

From: [Jennings, Gayla](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: FW: The South Park Blocks plus
Date: Sunday, June 20, 2021 9:55:31 AM

This email was received by the Auditor's public inbox. It may be testimony relating to the July 7th 2:00 p.m. Time Certain.

From: Terry Parker <parkert2012@gmail.com>
Date: Saturday, June 19, 2021 at 12:15 PM
To: "Wheeler, Mayor" <MayorWheeler@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Rubio <Comm.Rubio@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Mapps <MappsOffice@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Hardesty <joann@portlandoregon.gov>, "Ryan, Dan" <Dan.Ryan@portlandoregon.gov>, "Director, Parks Bureau" <parksbureaudirector@portlandoregon.gov>
Cc: "City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero" <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>, "Hafer, Heather" <Heather.Hafer@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: The South Park Blocks plus

To Members of the Portland City Council,

Reading today's Oregonian was the first time I heard of the proposed makeover of the stately South Park Blocks. Ramming a bicycle expressway that bicyclists likely won't even be accountable to pay for through this 150 year old park will completely destroy the ambiance and solitude this treasure offers to downtown residents, workers and visitors. People from all over the U.S. travel on fuel guzzling airliners crossing the oceans to experience comparable centuries old attractions and infrastructure in Europe and Asia. If the Eiffel Tower was located in Portland, it would likely be repurposed into a bridge or something else. The Great Wall of China could easily become a pile of rocks sold off to landscape someone's yard.

Current up and coming generations along with the voices wanting to makeover this park have absolutely NO respect for the people that came before them, what they built and the accomplishments made. Obviously the school system is failing the populace in this area of education. I am totally opposed to this plan that will bastardize the South Park Blocks. Park dollars could be better utilized for upgrading play equipment in other parks such as adding splash pads, adding park infrastructure in park deficient areas, and/or towards the purchase of the Alpenrose property with the ball fields and other amenities.

Furthermore, if the historic decades old public art statues of President Abraham Lincoln and Teddy Roosevelt that were toppled by rioters and hooligans last fall are not restored and repositioned in the park along with the doing the same for all the other statues that were vandalized; then the Portland Arts Tax that arrives in mail boxes as junk mail addressed to Resident (another word for occupant), **MUST** also be toppled and find its way to the round file of trash. City residents certainly don't need

more, or to pay for more, rusty rebar welded together that is ridiculously branded as art.

Respectably,

Terry Parker
Northeast Portland