corridor Shared Investment Strategy (SIS) project list but we did not learn of any other criteria for why these projects are higher priority than others within the SIS, given that only 1/3 of our busy streets have sidewalks and SW Barbur continues to be a community priority for pedestrian, bicycle and active transportation safety improvements.

At its October meetings SWNI's Transportation Committee and Board supported reallocating funding from the Barbur Demonstration Project to **construct SW 26th (from I-5 to SW Taylors Ferry Road) to meet the needs of all vulnerable road users. The SW 26th project design must include sidewalks on one side of the street, bicycle paths on both sides of the street, and stormwater management facilities that support current and future populations.**

As stated in our June 29, letter, we insist that the full grant funding amount (\$1.9 million plus PBOT 10% match) be redirected to the alternative projects. After the SW 26th priority project is fully funded, as funding allows, the next priority projects for this grant are SW 24/SW Hume/SW 25 between Barbur Blvd. and Multnomah Blvd.; SW 40th and Huber Rapid Flash Beacon crosswalk; SW Custer between SW 13 and SW 17; SW Capitol Hill Road, Safeway to the West Hills Christian School; and SW Miles from the Community Garden to the Fulton Community Center.

Please continue to involve SWNI in the project designs for these important projects in our community.

Sincerely,

John Gibbon
President, Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc.

Cc: Leah Treat, PBOT Director
Art Pearce, PBOT Policy, Planning and Projects Group Manager
Dan Layden and Rich Newlands, PBOT
Ana Jovanovic, ODOT
Chris Ford and Ted Leybold, Metro