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**Subject:** South Park Blocks  
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Mayor Wheeler and Commissioners,

I write on behalf of the survival of the South Park Blocks. Have you ever heard of the saying "If it ain't broke don't fix it!" Well, that's how I hope you will all come to understand and support this unique green space in the concrete forest of this part of Downtown. As I'm sure you are aware, the park was platted even before Oregon became a State. It has endured with all the "progress" that only future development brings.

To date the city has grown up around it. It now stands as the only natural green space for residents and visitors to this part of Downtown. It is a balance to the other brick (Pioneer Square) and concrete (Directors) parks in this area. Please review the clean air benefits that deciduous Elm trees in this park provide as a balance to the abundance of concrete and steel.

Honor the original intent of the parks' design and its historical existence in our ever changing world.

Refrain from removing the middle row of trees. This will overtime destroy the entire park because the root system is connected.

Let the National Register application be completed.

Do NOT put the green loop through the park as the current proposed changes encroach upon the existing boundaries.

Place the green loop and all bike and E-scooter pathways one block away, east and west of the park.

Honor our Indigenous peoples value and reverence for the land.

Do not pave over this tranquil green space in this beloved and useful park.

The money used to make the proposed "improvements" to the park could and should be spent on park care and maintenance.

Thank you for considering my suggestions and concerns. As a resident in this area, the South Park Blocks is a mental and physical boon to the citizens of Portland.

Marian deBardelaben

American Plaza Towers Condominiums