From: Robert Wright

To: Wheeler, Mayor; Commissioner Ryan Office; Commissioner Hardesty; Commissioner Mapps; Commissioner Rubio;

Council Clerk - Testimony

Subject: South Park Blocks Master Plan

Pate: Friday, June 11, 2021 8:00:46 AM

The South Park Blocks Master Plan must **not** be approved!

My wife and I are Portland natives and have lived in the West End for the last 15 years; the South Park Blocks is part of our lives. Replacing majestic trees with hard concrete and a pedestrian-unfriendly bicycle path will seriously degrade the respite and reflection much needed by urban dwellers.

The naïve intent of the proposed plan, activation of a public park, is oxymoronic at best, and a death knell at worst for one of the most historic parts of Portland. Presently, in proper balance with its fundamental purpose, the park *is* active with a playground for children, farmers markets, weddings, civic protests, a rest area for PSU students and a place for their graduation.

The city's resources should be spent on maintaining the South Park Blocks as originally designed, not destroying it.

Sincerely,

Robert & Janice Wright 1221 SW 10th Avenue, #505 Portland, Oregon