

# FURNITURE *Plus*

Address: 10246 NE Halsey St., Portland Oregon 97220 Email: Info@FurniturePlusHome.com Phone: 503-256-9220

Portland City Council  
1221 SW 4th Avenue, Room 110,  
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Commissioner Mingus Mapps,

Gateway Area Business Association supports the one-time funding of \$531,000 for Venture Portland to increase their support for Portland's diverse neighborhood business districts. These commercial corridors are vital to Portland's economy and expanding Venture Portland's Catalytic Investment Initiative and adding a new Events Hub will positively impact business districts during these difficult times.

In the last year, Venture Portland's programs have helped Gateway Area Business Association.

As you know, our district has historically been underserved by the City of Portland. Now more than ever, Venture Portland's support is crucial. And, just as in other neighborhood business districts across the city, many businesses in our district are struggling to become financial stable. Not only do we, as local business owners, rely more and more on Venture Portland to help carry out the goals of our association, but we are in dire need of support planning events in this new era of social distancing.

We were excited to hear about this opportunity to allocate one-time resources for struggling business districts. This type of creative thinking is exactly what is needed to help us endure the remainder of the pandemic, and move toward recovery. I urge you to adopt the proposed funding for Venture Portland so we can maintain the vitality of our neighborhood business districts.

With businesses closing at an alarming rate and many others fighting for survival, **expanding Venture Portland's support for the neighborhood businesses and business districts that fund the City and provide 300,000 jobs makes fiscal sense.**

**Please ensure that 'The City That Works' works for small businesses and fund Venture Portland's Catalytic Investment Initiative expansion and Events Hub.**

Sincerely,



05/09/2021

Omar Obeid

Board Member, Gateway Business District



503.256.9220 P  
503.257.2600 F  
info@FurniturePlusHome.com  
**Living Room  
Dining Room  
Bedroom  
Mattress**  
10246 NE Halsey St.  
Portland, OR 97220  
FurniturePlusHome.com

**From:** [Jennings, Gayla](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Support for Minority Chambers Funding in Proposed FY21 Budget  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 25, 2021 8:50:56 AM

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Testimony for June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 PM Time Certain.

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**From:** Greg Cantu <gcantu@rhonestreet.com>  
**Date:** Monday, May 24, 2021 at 4:12 PM  
**To:** "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Ryan Office <CommissionerRyanOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>  
**Subject:** Support for Minority Chambers Funding in Proposed FY21 Budget

Dear Mayor Wheeler; City Commissioners Hardesty, Mapps, Rubio, and Ryan; and Auditor Hull Caballero:

I strongly encourage you to vote to provide the minority chambers with the funds to recover from the pandemic. I am in support of the one-time funding of \$700,000 for minority chambers of commerce. This will help increase their capacity to support members and engage with local partners.

I also ask that the city council support the proposed \$531,000 for Venture Portland to support neighborhood business districts. Neighborhood business districts are vital to Portland's economy and these funds will assist them in these difficult times.

**Optional for members/friends of Portland Area Business Association:**

As a member of PABA, Portland's LGBTQ chamber of commerce, I look forward to the opportunities this will bring for all seven minority chambers. Our membership often intersects with our fellow chambers. By supporting the above budgetary measures, you will strengthen the intersectionality of our minority business community, uniting us with the resources and opportunities we need to succeed.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to the budget hearings.

Sincerely,

Gregory Cantu  
Managing Partner, Rhone Street Wine Co.

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Gregory Cantu  
Rhône St. Wine Co.  
303 319 9719  
[gcantu@rhonestreet.com](mailto:gcantu@rhonestreet.com)

**From:** [Kathleen Juergens](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony of K. Juergens for 6/9/2021 City Council meeting  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 9, 2021 12:39:13 PM

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Mayor Wheeler and Members of the City Council,

I come before you today as somebody who's seriously wondering what's the point of coming before you today.

On April 16, Portland Police shot and killed a man across the street from my house. His name was Robert Delgado, he was a loving father of four, and his only crime was being houseless and in mental health crisis. I can literally look out my living room window and see the spot where his body lay for 4 and a half hours. The day it happened, Portland Police treated neighborhood residents as if WE were the criminals, keeping my children and me barricaded in our house under threat of tear gas being used. My Mexican-American children already had good reason to fear the police; now they are absolutely terrified.

So I am here to talk to you about Portland Street Response, the program that might have saved Robert's life if it had been allowed to operate during the hours that people in my neighborhood actually have their mental health crises. The same program that 3 out of the 5 members of this Council have decided NOT to allow to be fully implemented until some indefinite point in the future, because March of 2022 would have been too soon.

Yes, Portland Street Response is still in the "pilot" stage. But with all the limitations that have been put on this program – not just its short hours but the reluctance to let it be dispatched - I question whether this is even a good faith attempt at a pilot, or whether the program is being deliberately set up to fail so that the money can go back to the guys with guns. Meanwhile it's really not clear what the houseless people out here in Lents are supposed to do to, ya know, NOT DIE while you folks in City Hall make your speeches and write your reports.

So yes, I am here to support Portland Street Response. But I also think it's time to cut the crap when it comes to framing police reform as an aspirational goal, pie in the sky for some point in the future. Because there are tools in your toolbox NOW that could have saved Robert Delgado's life, that weren't used. There have been promises made over literally decades regarding Portland Police treatment of people labeled "mentally ill," promises that would have saved Robert Delgado's life if they'd been kept. I'm old enough to remember Dickie Dow in 1998, José Mejía Poot in 2001, James Chasse in 2006, Aaron Campbell in 2010, Andre Gladen in 2019, and so many more.

Millions of taxpayer dollars have already been spent setting up things like the Behavioral Health Unit and the Enhanced Crisis Intervention Team. And with all of that already in place, who got dispatched to a mental health crisis in Lents on April 16? An officer whose background was as a US Army Ranger sniper. Yes, to a situation requiring a social worker, y'all literally SENT A SNIPER!

I'm also going to give you six words: DO. YOU. SEE. AN. ORANGE. TIP. Robert Delgado's life could have been saved if that question had been asked by 911 dispatch on April 16. No expensive new program required, just six one-syllable words. This is low-hanging fruit, folks!

This brings me back to wondering why I am even here today. I've been coming to these meetings for decades now, and I've heard a whole lot of talk and seen very little actual change. We all know there are angry young people in the streets right now who are being told to calm down and work within the system. I think it's on the five of you to show us that working within the system actually accomplishes something other than cheap talk and empty promises.

Members of the City Council, I understand that most of you are new to this job. But what happened to Robert Delgado on April 16 of this year cannot be blamed

on your predecessors, or just on Portland's shameful history or some impersonal "institution." It happened on YOUR watch, all five of you! I call on you to take immediate action to make sure it never happens again.

Thank you.



**From:** [Kathleen Juergens](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Supplement to Testimony of K. Juergens 6/9/2021  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 9, 2021 12:46:37 PM

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This is supplemental to my written testimony. It is a photo taken from my front porch on April 16, the day Portland Police killed Robert Delgado in Lents Park across the street from my house. I was barricaded into my house by, literally, FOUR layers of police vehicles. Note the police car blocking my driveway, which was one of the first ones parked that day, preventing my two children and me from being able to leave the situation.

I really question who or what we were being "protected" from, since nobody hurt anybody in Lents Park that day except the police themselves.



**City Council Meeting - Wednesday, June 9, 2021 2:00 p.m.**

<b>Agenda No.</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Zip</b>
445.1	Marc	Poris	97212
445.2	Jennifer	Kain	97225
445.3	Kathleen	Juergens	97266