From:	Heidi Schultz
To:	Clerk General
Subject:	Public Testimony letter for agenda #339
Date:	Wednesday, April 27, 2022 11:55:26 AM
Attachments:	CouncilTestimony.pdf
	ATT00001.htm

Hello,

I am signed up to give public testimony at tomorrow's city council meeting. I have attached my testimony below, as I was told the mayor and council sometimes looks at them prior to the meeting.

Thank you, Heidi Schultz Dear Mayor Wheeler, and City Council,

My name is Heidi Schultz. My husband and I have been residents of NE Portland for 30 years. We have a son who is a sophomore at McDaniel High School.

Our school community is hopeful that positive changes will come to 82nd Ave with the transfer of ownership from ODOT to PBOT, and I am here to offer our help in any way we can to create a safe place for the students, and community members who utilize 82nd Ave daily.

After our son spent his freshman year distance learning at home, he went back to school this past fall at the beautiful, newly remodeled McDaniel campus at 2735 NE 82nd Ave. We began driving up and down NE 82nd Ave on a regular basis to take him to and from school, and to school activities. What we witnessed alarmed us: Prostitution and sex trafficking 2 blocks north of the school at all hours of the day and night. Speeding cars, shootings, drug paraphernalia refuse, and more.

We contacted the school Principal, Mr. Skyles, as well as various city agencies, elected officials, and organizations to see how we could work towards fixing these critical safety issues around McDaniel. After talking to the PTSA President, she suggested that we start a McDaniel Safety Committee. My husband and I are co-chairs of the committee, and we are working to address the concerns of our community.

We reached out to PBOT in January, and were invited to join a Round Table meeting of community members where PBOT shared plans both short, and long term, for 82nd Ave improvements. They were very receptive to our feedback regarding our section of 82nd Ave near McDaniel, and we continue to appreciate our communication with PBOT.

There is hope for positive change along 82nd Ave with this ownership transfer. But, although it is understood that road infrastructure improvements take time, we feel there is urgent, critical need for help near our school.

This week, there was a lock-in because of a shooting in front of the school at 12:43 p.m. just 30 minutes after hundreds of students were along 82nd Ave going to restaurants and markets during lunch. Earlier this year, there was a shooting near school during the 11:00 a.m.hour. A few weeks ago a student was struck by a car while crossing 82nd Ave in front of the school.

Some teachers and administration walk 82nd Ave. and Glenhaven Park during lunch when they can, to try and watch out for the students. They witness concerns that our Safety Committee is trying to address. In an attempt to calm traffic, we wonder if a 20 MPH school speed zone could be enacted. We believe we are the only school in Portland without one. Perhaps cameras at an intersection north of the school would be helpful to alleviate speeding, people running red lights, and the drive-by shootings and illicit activities that have been reported. We understand PBOT has plans for a crosswalk at Klickitat St., which is terrific news. Is there the possibility of another one north of campus?

We are grateful to be a part of McDaniel High School, which has a school CREED that is: Community, Respect, Education, Equity, Diversity. We have the most diverse student body within PPS, and as a member of this Portland community, I want to do what I can to help our city do better for these children and families. Please let me know who I may contact to begin a relationship with City Council so that we may help facilitate positive changes along 82nd Ave. I appreciate your time and consideration.

City Council Meeting -Thursday April 28, 2022 2:00 p.m.

Agenda No.	First Name	Last Name
339.1	Heidi	Schultz
339.2	Michael	Sonnleitner
339.3	Kiel	Johnson