



FOREST PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

C/O Neighbors West Northwest
2257 NW Raleigh Street
Portland, Oregon 97210

April 26, 2023

Portland City Council
Mayor Ted Wheeler
Commissioner Rene Gonzalez
Commissioner Carmen Rubio
Commissioner Mingus Mapps
Commissioner Dan Ryan

Clerk's Office, Room 130
1221 SW 4th Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

Phone: 503-823-4082

Re: Testimony for May 17 City Council Meeting
In support of Parks & Rec "Fee in Lieu Mitigation" Proposal

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Council Members:

Forest Park Neighborhood Association (FPNA) borders Forest Park and has traditionally taken an active role in land use matters that affect the ecological health of the park. At our neighborhood association meeting on April 18, the Board tasked me, as Chair of the Land Use Committee, to write a letter to the Council in support of a proposal offered by Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) to streamline the design and implementation of mitigation for infrastructure projects within the park.

Currently when activities or infrastructure projects are proposed within Forest Park, the applicant commit to develop and implement a plan to restore or mitigate for any disturbance of the Park's natural areas, in accordance with requirements of the Forest Park Resources Management Plan. Applicants must develop plans that meet the approval of the City before any disturbance takes place, including detailed plans for specific mitigation.

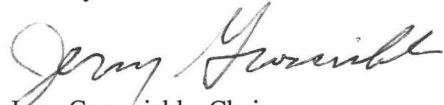
Depending on the size and scope of the project, the approval process can be complicated for applicants. In some cases damage to park resources cannot be avoided. We have seen this up close with pipe-line repairs, electrical transmission line maintenance and other large projects within the park. Mitigation of unavoidable damage is important and necessary. Developers may have limited mitigation options, though, and their contractors may not be experienced with mitigation work in ecologically sensitive areas.

We support, and hope you will approve, PP&R's "Fee in Lieu Mitigation" proposal. PP&R can explore and implement a wider range of mitigation options more easily than a developer can. They can coordinate mitigation work with other projects in Forest Park to achieve efficiencies that will lead to better results. They have extensive experience overseeing and implementing projects, no matter their size and scope, within Forest Park and can hire experienced contractors to do the work. PP&R thoroughly understands the applicable regulations and the reasons behind them, and can find the optimal type and location for any mitigation. PP&R is also highly capable of

handling any necessary follow-up inspections and quickly responding to any problems that may occur (i.e., invasive species, small-scale landslides, mortality of remediation plantings, etc.).

Authorizing PP&R to implement a Fee in Lieu Mitigation program in Forest Park should lead to better results for developers, the city, and for Forest Park. Forest Park Neighborhood Association supports, and urges you to adopt, the PP&R proposal to implement a "Fee in Lieu Mitigation" program for Forest Park.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jerry Grossnickle".

Jerry Grossnickle, Chair
Land Use Planning Committee
Forest Park Neighborhood Association
Phone: 503-289-3046
Email: jerrygbw@aol.com

Carol Chesarek, Vice-Chair
Land Use Committee
Forest Park Neighborhood Association
13510 NW Old Germantown Rd.
Portland, OR 97231
Email: landuse@forestparkneighbors.org

May 28, 2023

Portland City Council
Mayor Ted Wheeler
Commissioner Rene Gonzalez
Commissioner Carmen Rubio
Commissioner Mingus Mapps
Commissioner Dan Ryan

Clerk's Office, Room 130
1221 SW 4th Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

Re: Testimony for May 31 City Council Meeting
In support of Parks & Rec "Fee in Lieu Mitigation" Proposal

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Council Members:

Forest Park Neighborhood Association (FPNA) borders Forest Park and has traditionally taken an active role in land use matters that affect the ecological health of the park. At our neighborhood association meeting on April 18, the Board decided to send a letter to the Council supporting the proposal by Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) to streamline the design and implementation of mitigation for infrastructure projects within the park.

Currently when activities or infrastructure projects are proposed within Forest Park, the applicant must develop and implement a plan to restore or mitigate for any disturbance of the Park's natural areas, in accordance with requirements of the Forest Park Natural Resources Management Plan (FPNRMP). Applicants must develop plans that meet the approval of the City before any disturbance takes place, including detailed plans for specific mitigation.

Depending on the size and scope of the project, the approval process can be complicated. For some projects damage to park resources cannot be avoided. We have seen this up close with pipe-line repairs, electrical transmission line maintenance and other large projects within the park. Mitigation of unavoidable damage is important and necessary. Developers

may have limited mitigation options, though, and their contractors may not be experienced with mitigation work in ecologically sensitive areas.

We support, and hope you will approve, PP&R's "Fee in Lieu Mitigation" proposal. PP&R can explore and implement a wider range of mitigation options more easily than a developer can. They can coordinate mitigation work with other projects in Forest Park to achieve efficiencies that will lead to better results. They have extensive experience overseeing and implementing projects, no matter their size and scope, within Forest Park and can hire experienced contractors to do the work. PP&R thoroughly understands the applicable regulations and the reasons behind them and can find the optimal type and location for any mitigation. PP&R is also highly capable of handling any necessary follow-up inspections and quickly responding to any problems that may occur (i.e., invasive species, small-scale landslides, mortality of remediation plantings, etc.).

Authorizing PP&R to implement a Fee in Lieu Mitigation program in Forest Park should lead to better results for developers, the city, and for Forest Park.

Forest Park Neighborhood Association strongly supports, and urges you to adopt, the PP&R proposal to implement a "Fee in Lieu Mitigation" program for Forest Park.

Thank you.



Carol Chesarek, Vice-Chair
FPNA Land Use Committee