

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1	Douglas A Sottoway	As an individual		Dear Council, I am strongly against increasing shelter beds for homeless and STRONGLY FOR figuring out how to improve the outcomes of the existing beds. Until we can improve the long term success for individuals we shelter, I think it is not prudent to increase the number of beds. Thank you for your consideration, Doug Sottoway	05/16/25 11:49 AM
2		As an individual		I DO NOT agree with any budget cuts for police or fire!!! PLEASE HEAR US!!	05/16/25 3:57 PM
3	Hannah Carleson	As an individual		My name is Hannah Carleson. I am a Coordinator II at BPS and a member of CPPW. I am submitting testimony to you as a member of the public. My work at BPS focuses on serving residents of Portland, ensuring that their access to garbage services is affordable and equitable. My work also focuses on expanding access to recycling and supporting infrastructure for the types of materials that can be recycled through state programs. Without my work, and the work of my colleagues who are also CPPW members, Portland would not be a leader in diverting waste from landfills. Environmental stewardship and waste prevention are points of pride, in Portland. In this budget, Council must invest in the beating heart of the City, its workers. Please settle the CPPW contract.	05/16/25 4:40 PM
4	Portland Parks & Recreation Board	On behalf of an organization		Attached is a letter from the PP&R Board in response to the Mayor's recent proposed budget recommendations.	05/16/25 4:51 PM
5	Anna Belew	As an individual		I am writing to express my strongest support for city funding of Saints Love PDX. As a resident of Montavilla, I benefit enormously from Saints Love and the service and dedication they contribute to our neighborhood. I regularly see Saints Love staff around the neighborhood picking up trash, conducting outreach to our most vulnerable neighbors, and contributing hugely to our area's sense of civic safety, neighborliness, and collaboration. And, as someone who has occasionally volunteered with Saints Love and worked in other programs to support the populations they serve, I cannot say enough good things about what they do for the community. People find not only hygiene, food, clothing, housing navigation, and health services through Saints Love - they find comfort, care, and hope. The way Saints Love does their crucial work is an inspiration to me, as it should be to all of us. I wish there were fifty more organizations like them in Portland. Saints Love PDX is one of the most wonderful and important parts of our community. To close their day center, so soon after it opened, and ESPECIALLY after it featured so heavily in Mayor Wilson's election campaign, would be a shameful thing. The process of advertising and advising community organizations of open RFPQs should be driven by maintaining connections with the providers who are already established and trusted in the community, not those who have administrative staff large enough to spend all their time monitoring social media for funding opportunities. And, when the City of Portland makes a promise, even verbally, to a beloved community organization, they should honor it. I urge you to address the funding and process shortcomings that threaten Saints Love PDX's continued operations, and follow through on the stated commitment to fund and expand their important work. Our neighborhood needs it. Our city needs it. And our neighbors need it. Please fund Saints Love PDX.	05/16/25 5:06 PM
6		As an individual		In order to have beautiful parks, we need safety as well. When there is someone on drugs having a crisis with a machete at the local park or tents all over, I don't want to bring my children there. That being said, is there a way to keep funding for our parks but also prioritize public safety and mental health programs? Maybe more park rangers instead of cops? We are huge users of the parks, biking areas, nature camps etc and it would be so sad if this was gone. The Nature Patch program is amazing and doing so much for kids who don't have access to hiking paths and nature.	05/16/25 5:41 PM
7	Ashley Reynolds	As an individual		I am writing as a member of the Multnomah Arts Center community. Closing the center would be a huge detriment to the community, especially for the older folks in the community. When I first moved to multnomah village I knew no one. I signed up for a ceramics class and little did I know I would be making lifetime friends. I continue to take classes at the center and can't tell you how amazing it is to work alongside some amazing artists. I have learned so much and the community that is cultivated there is unmeasurable, especially for folks who otherwise don't have anything else but their work and friends at the MAC.	05/16/25 7:39 PM

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8	Laura Lawrence	As an individual		https://www.opb.org/article/2025/05/15/portland-oregon-homeless-service-day-shelter-pdx-saints-love-homelessness/ Please take money from the overblown police budget and give it to people who are fighting daily to keep this city safe. What happened to Saints Love which is in my neighborhood is ridiculous. Please keep funding this program. We can stop being pawns of the police union and work on building real community	05/18/25 9:12 AM
9	Katherine J Schroeder	On behalf of an organization	Community Music Center, Inc	To City of Portland Finance Committee I am writing with an urgent need to correct the underlying premise of a proposed budget amendment before it is further discussed and voted upon on Monday afternoon, May 19. I am a longtime board member and current treasurer of the nonprofit, Community Music Center, Inc, which supports the Portland Parks and Recreation programming at its Community Music Center in Southeast Portland. The non-profit just celebrated its 70th anniversary of support of this PP&R Center. The Board joins me in writing to you. In reviewing the city of Portland's proposed budget for 2025-2026, Councilor Steve Novick has proposed an amendment to close two of Portland Park's centers - the Community Music Center (CMC) and the Multnomah Arts Center (MAC), supposedly saving \$1.8 million in "capital expenditures", however, according to the CMC Supervisor, almost all of this \$1.8 million actually accounts for personnel, programs and operations, not maintenance funds. MAC & CMC's combined OPERATING budgets for fiscal year 2024-25 are \$2,080,000. Multiplying by .83 to simulate a September 1, 2025 closing date (assuming FY26 budget is the same as FY25) would add up to \$1,726,400, leaving only about \$73,600 in presumed maintenance savings and utility expenses; the CMC supervisor is not aware of any approved capital improvement projects for CMC in the FY26 budget. In fact, closing CMC and MAC would result in cutting 28 FTE from Parks – 13 full-time arts administration professionals (11 are union-represented) and approximately 140 casual arts instructors and customer service staff (about 30 of them union-represented). Furthermore, closing CMC and MAC would also adversely impact the city in the following ways: Economic Prosperity: arts and specifically arts education is a driving engine in Portland's economy, as the City's own Office of Arts & Culture can attest. We need arts and arts learning to continue and to flourish if we are to see Portland bounce back to good economic health. Arts Vitality: CMC and MAC contribute to the vibrancy of the arts and culture scene in Portland, creating and nurturing both artists and arts consumers. Go to a concert of the Oregon Symphony, the Portland Opera, or the Oregon Ballet Theatre, for example, and you'll hear CMC alumni in their orchestras, and see alumni in their audiences. Diversity & Equity: CMC and MAC support underserved communities and organizations which the City endeavors to uplift. For example, the following organizations would lose their place of meeting if CMC were to close: Latinx Choral Project Ukrainian Choir	05/18/25 1:25 PM
10	KC	As an individual		Keep MAC & CMC OPEN I am a voter & I beg you to keep Multnomah Arts Center & Community Music Center open. Each term I take art & music classes at MAC. They are the highlight of my life. They are treasured resources. When registration opens, each facility's classes fill within minutes & many courses have waitlists. Music classes, lessons & adult group programs are always waitlisted. MAC & CMC offer education & recreation unavailable elsewhere and/or out of reach financially if not through public offerings. As a senior citizen on a fixed income, I know this is true for me. MAC and CMC train artists, craftspersons, performers & musicians that create revenue for the city through performance, art sales, fairs, & markets. They pay taxes on their businesses & earnings learned at MAC/CMC. Most importantly, artists, craftpersons, performers, & musicians make Portland, & life, more beautiful & interesting while creating & bonding community. Please vote to keep them open.	05/18/25 1:32 PM
11	Jane Gordon	As an individual		Focus of comments attached refer to the value of programs provided by the Multnomah Arts Center and why funding should be maintained.	05/18/25 1:56 PM
12	Debbie Lewis	As an individual		I am in support of keeping Multnomah Arts Center open	05/18/25 5:22 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
13	Mulnomah Arts Center senior student	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is an important community and cultural asset for a diverse population including seniors. The center is a place where community members gather socially as well as a place for young and older people to interact and learn new skills in music, theater, dance and art as well as learning about and collaborating with each other	05/18/25 6:42 PM
14		As an individual		I am shocked that you would cut many important city programs and increase the PPB budget. PPB has been unaccountable for the money they already have, so it doesn't make sense to give them more. If we address the underlying causes that contribute to crime - like housing, employment, opportunities for meaningful contributions to society, and recreation, we will need even less money to pay for policing. Please to not increase the police budget and use this money to reduce cuts to other critical city services.	05/18/25 8:41 PM
15	Kala Franklin	As an individual		Which topic area(s) are your comments related to? Budgeting Hello, I was listening to the Community & Public Safety Committee on May 17th, 2025 regarding the public budget for the The City of Portland's Portland Police Bureau. During the meeting Chief Bob Day mentioned that if there were any reallocation of funding that the Bureau would cut the bike team and place those officers into cars. Costs associated with squad cars are higher than bike fleet maintenance, and the City of Portland would lose the interconnectivity of that the bike fleet provides within the Central City core. If reallocation of funding from the City of Portland's Police Bureau were to occur I believe the community would want re-assurance that those funds would be directly reallocated to the Office of Violence Prevention, Safe Blocks and other programs such as the Portland Solutions Problem Solvers Meetings- many of which the Portland Police Officers are involved in. I hope the City of Portland's Police Bureau sees this reallocation of funding as a continuation of their work to reduce crime fear and aligns with the efforts of everyday on-the-beat cops. I would also like to state that while working on the Police Bureau-wide Budget Committee I did submit budgetary measure to Chief Day to consider an increasing the bike fleet to help alleviate the costs associated with petroleum based fuel consumption and during the annual precinct reports encouraged the consideration of the establishment of a bike for the Eastside. Thank you for taking the time to read my public comment, Kala M. Franklin	05/19/25 6:58 AM
16	Rose Tomassi	As an individual		See the attached document for comments!	05/19/25 7:14 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
17	Mark Lehman	As an individual		Written Testimony in Support of the Multnomah Arts Center To the Members of the Portland City Council, I am writing to express strong support for the Multnomah Arts Center and to urge you to continue fully funding this invaluable community resource. The Multnomah Arts Center is far more than a place to take art classes. It is a vital hub for creativity, education, and community connection. It provides people of all ages—from young children to seniors—with opportunities to explore the arts, learn new skills, and engage with others in a welcoming and inclusive environment. At a time when so many are seeking ways to build connection, support mental health, and foster community resilience, the Multnomah Arts Center plays a crucial role. It strengthens neighborhoods, supports local artists and educators, and ensures access to the arts for everyone, regardless of age, income, or background. Defunding this center would be a profound mistake. It would strip away not only creative opportunities, but also the sense of belonging and shared purpose that the arts uniquely provide. I respectfully urge the Council to recognize the value the Multnomah Arts Center brings to our city and to preserve its funding for the benefit of the entire Portland community. Sincerely, Mark Lehman 19 May 2025	05/19/25 9:44 AM
18	Matthew Sanchez	As an individual		The Urban Forestry department is the foundation of preserving the City of Portlands green identity. Proposal to eliminate vital employment resources that are the backbone of ensuring a healthy future to our urban forest is irresponsible and will not save money despite the mindset that it will. Additionally, removing these resources will contribute to the economic downturn that we are facing. There cannot and should not be the removal of 1/3 of staff to fix problems, it will only make things worse. Don't be DOGE, Portland is better.	05/19/25 10:21 AM
19	Jon Isaacs	On behalf of an organization	Portland Metro Chamber	Coalition letter in support of Mayor Wilson's budget proposal	05/19/25 11:13 AM
20	Kate Dickson	As an individual		Thank you for considering my testimony. It is attached.	05/19/25 11:49 AM
21	Sneha Thakkar	As an individual		I have lived in this district for 8 years and have considered moving for the past three. I have a young family and am concerned about ongoing public safety issues including theft, gun violence and drug use. Though the city has made progress since the pandemic, there is still a long way to go to support a thriving community. I strongly support full funding for police, fire safety and emergency response. We cannot call ourselves a functioning community if we cannot respond in a timely manner during someone's highest need. We must fund critical public safety in line with best practices in comparable cities. Thank you.	05/19/25 1:40 PM
22		As an individual		I understand that the City is facing a budget shortfall, but I do not believe that the Golf Fund should be on the agenda to help reduce that shortfall. The previous Director of Golf was a great man, but he was very risk averse and rather than investing in the millions of dollars in backlogged work orders over the last five years, he chose to let the golf enterprise fund sit untouched in the case of a rainy day. At the same time, his facilities went further and further into disrepair. Now that he has moved on, we finally have the opportunity to get some work done, and make improvements to increase efficiency, effectiveness, and enjoyment of these vital community resources (the golf courses and attached facilities). There are topics that I strongly recommend that you do some deeper research on before you make a decision. Things like the EAGLE Caddie program, and the ways that the Portland Parks Golf system is leading the country on DEI and youth sports initiatives. We are working so hard to make improvements to the world through the work we are doing. At least, please talk to the Golf Advisory Committee directly before you make any final decisions on the fate of the golf enterprise fund.	05/19/25 3:45 PM

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23	Carol Hickman	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center (MAC) is a model of the kind of community life and connection that makes Portland livable and unique. It's a place where people of all ages and backgrounds come to learn, grow, and create together. It embodies the very best of what "Parks & Recreation" should offer—not just green spaces, but opportunities for cultural enrichment, creativity, and human connection. In the 1990s, my children took art and dance classes at MAC. My daughter had her very first job there as a summer arts assistant. I learned to weave in the studio - the largest west of the Mississippi - and found a welcoming, inspiring community that has been part of my life ever since. Over the years, I've attended weddings, memorial services, all kinds of community meetings, craft fairs, art exhibitions, dance recitals, and concerts at MAC. It's not just a local resource—it's a regional hub that draws people from across the Metro area. Closing the Multnomah Arts Center would be a devastating loss—not just to Southwest Portland, but to the broader community that depends on it. I urge you to recognize its value and ensure its continued operation and support. Thank you.	05/19/25 3:49 PM
24	Erna Gelles	As an individual		This is a fees recommendation. I realized, per an Oregonian article on Sunday, that Mayor Wilson is recommending an increased \$1.00 fee for users of the Portland City golf courses. My recommendation is that the fee be raised to \$2.00. Golfers invest in shoes, clothing and equipment and should be able to absorb such a nominal increase. I believe that the \$1 projection would raise \$250K. It would be great to be able to increased this to \$500K. We are in need of resources and this seems a great opportunity. Bravo on keeping parks and services intact. Thank you.	05/19/25 4:08 PM
25	Jenn Reese	As an individual		Hello, my name is Jenn Reese and I'm an Oregon Book Award-winning author of multiple children's books. I'm writing today to express my opposition to closing the Multnomah Arts Center. This amazing arts center is not just a building, it's the beating heart of this community. I struggled to make friends in Portland after moving here, but after taking classes at MAC I find myself incredibly rich in friendships that cross many generations. I honestly cannot imagine my life without MAC, and I know I'm not alone. Its positive influence on the community is immeasurable. Please please please do not close it. Thank you for your time.	05/19/25 4:12 PM
26	Darvey Santner	As an individual		I would like to urge the Council to oppose the proposal of allocating funds from the Golf Enterprise Fund towards other parks and rec services. The City of Portland owned golf courses are hugely popular in the community. Portland is rather unique in that it offers several high quality, well kept, public and affordable golf courses right in the back yard of the city's residents. It's one of the many things that makes Portland great. I moved back to Portland from New York because things like this aren't accessible there. Golf popularity in Portland seems to be rising year after year, with people of all ages. The Golf Fund is sourced directly from golfer fees and concessions and thus should not be used in other areas. I understand that budgeting is facing major challenges, but this fund seems to be one thing that is actually working financially and providing a meaningful recreational opportunity for the community. It would be a shame to see the golf courses, and benefit to the public, suffer due to reallocation. And if this occurs, what is to stop it from happening again in the future, with perhaps other programs? Again I understand the challenges you face in budget decisions, but wanted my opinion (which represents that of many others who won't take the time to comment here) to be heard. Thank you	05/19/25 5:00 PM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
K Moore	As an individual		Please don't punish PP&D employees because former management/council didn't find a way to keep the bureau stable and prevent REPEATED layoffs in recent years. The bureau needs general fund money or some other dependable resource to keep from laying off highly technically trained, dedicated, efficient, long-term city employees (at this point no current PP&D planner has been w/the city for under 7 years) who are necessary for meeting current and future City priorities for housing and economic development. Without help with funding in FY25-26, these highly trained and experienced employees will be lost, along with their lengthy institutional knowledge, and are extremely unlikely to return to city employment, given the frequent layoffs the bureau has suffered since 2018. Just b/c building permit fees are down doesn't mean there isn't a ton of work to be done, and staffing is already half of what it was in 2018, which is too low to provide good service to the general public and applicants. Planning staff at PP&D can't get more efficient than we already are unless the zoning code is simplified, which is the opposite of what has happened with the newest plan district that was just approved. Hiring new staff takes months, plus the intensive technical training required takes a long time to bring new employees up to speed (about a YEAR for Planners because our zoning code is so long at over 1800 pages, and incredibly complex), which will thwart development once it picks up again. Plus, until PP&D gets stable funding, any reasonable applicant doing their due diligence about working for the bureau/City would pass on applying for a job with PP&D. Please figure out a way to prevent further PP&D layoffs; they will have long-term negative impacts to meeting the city's (and state's) goals.	05/19/25 5:20 PM
Richard E Plumridge	As an individual		I am writing to urge you, in the strongest possible terms, to preserve and protect the Multnomah Arts Center (MAC) from closure due to budget constraints. MAC is not just a facility—it is the beating heart of our community. It is a place where children discover their creativity for the first time, where adults reconnect with their passions, and where seniors find purpose and joy in expressing themselves. It bridges generations, cultures, and neighborhoods through the universal language of the arts. The impact of MAC reaches far beyond the walls of its classrooms and studios. It fosters mental health, personal growth, and community cohesion. It provides a safe and welcoming space for youth to engage in constructive, enriching activities. It supports local artists and instructors, many of whom depend on MAC for their livelihood and for a platform to share their gifts. For many of us, MAC has been a sanctuary—a place of healing, learning, and belonging. To shutter MAC would be to sever a lifeline to the arts, especially for underserved communities who may not have other access. It would mean silencing the voices of hundreds of students, artists, and community members who find expression and connection within its walls. Portland prides itself on being a city that values culture, diversity, and community well-being. Closing MAC would run counter to these values. Rather than cutting the arts, we should be investing in them. The return on that investment—emotionally, educationally, and economically—is immeasurable. Please reconsider this devastating decision. Our city deserves to keep its vibrant, inclusive, and life-affirming arts center alive. The loss of MAC would be felt deeply and last for generations.	05/19/25 5:27 PM

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Mark Fulop	As an individual		There's no doubt that one of the purposes of the charter review that created the new city council model was a deliberate effort to ensure better representation of the entire geography of Portland Oregon one of the core principles was that we would end up with a responsive government with Councilors who understand your community needs and an accountable government with Councilors who answer to the people. Yet here we are at the first Portland City budget and we continue to see businesses usual and blatant disregard for the livability of the diverse communities that represent Portland. The large number of voices advocating for the status quo is a missed opportunity for this new city government. For those who have taken the time to read the 390 page budget we see that there's more of the same. significant cuts to core programs that enhance the livability of Portland with concurrent increases in a militarized law enforcement, developer giveaways, and a demonstrated unwillingness to collaborate with the County in the management of the Intergovernmental Agreement to address homelessness. Portland will never move forward with the status quo budget that reflects business as usual. This budget cuts directly impact the livability and placemaking of Portland will keep Portland in the proverbial “Doom Loop.” Parks and Recreation, eliminating services, reducing staffing, and continuing to defer park maintenance. Portland Transportation also is receiving cuts they could impact programs as diverse as investments in creating more pedestrian and bike friendly neighborhoods, street plaza program, street safety. If System Development Charges are waived to favor developers the budget crisis to these two Bureaus will worsen. These cuts destroy livability and placemaking. Cutting the Office of Civic Life, Neighborhood coalitions and small grants programs further undermine livability. The amendment to cut Proper Portland’s budget is completely antithetical to the charter reform and actively undermines the livability and economic base of the diverse neighborhoods of our city. To be clear, this proposal will not pull us out of the proverbial economic doom loop but keeps us spiraling. Eliminating the City’s \$11 million General Fund grant to Prosper Portland & forcing the agency to fund its operations through its \$50 million Strategic Investment Fund —a revolving business loan fund will make access to capital more difficult for small and micro businesses. While neighborhood small businesses and restaurants are dealing with the escalating fees for everything from building signage, to sidewalk seating, to business, cutting services and the underfunding the Office of Small Business is hostile towards micro and small businesses making it more difficult for them to succeed. Expanding the police budget makes no sense at a time when the City, earlier this year, held a press conference reporting “Overall crime in Portland continues to go down, and significantly so in some key categories. We’re trending in the right direction.” Redirecting that money to doubling the Office of Small Business Budget, projects that improve the walkability to communities across Portland will not only strengthen neighborhoods, & neighborhood economies but will become a deterrent to crime. I also support the proposal to restoring up to \$4.5 million to Portland Parks & Recreation budget from Police, and Councilor Olivera amendment to allocate an additional \$1.5 million to the arts office.	05/19/25 6:26 PM

Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
30 Don Carlson	As an individual		Date: May 20, 2025 To: Portland City Council From: Don Carlson Re: Use of Golf Fund Resources to Backfill General Fund Cuts in Other Park and Recreation Programs I am testifying as a citizen and former Chair of the City's Golf Advisory Committee in opposition to the suggestion that \$5 million be taken from the Golf Fund resources to backfill General Fund cuts in other Park Bureau programs. Doing so would jeopardize the continued operation of the Golf Program. The Golf Program is a wonderful asset of the City of Portland. It provides the young, adult and elderly citizens in this community with the opportunity of good, healthy recreation activities. The program has been established through the hard work of a public/private partnership. City employees provide maintenance services for the courses and club houses, and a private concessionaire operates the clubhouse activities. The Covid years showed the importance of the Program as it provided a safe, clean way to recreate. The Golf Program has worked hard to operate in a frugal and responsible manner. The Program is self-funded through green fees and other program revenue. It does not rely on any General Fund support. In addition to funding day-to-day operations it has worked hard to establish a reserve fund to meet future deferred maintenance needs. There are many such needs, including replacement of old irrigation systems, maintaining aging club houses and other physical facilities, and replacing worn-out equipment. Taking the reserve fund shows again the short-term thinking that has led to the City's tremendous capital maintenance backlog in Parks. These backlogs are endemic in all City functions, primarily because of short-term decisions in crisis situations. Taking the Reserve Fund would harm a wonderful, successful program and penalize it for doing the responsible thing. Please do not succumb to this short-term thinking. In closing, I would point out that the Golf Fund has been established as an Enterprise Fund much like the Water and Sewer funds. An important principle of such funds is the revenue generated by enterprise activities remain in the fund to pay for programs and activities for which the fund has been established. I hope that you adhere to this principle. I appreciate the hard work you are doing as City Councilors. I know it isn't easy particularly at this time. I also appreciate the opportunity to weigh in on this important issue. Thank you. Don Carlson	05/19/25 8:43 PM
31 Ashley Barnes	As an individual		Hello, I am submitting comment because I was upset by what City Council member, Zimmerman, said about the Urban Forestry Department. We MUST NOT defund these employees and the work they do. They are integral to ensuring our city is planning for and mitigating climate change, bridging the gap between socio-economic groups, upholding protections for the systems we have in place regarding trees and developers, and simply helping people in need, like elderly people who may not be able to care for their trees. It is so important to so many people. It affects us all! Please support this and the public parks. PLEASE DO NOT ALLOCATE MORE FUNDS TO THE POLICE. Trees and parks are the real and positive network of public safety. Thank you!	05/19/25 9:31 PM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Dan Jaffee	As an individual		Dear Council Members: As you negotiate the 2025-26 budget, I urge you to follow these crucial guidelines, below. Overall, I urge you to reject any cuts, except to police and Prosper Portland. I also urge you to approve substantial new revenue sources from new and/or increased fees--especially fees on rideshare companies, short-term rentals, and utility companies using the public right of way. SPENDING: 1. No cuts at all to funding for Parks maintenance, or any other Parks functions. Portland parks are already threadbare and falling apart, with poorly maintained and degraded paths, bathrooms, playfields, etc. 2. No closures of any Portland Parks facilities (e.g., Multnomah Arts Center, pools); 3. No cuts at all to the City Forester's office (either staff or program budget) 4. No cuts to any PBOT transportation programs. PBOT funding for safety, sidewalk and road maintenance, pedestrian paths, street sweeping, intersection daylighting, and other programs should be increased--not reduced. 5. I support Councilmember Avalos's proposal to put PPB overtime funds into a separate fund controlled by Council. 6. I support cuts to Prosper Portland if needed. REVENUE: Please avoid the need for cuts by raising new revenue from at least the following sources: 1. Increase the rate of the ULF fee (Utility License Fee), index it to inflation, and also restore the share of the ULF fee (28%) that was originally directed to fund PBOT (but diverted by the previous council). 2. Increase per-ride fees for use of Rideshare companies (Uber, Lyft) to at least \$2.00 per ride. 3. Increase parking meter fees up to at least the amount that was originally proposed, but nixed by former Mayor Wheeler. Then, index future meter rate increases to inflation. 4. Raise substantial new revenue for PBOT from vehicle citations by more actively enforcing the following vehicle and parking violations, which are either not being enforced or barely so: --Parking within 25 feet of a Stop sign --Parking blocking sidewalk passage, fire hydrants, or other prohibited zones --Vehicles with expired registrations. 3. Increase or enact per-night or per-rental fees on short-term rentals (AirBnB, VRBO, etc.) and direct the revenue to programs supporting low-income renters. 4. Approve a higher Parks Levy (at the 50% increased amount proposed by the Parks Bureau) on the Nov. 2025 ballot, to fund significantly increased parks funding. Thank you for your attention and consideration	05/20/25 7:21 AM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Emily Clark Cuellar	As an individual		I live in the Cathedral Park neighborhood in District 2. I am a member of Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ PDX). This is my most important point: the police budget should be cut so that other budgets, like housing and parks, can be spared. The mayor's proposed budget goes against the priorities expressed by Portland residents in the district listening sessions and the budget survey commissioned by the City Council. Parks and Recreation are being cut by 20% in the General Fund, and more overall. While I was pleased to see that my local community center is off the chopping block, the cuts to maintenance and staff would have an enormous effect on my family and the families in my neighborhood. The funding for the Housing Bureau is being cut by 27%, at a time when the lack of affordable housing is a major crisis for the city. Very unfairly, the Portland Police Bureau is not being asked to cut their budget. Instead they are being given a proposed \$10 million increase. This is particularly ironic when the Mayor's opening statement stresses how anti-racism is a core Portland value. The Portland police have a long and continuing history of racist attitudes and actions, continuing up to the present day. The police do not solve problems. They often escalate situations and make problems worse. They do not prevent crime. They show up after crimes have occurred. Police don't make us safe. In my neighborhood I have recently experienced two situations where police have acted on a warrant in the middle of the day within a mile of my son's school. Both times leading to a dangerous stand-off and lockdown for my son. These actions did not make myself, my child and his classmates, or my community feel safe. Social programs like supportive housing, drug counseling and food banks make communities safe. The mayor is sacrificing programs that benefit our communities to pay for police, when instead we should be cutting police programs to pay for the services the people really want. PPB has still not achieved full compliance with the 2014 DOJ Settlement Agreement related to their use of force and yet year after year Portlanders are told they need more money to do their jobs. Of personal importance to me is the fact that our street safety has never fully recovered since they abruptly removed all traffic enforcement, seemingly in protest for the modest cuts received in 2020. Another point that is worth noting comes from the discussion of Portland Street Response in the Community and Public Safety Committee meeting on March 11. The discussion covered co-dispatch of PSR with the police on some calls. It was recognized that this needed to be done in a way that did not link PSR to the police, since this would lower the credibility of PSR. Why provide more money to a bureau that is not trusted by the people it is supposed to serve? Instead, we should be continuing to expand programs like PSR and CHAT, as well as use more PS3, the unarmed police officers. The bottom line is that the police budget should be cut, not kept at the same level and definitely not increased. Let's finally focus on funding the parts of our city that increase our standard of living and truly keep our citizens safe in a holistic way.	05/20/25 7:50 AM
David Smith	As an individual		I approve reductions in the PPB budget. I do not approve of reductions to Vibrant Communities.	05/20/25 8:19 AM
Dr. Andrew Mendenhall	On behalf of an organization	Central City Concern	Please see testimony attached.	05/20/25 8:40 AM
kyna rubin	On behalf of an organization	Trees for Life Oregon	Please see the attached document, which serves as our written testimony.	05/20/25 9:16 AM
Yasmin Ibarra	On behalf of an organization	SEIU Local 49	Please see attached testimony regarding funding for essential services in the 2025-2026 budget.	05/20/25 9:33 AM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Cerissa McFarlane	As an individual		Re: Mayor Wilson’s proposed cuts to Portland Parks & Recreation’s maintenance budget I strongly oppose Mayor Wilson’s proposed cuts to Portland Parks & Recreation’s maintenance budget, which is essential to keeping Portland Parks safe for children and our entire community. I’m appalled that Portland would funnel money away from our communities—specifically trash cleanup, bathroom & playground maintenance—to pay for bedding for our homeless population. If the choice is between children and homelessness, it’s clear that the investment needs to stand with our future vs reparations for past failures. Further, if any part of the Portland Parks & Recreation’s maintenance budget should be isolated for cuts, it must be tree maintenance. Without a better alternative, I support councilor Eric Zimmerman’s proposal to cut \$5.8 million from the tree regulation program. Sincerely, Cerissa McFarlane, community member and mother of two school-aged children	05/20/25 9:35 AM
cdavid cottrill	As an individual		The Budget must include funding for the Portland Office of Events and Film (OEF). As a IATSE 488 Union Craftsperson & Labor Leader, my life and income are highly invested in maintaining the continuity and funding of the OEF. The workers in Arts & Entertainment Industry rely on the work of the OEF to attract productions, promote film friendly policies, and provide funding support to motion picture projects in Portland. The office provides important grants to filmmakers, Industry events, and organizations offering access to training and career development for craftspeople entering the industry. Portland has now repeatedly threatened OEF funding/existence when this is the ONLY City office dedicated to promoting film friendly policies and other support for the Motion Picture & Media Production Industry. Recently the name and focus of the Office changed to include Live Events. This was a welcome change as many workers are employed as crew for concerts/theatre/trade shows and as craftspeople on film/TV/Streaming Series adn other Digital Media Productions. Live events have not fully recovered from the pandemic and recently Portland has seen multiple Theatre companies shutter or reduce their offerings because of cuts and clawbacks of Federal grant funding and other assistance. The OEF has been a critical partner in promoting Oregon Media Pathways which provides training, job placement assistance and mentorship to people trying to break into the industry. I realize we are in a budget crisis and that reductions are necessary, but fully eliminating the only City office dedicated to our Industry will be devastating. Please fund the OEF and its staff of 2.5 people at the current, 2024-25 budget level.	05/20/25 9:55 AM
Tyler Gilmore (he/him)	As an individual		See attached written testimony regarding proposed devastating cuts to critical Urban Forestry staff.	05/20/25 10:37 AM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
	As an individual		I am part of the Alumni association to PSU and frequent traveler in Portland and co-op member/ owner although NOT speaking on the behalf of any of these but rather using these as stakeholder markers. I would live in Portland, but it's too expensive. My partner resides in Portland and is represented best in district 2 by Councilor Kanal. I am submitting trstimony in support of Councilors Green and Dunphy's resolution to reallocate funding from Prosper Portland (who make policy for the rich) towards maintaining parks, protecting renters, and increasing investment in our public spaces. This is VERY much inline with values across all districts. Portland is loved on a global stage for its commitment to ecology and giving its residents very Green pathways including the most amazing parks. One of those parks is pesticide free and all of the parks should become this way and only get better. The great part about that commitment if taken up, means more labour is needed and that can happen with this reallocation of funds. Portland Street response is also needing to expand and that to can happen with this resolution. I look forward to feeling safe by seeing their friendly smiles in more places. My partner always has good things to say when there's a chance for an interaction but there is not enough and sometimes there is a need to step in on a decompression moment without credentials. This should be lessened because it happens more often than not. It's not crimes but social interactions and sometimes moments of unrest which are best suited and worked through by the Portland Street Response which have proven success rates and credentials. They deserve proper wages and a full team. This reallocation finds the money. Also, as noted in my earlier part of my written testimony, I do not live in Portland and live in its suburbs and commute in because its been very expensive and gentrified out. My partner is a renter and many council members chose to back the tenants rights and this is a great and meaningful way of committing to monetizing and making tenants rights actionable. This reallocation is also a great way of monetizing the commitment to vision zero. I commute into Portland without a car and it can be scary and it's great to see vision zero getting attention again. But words are not enough and reallocation is needed. That you tof Councilors Green and Dunphy's resolution to reallocate funding from Prosper Portland into the parks, PSR, renters rights, and traffic safety measures for those traveling without a car. I hope this will be an easy yes by all council members.	05/20/25 10:50 AM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Brian Gjurjevich	As an individual		Portland's city-owned golf courses are community resources that have seen huge increases in use since the pandemic, notably among many folks who are new to the game. I was just out at Colwood this weekend with my parents, 6-year-old son, 2-year-old daughter, two nieces (8 and 5), sister-in-law—and as always, all had a great time. We hit three buckets of range balls and then headed to the Alderwood Course. While my dad and I chipped and putted, the kids ran around the green, did cartwheels in the fairway, and explored the giant trees that split the course—a great introduction to the game and wonderful use of this cherished green space! A big reason why the courses are successful and accessible to more people is because of Portland's self-sustaining golf enterprise fund, which is funded by green fees and other golf revenue and used to re-invest in the courses, driving ranges, facilities, and non-golf spaces like Colwood's community center (where there was a wedding happening during our visit). A proposal to pull millions from the self-sustaining golf enterprise fund and add it into the general fund would hinder the golf program's ability to invest in itself, undercut the appeal of the courses, and potentially stifle recruitment of new players (namely youth, women, and people of color who have not always felt welcome at golf courses)—all of which are key tenets of the 2015 golf strategic plan created by Portland Parks & Rec. Another proposal is to add a small surcharge to greens fees at courses to support other Portland Parks facilities and shore up the general fund. This feels like a far more reasonable approach that I believe golfers will more willingly accept, given the funding emergency and value Portland's city-owned courses currently provide for their costs (which, even with a small surcharge added, would still be quite competitive compared to other public courses in the metro area.) With inflation and economic uncertainty, costs for nearly everything are up. I believe Portland golfers are more than willing to chip in and do their part to support Portland Parks and other key programs that make our city more livable. As a Portland golfer and supporter of our amazing city-owned courses, I ask that the city council reject the proposal to pull money from the golf enterprise fund, and instead move forward with a small surcharge on greens fees. Thank you for your consideration. Respectfully, Brian Gjurjevich	05/20/25 10:58 AM
	As an individual		The City is at an inflection point, standing on a razor's edge between a vibrant recovery or a doom spiral. The signs of recovery are everywhere and the long-term prospects of the City are extremely favorable, given the City's beauty and proximity to nature, dynamic and creative population, climate, natural resources, etc. This is not a time for undercutting the permitting bureau that supports growth and development. I work at PP&D in the Land Use Services division and am very concerned about the proposed cuts. The development community is a powerful engine of growth and economic well-being for the City, and there work is essential in the creation of more housing. In turn, Land Use Services staff are essential in supporting their work. With less of us, their projects will be negatively impacted by delays. In addition, this division does a great deal of work that is "unpaid" (not supported by fees) that is essential for the residents and business owners of Portland. The zoning code is a complex document and they our specialized knowledge is needed to understand what can and cannot be done in various locations. Our specialized knowledge is akin to that of lawyers who are versed in reading and interpreting the Byzantine language of laws and legal documents. Similarly, we are highly trained in reading and interpreting the city's zoning. A long term project to simplify zoning should be something to consider, but until that simplification has happened, the City desperately needs specialists to support the development community, the business community and the public. The City should provide general funds to support the work of the Land Use Services division which has had three other layoffs in the last five years in addition to attrition where vacated positions have not been filled. The staffing levels are down to what they were during the Great Recession, and the proposed cuts will bring the group far below those levels.	05/20/25 11:03 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
44	Greg Netzer	As an individual		Portland's golf courses are community resources that have seen huge increases in use since the pandemic, notably among many folks who are new to the game. A big reason why the courses are successful and accessible to more people is because of Portland's self-sustaining golf enterprise fund, which is funded by green fees and other golf revenue and used to re-invest in the courses, driving ranges, facilities, and non-golf spaces like Colwood's community center. A proposal to pull millions from the self-sustaining golf enterprise fund and add it into the general fund would hinder the golf program's ability to invest in itself, undercut the appeal of the courses, and potentially stifle recruitment of new players (namely youth, women, and people of color who have not always felt welcome at golf courses)—all of which are key tenets of the 2015 golf strategic plan created by Portland Parks & Rec. Another proposal is to add a surcharge to greens fees at courses to support other Portland Parks facilities and the general fund. This feels like a far more reasonable approach that I believe golfers will more willingly accept, given the funding emergency and value Portland's city-owned courses currently provide for their costs (which, even with a small surcharge added, would still be quite competitive compared to other public courses in the metro area.) With inflation, costs for nearly everything are up, and I believe Portland golfers are more than willing to chip in and do their part to support Portland Parks and other key programs that make our city more livable. As a Portland golfer and supporter of our amazing city-owned courses, I ask that the city council reject the proposal to pull money from the golf enterprise fund, and instead move forward with a small surcharge on greens fees. Thank you for your consideration.	05/20/25 11:12 AM
45		On behalf of an organization	Urban Forestry Commission	Please accept the attached statement from the City's Urban Forestry Commission.	05/20/25 11:28 AM
46		As an individual		I enjoy our municipal golf courses and feel they are a value add to the community - plus a well run course pays for itself	05/20/25 11:35 AM
47	L. Witt	As an individual		TOP PRIORITY: Please put all necessary resources into cleaning up the city and addressing the homelessness problem. IMMEDIATELY make it impossible to camp outdoors, so that the homeless will get shelter and get the help they need. Portland has taken TOO LONG to FIX this issue. That is why we have such high vacancy rates, which in turn affects livability. Mayor Wilson seem to want to address these issues with urgency, but we have seen little improvement recently. My neighborhood (NW) still has building breakins. The cars on the street still get broken into. My daughter's street in SE (has large campers on her street, filled with drugs). PLEASE fix this, or Portland will decline even further!	05/20/25 11:36 AM
48		As an individual		I strongly support the amendments to the budget proposed by Councilor Avalos, including restricting the unlimited spending for overtime to Fire and PPB budgets. I reject the idea that parks and recreation are not an essential part of the city and the long term health and safety of our community. At a time with Portland Schools are cutting positions, eliminating programming and maintenance from Parks and Rec would be a double hit to the well being of children and families. Since the COVID precautions were implemented in 2020, the city parks have been an essential refuge for all community members. During that same period of time, the PPB has continued to cost taxpayers more and more, including settlements for misconduct, violence and deploying chemical weapons in our neighborhoods. They have engaged in work slow downs while claiming that their response times are due to staffing levels. They have actively worked against community supported changes, such as full implementation of Portland Street Response or oversight committees to ensure lawful and ethical policing practices. And lastly, the bloated budgets and salaries, especially with unlimited overtime, impact the long term financial health of the city, putting citizens on the hook for millions and millions in pending retirement benefits. I urge the Mayor and Council members to make the small and common sense adjustments to the budget, per the recommended amendments by Councilor Avalos, to maintain the true sites of health and safety, our community's beautiful parks and recreation programs.	05/20/25 11:37 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
49	Caleb Powell	As an individual		Please please please increase funding for police and our public safety systems. Portland has become almost unrecognizable from the city I grew to love when I was a kid. Last week when my partner and I were walking through downtown a homeless individual followed us screaming “little white gay fags” Since when did this behavior become acceptable? And I knew that even if I called authorities, they would not show up and they would not do anything. I live in downtown and so many nights I am woken up by a deranged individual screaming that they are going to kill someone. When I called 911, the call wasn’t even answered for 8 minutes. How is this acceptable. We desperately need police. The lack of police is hurting our most venerable communities the hardest. The rich employ armed private security and still have public safety, while us middle and lower class folks are left to fend for ourselves. The number of armed security guards has doubled since 2020. Portland has effectively privatized our police force, losing all oversight and accountability. We only have half the number of officers per capita as our peer cities, and you can really feel it when you walk on our streets or call 911. I am frequently put in harms way at work and I know that if I am in a dangerous situation, the police will not come. Portland DESPERATELY needs more police funding. It needs to be the absolutely number one priority in this budget. Portlands do not feel safe and have no confidence in our public safety system. We have let the defund the police crowd destroy our city and our livelihoods, costing us thousands of jobs and destroying our city. When are we going to stop the bleeding?	05/20/25 11:37 AM
50	Ann Leymon	As an individual		One of the things that makes Portland special and gives residents a good quality of life is our tree canopy and our urban forests. Please retain or expand the Urban Forestry staff. Large trees keep the city cooler, safer (check out the research on this!), and promote positive mental health. Plus, maintaining our large trees limits property damage done during storms. Please fully fund Urban Forestry!	05/20/25 11:38 AM
51	Anna Skinner	As an individual		This proposed budget is a betrayal of all the people who spoke up in listening sessions and the commission's budget survey for social services and parks. Portland does not need a bigger police budget and a more visible police presence. Portland needs more care for its citizens. We are collectively drowning in the effects of homelessness, addiction, trauma and the larger societal collapse that's happening at the federal level. This is not the time to double down on "safety" measures that don't actually provide more safety and security for Portlanders. The mayor has stressed that anti-racism is a core Portland value. The Portland police have a long and continuing history of racist attitudes and actions. WHY are we increasing their budget while starving citizen-prioritized programs like housing and Portland Street Response? The police do not solve problems. They often escalate situations and make problems worse. They do not prevent crime. They show up after crimes have occurred. Police don’t make us safe. Social programs like supportive housing, drug counseling and food banks make communities safe. We must stop starving these programs so that PPB can grow. Thank you for your attention.	05/20/25 11:48 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
52	Claire Suzanne Carder	As an individual		I've lived in SW Portland since 1999. My children have all gone to Portland Public Schools and I have always been a community volunteer/activist. I am currently the Chair of the Maplewood Neighborhood Association but am not testifying on behalf of the NA. While this year's fiscal budget needs to be squeezed and the cuts will all be very painful for everyone, I really think more police presence on the streets is essential for all our communities. That said, I also think training to change the past culture of the PPD is essential in order to have a protective force that we can rely on rather than fear. Thank you so very much for your help addressing the very basic issue of community safety.	05/20/25 11:55 AM
53	Patrick O McCormick	As an individual		Hello counselor Clark, Green and Zimmerman. I am in your district and heard the next counsel meeting might discuss closing Multnomah Art Center for budget reasons. I feel strongly this would be a mistake. I have taken many classes there and seen a full range of people using the center. I think it is a valuable resource and should be replicated in other parts of the city. It is great! Please keep it!	05/20/25 12:16 PM
54	Marissa Korbel	As an individual		Do not close the community music center on SE Gladwell. I oppose this vehemently. It is part of our community, and provides music education, lessons, and space for many. It Supports programs specifically serving Black & Brown youth, Latinx youth, LGBTQ+ youth, seniors, immigrants, and people with disabilities. It is precious. STOP TRYING TO TAKE OUR ARTS AWAY.	05/20/25 12:21 PM
55		As an individual		Save our City! I'm a homeowner, but I've been here since the early 90's when I used to rent. I love Portland, but the homeless and drug situation is out of hand. I say that as someone who considers themselves to be a liberal. I'm losing hope that my husband and I will stay here after our son goes off to college. I had hopes for my son to attend PSU, my alma mater, but I don't see that happening anymore. He hates downtown because it's scary and unsafe. We cannot continue down this destructive path of unsheltered homelessness and the toll it's taking on the homeless as well as other residents, businesses and our economy. We have to pass this budget to ensure everyone's safety and maintain dignity for those who are struggling and whose lack of housing and services has failed them. Our City is dying and it doesn't have to be this way. We need more shelters, more housing and more services now.	05/20/25 12:26 PM
56	Frieda Christopher	As an individual		See attached written testimony	05/20/25 12:28 PM
57	Stephen Auerbach	As an individual		This comment is for agenda item 16, Steve Novik's proposal to permanently shut down the Community Music Center on 9/01/25. I am an 81 year old music student at CMC, having participated in group cello lessons for six years. I have enjoyed the high quality of musical instruction, and have witnessed the enthusiasm of young students as they master an instrument. Because CMC provides scholarships to low income students, I (and many others) have happy to contribute to CMC to supplement the amount available to make music lessons available to all. CMC is an important part of what makes Portland a special place. I would urge the city council to increase CMC's budget, rather than kill an important cultural institution.	05/20/25 12:44 PM
58	Jennifer Robb	As an individual		Please do not cut funding for the Community Music Center. I live 2 blocks from this center and it such an important resource. I've attended several classes there myself and witnessed first hand how impactful it is for youth and people with disabilities. It would be such a loss to so many people who would have no other access to these sort of classes and community. It's a lovely community space. Please continue to fund.	05/20/25 12:44 PM
59	Ellen Godula	As an individual		Dear Steve Novick, The closure of the Multnomah Arts Center and The Community Music Center would be a hardship for SO MANY people who participate in these communities. As a child, I was a student at CMC for 8 years and it was an invaluable experience that I still carry with me. I also taught there for 9 years!! I currently am an employee of the City at the MAC as a pianist and have been there for 8 years. That facility is also crucial to not only kids but older folks as well. These 2 music/art centers are what makes Portland a great place to thrive in and experience activities not found anywhere else. Don't take that away too. Arts matter more than you may realize. Thank you.	05/20/25 12:46 PM
60	Michael Szporluk	As an individual		This 2025 budget unwisely and unjustly cuts funding for ADA compliance, and gives insufficient attention to ensure reasonable accommodation requests are handled efficiently and fairly. I'm further troubled by the failure of Portland Housing Bureau and Prosper Portland to understand that 20-25% of the population are persons with disabilities, and that as Oregon ages, that population (as a percent and raw number) will grow. Housing stability will be impossible to achieve unless we make a concerted effort to design and construct affordable AND accessible housing. I am attaching a copy of testimony I provided on 3 March 2025 to the Oregon legislature's Committee on Housing and Homelessness related to HB 3589 - since it provides a succinct overview of some of the issues and challenges we are (and will be) faced with when it comes to housing equity.	05/20/25 12:48 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
61	ELIZABETH K OKUDA	As an individual		Again, this topic should be Community Support. Portland Parks and Rec supports families that do not have another means to send kids to swimming classes, summer camps, and music lessons!! These are programs that are working and should not have taken money away to put in another that is not working, a money pit, which is the housing problem. The tents are not going away. We talk to the homeless people in our neighborhood. Many of them don't want to leave their living situation, and more of them keep coming to Portland, as it is so much easier to be homeless here as we keep trying to take care of them all! You are just going to increase the numbers of unhappy voters by canceling these programs, especially camps and music/arts.	05/20/25 12:59 PM
62	Akiko Grimm	As an individual		Please do not cut the Community Music Center. I found that the City's budget process to permanently close down the Community Music Center as of September 1 of this year. This place has been the heart of music education for many people from infants to seniors, including myself and my daughters. My daughter started taking violin lessons at CMC when she was 5 and enjoyed all music opportunities at CMC till she graduated from high school. CMC also has a wonderful community and atmosphere to foster music education. Public schools do not offer this type of music education. This is the place people can go to learn and appreciate music. Please keep CMC and try to understand how big the impact and loss will be if we lose this place.	05/20/25 1:00 PM
63	Vickie Nissen Stringfield	As an individual		During this time of budgets cuts, political upheaval, international concerns we need the arts, we need music. Music, soothes the soul, lifts spirits, helps you feel there is hope. It is also a very inexpensive way to provide all this all, young and old. For everyone you support through your community arts programs, they will give back twice over- today and in the future. We need the arts, you need the arts.	05/20/25 1:02 PM
64	Nancy Hayes	As an individual		I strongly oppose any amendment to the budget to close the Multnomah Arts Center and Music Center to provide for park maintenance. Please see my attached comments.	05/20/25 1:05 PM
65		As an individual		The Community Music Center served my family for years. Music is not just a cultural venture but also both an academic and health based one. Music has a beneficial and dynamic impact on the brain and nervous system. CMC: Serves hundreds of families and households in over 50 zip codes throughout Portland, in every Council District, Has programs for all ages from kindergarten to seniors, Makes classes and lessons affordable, with up to 100% discount for low-income participants, Supports programs specifically serving Black & Brown youth, Latinx youth, LGBTQ+ youth, seniors, immigrants, and people with disabilities, Gives dozens of free, drop-in concerts a year, with livestream options for those who can't travel to CMC, Partners with organizations for programs in underserved areas in outer East Portland, Provides alternative to sports for youth afterschool activities, Contributes to the musical and economic vitality of Portland, Relies on City general fund and Parks Levy dollars to operate, with additional significant program support from the non-profit CMC Inc., Administers its programs with only 3 full-time a few part-time staff, Hires over 25 part-time performing artist-instructors from the community to provide about 8,000 hours of classes, lessons, and events per year, Is actively working with PP&R management and community groups to ensure its long-term facility needs. Please keep CMC open for the benefit of Portland!	05/20/25 1:06 PM
66	Kara Shane Colley	As an individual		I support the Mayor's priorities: restore livability to downtown, end unsheltered homelessness, and focus on public safety. My only change is that I think park maintenance is also essential.	05/20/25 1:15 PM
67	J. Asparro	As an individual		Vote no on Amendment 45. Do not cut CMC. Community Music Center is a valuable asset to the Portland community. It is a center for the arts, education and culture of our city. It should not be closed down.	05/20/25 1:16 PM
68	Deborah Sipe	As an individual		Please do not close the Community Music Center. It has provided a vital service for so many years to the SE community. I personally have taken a course there and my son's high school jazz band performed there. It is an important part of Portland's community identity.	05/20/25 1:18 PM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Eamonn Kearney	As an individual		I am writing to express my appreciation for Portland's municipal golf courses. I grew up in Rose City Park neighborhood, down the street from Rose City Golf Club, and it was an integral part of my childhood activities and community. I left Portland for six years after graduating from PSU, and when I realized I could live anywhere in the country, I chose to move back to Rose City Park. Now, my family uses the golf course I grew up with the same way I did when I was a child. Losing it (or, cutting funding) would be detrimental to my neighborhood.	05/20/25 1:24 PM
	As an individual		Subject: Vote NO on Amendment #45 – Don't Cut the Community Music Center Dear City Councilors, I'm writing as a longtime Portland resident and parent in District 2 to urge you to vote NO on Amendment #45 and keep the Community Music Center (CMC) open. My child has been part of the CMC community since the age of three. She has grown up at CMC, starting with early childhood classes and continuing through nearly a decade of cello instruction. CMC has supported her not just musically, but personally. As a child with disabilities, she has found steady mentorship and a deep sense of belonging through the relationships she's built there. In a world full of change and uncertainty, CMC has been a consistent, encouraging anchor. As a single parent, I have always been able to count on CMC to provide high-quality instruction at a price our family could afford, no matter our financial situation. That kind of accessibility is rare, and it matters. CMC is one of the few city-run programs that makes long-term, meaningful arts education truly accessible. It reflects Portland's values—equity, creativity, and care for community. Closing it would be a heartbreaking loss for countless families like mine. Please protect this vital public resource. Vote NO on Amendment #45. Don't cut the Community Music Center.	05/20/25 1:26 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
71	Monica Cory	As an individual		Our city is not safe and therefore is not attractive to businesses, small or large. It's not attractive to long term residents anymore, either. Portland is losing jobs weekly which is contributing to its ongoing economic decline of while every community around us continues to thrive. It would be so great to occasionally see a patrol car in my neighborhood. Instead, we are inundated with lawless people that have claimed our streets and have sucked the vitality out of our communities with their property crimes, trash, drugs and graffiti. Civic pride is gone. All the investments in our public spaces have been degraded by broken people who are unable to manage their own lives and allowed to impact the lives of every other residents. (Fountains, public art, parks, greenbelts,—all trashed). The presence of more authority (police) and accountability (DA) would help offset the negative impact lawless and many homeless people are having in our communities. So many neighborhood stores and businesses are boarded up. Those open have products locked up and parking lots are filled with trash. Few business owner have time to deal with vandals and the criminal element. Fewer have the resources for private security. So, business owners just quit. It's disgusting and just contributes to the downward spiral of our city and every little neighborhood. If a cop drove up once in while, it would demonstrate concern. And perhaps slow down the crime and vandalism. Instead, there's zero accountability and way too much time devoted to micromanaging the police. We need more cops. We need quicker response times. And we need more people to be told NO more often. Our city is an embarrassment. And a heartache for those of us who knew it as the bright shining star it once was. Now Portland looks like the Detroit of the Pacific Northwest. Your top priority, dear Mayor and council members, is to run an efficient city. That starts with the fundamentals of public safety and law enforcement. Then find a way to fund city clean -up crews and regular running of street sweepers.	05/20/25 1:26 PM
72	Andreea Codorean	As an individual		Vote NO on the Amendment #45: DO NOT CUT THE COMMUNITY MUSIC CENTER	05/20/25 1:42 PM
73	Seth Filner	As an individual		I strongly oppose the motion to cut the Community Music Center. I'm a senior in high school, I play the violin and have taken lessons from the CMC for 12 years, and I've grown to love violin and music. I've grown as a person, had to think and learn in new ways, become a part of several new communities, and made new friends because of the violin. That was only possible because the Community Music Center was available for my family. The CMC is an equitable organization. They provide opportunities for all, and have programs to make lessons affordable for those in need because they know that music is valuable and should be enjoyed by all. At concerts and recitals I see students from all different backgrounds playing, performing, and enjoying music. The CMC lives up to its name! It supports the community all around it! I'm incredibly thankful for it, and I sincerely hope that it will be around to provide musical opportunity to the next generation of potential musicians. Thank you for your time. Please vote not to cut the Community Music Center.	05/20/25 1:42 PM
74	Dan Codorean	As an individual		DO NOT CUT THE COMMUNITY MUSIC CENTER Please vote NO on Amendment # 45	05/20/25 1:45 PM
75	Philip Coc	As an individual		I am writing to urge city council members to support the public safety portion of the Mayor's budget. Fund the Portland Police Bureau as requested WITHOUT any shifts of funding. Portland is in a very precarious situation - don't make any efforts to reduce police funding!	05/20/25 1:48 PM
76	Adam Burrill	As an individual		Please don't cut the budget for the Community Music Center! This a great resource for our community.	05/20/25 2:00 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
77	Noelle Studer-Spevak	On behalf of an organization	The Shade Equity Coalition	We are extremely concerned about a proposed 86% staff reduction to the Tree Code Regulatory Team of Portland's Urban Forestry Program. This group is responsible for protecting and managing tree-by-tree activities within the City's urban forest – a public health/climate resilience infrastructure asset valued at some \$9 billion. We understand that this is a tough budget year, but recommend using a scalpel instead of a chain saw, basing changes on solid information and an understanding of short- and long-term impacts. Please see our full letter, attached. Sincere thanks.	05/20/25 2:07 PM
78	Elizabeth Moore	As an individual		VOTE 'NO' ON AMENDMENT #45 - Don't cut funding for the Community Music Center. As a music educator and parent, I see the tremendous value this center brings to the community. This is some of the only affordable music instruction available in the city and provides performances and other community events that are a vibrant part of what makes Portland the city that works.	05/20/25 2:13 PM
79	Robert W Sopke	As an individual		I support an increase in funding for the police bureau. I support cuts for administrative bloating and management heavy departments. especially the PBOT. The potholes in the streets are getting larger and more numerous. I have seen alleys in Mexico that are better than some of our streets and intersections.	05/20/25 2:19 PM
80	River Foley	As an individual		Approve subsidies for Everett Station Lofts!! People need affordable housing especially in a city with a homelessness problem. Subsidies would be preventative!	05/20/25 2:28 PM
81	Candee Wilson	As an individual		I live in Old Town and know well how badly we need to increase the. Budget for police and public safety. We can no longer walk our streets downtown for fear of being assaulted or worse. Death is a daily occurrence in the streets of Old Town both from homicide and drug overdoses. Tents make walking our sidewalks impossible with the only alternative being joining auto traffic on the street. Portland is drowsy from the lack of public safety. Without public safety, nothing else matters. Fund the police and fire if you fund nothing else.	05/20/25 2:32 PM
82	Kasey Moles	On behalf of an organization	My Father's Place restaurant	Please do not cut funding to the police. If anything, please add additional funding. Central Eastside Industrial needs more love and support from our city. Blatant drug use and crime are running rampant in our district. Now is the time to double down on the support of our police department, act in coordination with our district representatives, and bring our community back to the safe place it once was. I represent My Father's Place restaurant, a business that has been in the same location since 1978. We need a stronger police presence.	05/20/25 2:32 PM
83	Angela Taylor	As an individual		Please don't eliminate funds in the Civic Life budget that provide insurance to District Coalition Offices and neighborhoods citywide. Succinctly list the most vital and beloved activities your NA does to make an impact in your neighborhood. Let them know that none of those activities would be possible without the insurance provided through the District Coalition Offices. I request that the Council and the Mayor to direct the Office of Community and Civic Life to reallocate funds from a recent staff vacancy to the four District Coalition Offices, and ensure that this ongoing need is no longer considered "one time funds".	05/20/25 2:37 PM
84	Linda Moles	On behalf of an organization	My Father's Place restaurant	Please do not reduce funding for our police department. We need more funding right now. Safety for our customers that are elderly, children, and our employees is severely needed right now. There is only so much we can do on our own.	05/20/25 2:37 PM
85	Angela Taylor	As an individual		I request that you do not cut funding to PBOT's Street Plaza program. Rainbow road plaza brought so much joy to my family and friends and has always been a safe, welcoming space. We need more of these third spaces where we can just EXIST!!	05/20/25 2:42 PM
86	Connie Moore	On behalf of an organization	Multnomah Arts Center (MACA Board Member)	With regards to Amendment #45 Closure of MAC and CMA. Arts education is one key way to understanding human expression. Lifelong learning leads to self-reflection and a perspective on how we interact with the whole. Everyone should have access to the arts. Not only is MAC thriving, there are waitlists for many classes. MAC's commitment to city outreach programs provides art education to underserved communities throughout Portland, not just the SW side. The MACA Board enhances the Center by raising money to assure programs and instruction are of high quality, are affordable and accessible.	05/20/25 2:43 PM
87	Joseph Kling	As an individual		Note the overwhelming public support for increased public safety funding, as identified in the DHM Research poll. Maintain Mayor Wilson's public safety budget. Address rising crime and support our struggling small businesses. Support the pro-safety and pro-prosperity amendments from Councilors Ryan, Smith, Clark, and Zimmerman. Listen to regular Portlanders over special interests.	05/20/25 2:53 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
88	Dr. Kathleen Lavengood	On behalf of an organization	Lavengood Music Studio	Please consider funding the The Community Music School. It is Portland's best resource for after-school music enrichment for underserved neighborhoods in Portland. Their scholarship program allows for students who would other-wise be unable to have the life-changing experience of one-on-one instruction with a caring and experienced teacher. This is the type of instruction that I was able to have access to growing up and now have a PhD in music at teach at George Fox University. The Community Music Center is a singularly unique resource in Portland and deserves the funding to support the arts in our community. Thank you.	05/20/25 2:58 PM
89		On behalf of an organization	Wilkes Community Group	We need more law enforcement- example: this individual was driving impaired, passed out at the wheel blocking two residential driveways and a city street for over two hours. Law enforcement was contacted and it took over an hour for an officer to arrive (individual had woken and moved vehicle three blocks away, passed out a second time with vehicle running) and nothing was done even though law enforcement was notified of where he moved his truck. This man put our community and himself at risk and nothing happened.	05/20/25 3:00 PM
90	Chris Shaffer	As an individual		Less money for cops, more money for supportive services!	05/20/25 3:02 PM
91	Kami Sahalie U Gould	As an individual		Please do not approve the FY26 budgeting proposal. I have deep concerns about cutting the Urban Forestry budget by such a massive amount (86% is so much!). As summers keep increasing in temperature, we need to have robust tree cover and tree infrastructure. Having a healthy tree canopy is one of the best ways to lower general temperatures and help keep our city livable. Cutting staff who help with trees in our city at this critical time is an uninformed and dangerous thing to do.	05/20/25 3:03 PM
92	Chris Shaffer	As an individual		Don't cut insurance for neighborhood associations. They are vital to our communities and will not survive without city-provided insurance!	05/20/25 3:03 PM
93	Bianca Salerno	As an individual		Today I learned from Kelly Park at Portland Parks and Recreation that Nature Day Camp is one of the programs on the chopping block because Portland is determined to sink millions into cops and short term shelters that do nothing (as a formerly homeless Portlander) but sweep the problem of homelessness under the rug. Let me tell you about Nature Day Camp. I have an active, ebullient child who is the reason why I did not simply become a statistic of Portland's dubious shelter systems in 2016-7. He goes to public school, is expected to sit quietly all day instead of run and laugh and shout. Nature Day Camp is his one thing to look forward to, because with the Access Pass I can afford to send him for eight weeks of exactly what a healthy young boy needs. That Portland sees this camp as something disposable is a reinforcement of all the miseries Portland inflicts on the poor, the homeless, anyone but businesses, corporations and high earners. You are TAKING AWAY A CAMP FOR CHILDREN. How's that mirror looking lately? I expect you to write my son a letter explaining how parks services just simply are less important than the cops we saw throwing old women and kids into unmarked cars downtown. That when push came to shove, you just needed to court those sweet cop alliances, those sweet businesses. Better yet, buy us lunch and tell him in person.	05/20/25 3:06 PM
94	francoise Brun-Cottan	As an individual		I believe we should have Public Safety staffed to the proportion cities of our size have elsewhere. I believe a increased portion of funding should go to training new hires in deescalation and containment. I believe we should not support having White Supremacists and other haters in our police force. How are they filtered out now? I believe Portland Street response should be funded to that it can be effective and reduce the need police to respond to EVERYTHING.	05/20/25 3:08 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
95	Carol Pinegar	On behalf of an organization	350PDX Forest Defense Team	Every sector of Portland city government needs to absorb some of the gigantic shortfall we face. But councilor Zimmerman's proposed gutting of the Permitting and Regulation arm of Urban Forestry is unacceptable. Mayor Wilson's proposal is doable and much more common sense. It would result in staffing cuts that would hamper Urban Forestry ; Mr. Zimmerman's proposal would cut the programs at their root. Mr. Zimmerman's proposed 86% reduction in force for Urban Forestry's Tree Code Regulatory Team would have devastating impacts, leading to significant delays: An increase in permit review timelines from two weeks to several months, leading to delays in construction due to the requirement for tree plans and their review. At a time when the City is trying to make construction easier, this is counterproductive to the City's construction goals. The public would experience lengthy delays for tree application processing and a 4-6 weeks delay on return phone calls and emails. Responses to public records, media requests, and risk claims would be deprioritized. Critical services and protections would be effectively eliminated: The majority of Title 11 Tree Code requirements would be suspended, resulting in significant increase in tree damage, increase in creation of potentially dangerous tree situations, increase in tree removal and decrease in tree planting. For example, the dozens of new trees in medians on 82nd Ave. are the direct result of this team's engagement in that Project. It would also create a loophole for the tree preservation requirement in development since removal could occur prior to development permit application. The Tree Hotline and Customer support would be eliminated leading to lack of transparency and public access to information about city tree regulations and Urban Forestry Programs. In-person appointments for tree permitting questions and assistance at the permit center would be eliminated. At a time when tree safety is of deep public concern, these cuts would make things worse: Reports of hazardous trees and unpermitted removals would not be inspected.	05/20/25 3:13 PM
96	Michael Kaplan	As an individual		Dear Councilors, I urge all of you to prioritize public safety and ending illegal camping by homeless individuals. Success in both areas will reduce businesses leaving Portland such as US Bank HQ and will attract small and large businesses to Portland. Once we increase tax revenue, we will have necessary funding for all other priorities. Failure to follow these two priorities will doom all the other worthwhile civic needs.	05/20/25 3:13 PM
97	Fiona Stefanik	As an individual		Councilor Zimmerman has proposed a 32-person staff cut to Urban Forestry, the folks in charge of making sure we have a strong tree canopy in the City of Portland (including large yard trees). The cut would decimate staffing so urban trees would get no protection. The Mayor's budget proposal would cut 9 staff and is much more realistic. Key Programs would be eliminated and Portlanders would have reduced access to expert guidance, which would come alongside increased unregulated tree removals, leading to a further decline in tree canopy. These proposed cuts would directly undermine our City's ability to achieve our climate action, equity, and public health goals. Interagency coordination would suffer, new community-focused programs would end, and public trust would erode amid these service gaps and visible tree canopy loss.	05/20/25 3:16 PM
98	Anne Marsh	As an individual		Closure of Community Music Ctr in SE PDX I have participated in the Adult Choir for more than 12 years. The CMC has a history of serving PDX adults & children with musical instrument lessons, choral teaching & many other musical enrichment opportunities @ reasonable prices for more than 50 years. Please consider what a valuable service this is to the people of PDX & do not cut it out of the budget.	05/20/25 3:21 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
99		As an individual		CUT THE POLICE BUDGET! Why are we protecting the police at the expense of true community safety programs like parks and community programs? Until there are significant cuts to the police budget, we shouldn't be considering any cuts to other critical programs like parks and homelessness services. I am particularly concerned by proposals to cut Portland's Urban Tree program during this time of climate crisis, where it is critical that we maintain tree canopy for the health of our city. During heat domes trees provide critical shade and cooling that literally prevent people from dying (https://www.wweek.com/news/city/2021/07/14/this-is-the-hottest-place-in-portland/). We need to be protecting services like this that truly serve community safety, and cut departments like the police which reduce community safety and target, in particular, people of color and disabled people with little oversight.	05/20/25 3:23 PM
100	Mia Birk	As an individual		I am a small business owner, property owner, mom of 3 PPS kids, community leader, and resident of 32 years. I want to express that this is the moment to invest MORE in public safety, not less. I live in the Mt. Tabor area. We have dealt with a constant stream of challenges: garage break-ins, smashed cars, homeless encampments, car break-ins, and more. Then, there's my commercial building in the central eastside at 711 SE Grand Ave next to the Morrison Bridge. Whereas once, the area was safe and welcoming, now it is a haven for drug dealers and users. Every single day, we deal with fires, graffiti, defecation, vomit, trash, open drug use, people passed out on the sidewalk, and more. Much of this activity is tied to the People's Depot, the can exchange permitted by PBOT under the Morrison Bridge. We desperately need more not less Police presence all throughout the central eastside. We need enforcement of drug rules, fires, public defecation, and camping bans. We also need the People's Depot to relocate elsewhere, as the impacts on the surrounding neighborhood's businesses and non-profits are massive. Portland's recovery depends on improving public safety. There is no way around this. If people don't feel safe, all else fails.	05/20/25 3:23 PM
101	Garth Upshaw	As an individual		Please don;t reduce the current level of tree protection. As a homeowner who built an ADU and had to deal with this issue, I did NOT mind the extra work and inconvenience because I love trees and think it's important for Portland to keep them. Thank you.	05/20/25 3:24 PM
102	Roger Ellero	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center. It is such a vital and essential part of the lives of our whole family. For over a decade, we and our children have been attending classes in music, art, writing, theatre, crafts, dance, and more. We have met so many people there and our continued participation in the programs is part of our ongoing health and happiness. Thank you for your consideration.	05/20/25 3:25 PM
103	Catdang Vu	As an individual		I would like you to please vote NO on amendment #45. Don't cut the community music center.. The community music center is where my children take music lessons at an affordable price. The center gives them music which helps them to have more skills, knowledge and passion for learning. This will help them and our country to have a better future.	05/20/25 3:26 PM
104	Lisa Kostova	As an individual		Please approve the Mayor's public safety budget, which shows that we don't have to sacrifice public safety and essential services for building more housing and helping the homeless. The DHM Research poll shows that 69% of Portlanders support funding public safety as the city's #1 priority. We need to address rising crime and support our struggling small businesses, of which I am one. I support the pro-safety amendments from Councilors Ryan, Smith, Clark, and Zimmerman.	05/20/25 3:28 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
105	Grace Jeffreys	As an individual		Culture is one of the things that makes Portland special. I was very sad to hear Councilor Steve Novick suggestion to close two wonderful city-wide public cultural educational facilities run by the Parks Bureau — the Multnomah Arts Center and Community Music Center. Both of these centers serve the entire population of the city and provide unique public services not provided elsewhere. •The Multnomah Arts Center offers a wide variety of art education to the public that cannot be found elsewhere. It also offers reduced fees for those who cannot afford more costly alternatives: The Multnomah Arts Center (MAC) provides excellent arts education in the visual and performing arts at an affordable cost to students of all ages. We offer programs in music, movement, dance, theater, woodshop, literary arts, conditioning, metal arts, mixed media, printmaking, drawing, painting, photography, ceramics, sculpture, textiles, and more. Programs run year-round, and financial assistance is available to all. Thanks to the Parks Local Option Levy (Parks Levy) we can offer reduced pricing options for people who live within the City of Portland. If you don't live in Portland but need financial assistance to afford a MAC class, the Multnomah Arts Center Association, an all-volunteer nonprofit friends group, can help. Along with our vibrant arts education program, MAC hosts theatre, music & dance performances, gallery exhibitions, and other special events. •The Community Music Center offers opportunities for Portlanders of all ages to learn about, make and enjoy music. : CMC enhances the greater Portland community by providing opportunities for all ages to learn about, make and enjoy music. We accomplish our mission by providing affordable music classes and lessons, free and low-cost concerts and workshops, low-cost instrument rentals, and other resources for the public, all subsidized by the City and the non-profit. About 350 participants of all ages currently enjoy regular music activities at the Center and through partner activities, instructed by a faculty of over 25 professional performing artist teachers. Our children as well as my husband and I have at one time or another taken classes at these two facilities, including music, dance, photography, painting and ceramics. They were taught be talented artists and educators who cared deeply about sharing their talents and skills with the general public. The closing of these two unique cultural public facilities will be huge loss for our city. Please reconsider closing these two city-wide cultural educational facilities which are part of the heart of our city. Grace Jeffreys	05/20/25 3:28 PM
106	Nikki Kennedy Abbott	On behalf of an organization		Im *really* looking forward to the ban on gas powered leaf blowers!! The over usage has gotten so out of hand! I have a small dog walking business and am outside in different neighborhoods a lot. I also love to go to Mt Tabor park for a morning hike with my dog I am not exaggerating when I say there is rarely an hour of any day, any time of year where there isnt the sound of a gas powered leaf blower There used on: holidays, weekends, bad weather and when its snowing I see landscapers blow water in the rain. Blow at nothing in a wind storm or a heat wave. I see them used in days of poor air quality. They're used in our; schools, healing centers, parks, medical centers, in front of businesses and in front of our homes. They go constantly year round Ive been taking pictures to show how they're used to blow at noting and have been emailing the mayors office in hopes of getting some help If we're serious about cleaning up Portland then we need to start here. Im taking my car in to the DEQ soon to keep current on registration. Why are we held to this standard but landscapers arent? We're all fed up with the excessive air and noise pollution . Its impacting our quality of life, how we're able to run our businesses and maintain our health Just as with so many people are Im barely hanging on. The stress of life is exhausting. I would love LOVE to have a life of quiet. I would love to go to Mt Tabor park in the morning and just hear birds Please help I cant afford a vacation or days off but Ill take a quiet day and a break from this madness and that would help a lot !	05/20/25 3:33 PM
107	Steven C Smith	As an individual		If we are to regain and sustain Portland as a vibrant city that attracts businesses, residents, visitors and the arts and services, we first need to focus on public safety and city cleanliness. Much of the visible public safety and cleanliness issues are related to the homeless, mentally ill and drug addict population within the city. We couldn't walk and ride public transportation with our grandchildren when venturing to the zoo without intimidating and abusive confrontations. We need solutions. Please support Mayor Wilson's budget to begin prioritized actions to move the city forward in public safety and city cleanliness. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.	05/20/25 3:34 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
108	Chandalar Leddy	As an individual		In the past I have participated in Portland adaptive And inclusive recreation drumming and sing a long at the Community Music Center. It is a valuable resource for me and so many in the community. Please do not shut the doors. Thanks	05/20/25 3:35 PM
109	Alisa Peck	As an individual		I am writing is opposition to the proposed budget cut to close the Community Music Center. It is a vibrant part of our greater community that serves so many different people from all ages and family demographics. It has been an important fixture in the Creston-Kenilworth neighborhood for decades. It is the most resourceful school by administering its programs with only 3 full-time a few part-time staff and hires over 25 part-time performing artist-instructors from the community to provide about 8,000 hours of classes, lessons, and events per year, which contributes deeply to elevating jobs in our community as much as art and creativity. The families expect the support and joy it brings. It is a safe place for children to grow and for adults to learn later in life. Please consider what the impact will be if you close the doors permanently, it will have a long-term effect on everyone. Sometimes when we think something isn't worth saving, that is exactly the right time to elevate its worth. "VOTE 'NO' ON AMMENDMENT #45 - DON'T CUT THE COMMUNITY MUSIC CENTER!"	05/20/25 3:36 PM
110	Jennifer MacCollum	As an individual		Please don't close the Multnomah Arts Center!!!!	05/20/25 3:36 PM
111	Lydia koo	As an individual		Urgent: Vote NO on Amendment #45 – Save the Community Music Center I am writing to strongly urge you to vote NO on Amendment #45, which threatens to dismantle the Community Music Center—a cornerstone of accessible music education in our city. My children, have been students at the Center for years. What they’ve gained here goes far beyond music lessons. They’ve found mentors, community, confidence, and a lifelong passion for the arts. The teachers don’t just instruct—they inspire, and they build a welcoming, inclusive space where children of all backgrounds can thrive. Eliminating this center would be devastating—not only to my family but to hundreds of others who rely on it. For many, including us, it is the only affordable and consistent access to music education, especially as school-based programs continue to face cuts. The Center’s sliding scale tuition and commitment to equity ensure that cost is never a barrier to participation. Amendment #45 puts all of this at risk. It would strip away a critical resource that nurtures creativity, builds community, and gives young people a voice. Please do not let this happen. Vote NO on Amendment #45 and stand with families who believe every child deserves access to the arts. Sincerely, Lydia Koo	05/20/25 3:37 PM
112		As an individual		Don’t close the Multnomah Arts Center. I live within one mile of MAC. Many families in the area depend on it and would be devastated by it closing. It provides extremely important services and resources to the community and needs to be funded.	05/20/25 3:38 PM
113	Sara	As an individual		RE: Multnomah Arts Center Are you ghouls committed to sucking the joy and life out of every facet of Portland to line your own pockets, or are you looking to fatten your own and the useless Portland Police’s budget? Piss off and DON’T close the fucking MAC - so many of us find joy in this existential nightmare of our existence and are hanging on by a thread who rely on the joy that MAC brings to communities. Or are yall soulless and have no concept of how art creates the beauty of this world that helps people survive another day??? piss off with this bullshit. Keep the MAC open if you want to keep your district seats next year and want to fatten your pockets with our hard working tax dollars. Or are you another republican ghoul sellout who hates art and joy and wants to suck the life out of everything around them? Choose wisely, ghouls.	05/20/25 3:39 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
114	Allison Snopek	As an individual		Please do all that you can to reduce budget cuts to Portland Parks & Recreation, particularly those that impact professional maintenance and repair of parks, facilities, and natural areas. Well maintained public spaces are essential. We cannot expect the City of Portland to succeed while letting our parks and community centers fall into disrepair and/or close down all together. Not having appropriate maintenance of parks and community spaces is a public health and safety issue! Prioritize sustainable funding solutions to keep Parks & Recreation services at the level that residents have grown to know, expect, and celebrate. We cannot rely on the Parks Levy to fill the budget gap alone, and we cannot depend on volunteers to fill the roles of professional maintenance crews. PP&R's green spaces and community offerings are what make our city a joyous place to live and a desirable place to visit. Portlanders who don't have private green spaces or accessible places for their youth and communities to gather depend on PP&R for these offerings. Please keep this in mind as you continue to work toward a balanced budget. Thank you for all that you do to serve Portland residents.	05/20/25 3:39 PM
115	Bjorn Freeman-Benson	As an individual		As a 25 year resident and taxpayer of Portland, I strongly urge you all to focus the budget on increasing public safety through increasing the budget of police, fire, etc. Do not reduce that funding to move the money to other things. Even other things that I also want (such as parks). First and foremost needs to be public safety and ending homelessness. We, the voters, asked for this and we expect you, the council to follow through. Thank you.	05/20/25 3:40 PM
116		As an individual		Don't close MAC it's such an enriching program!!!	05/20/25 3:43 PM
117	Hilary Trzynka	As an individual		Please keep the MAC open (or provide an equivalent or better alternative). The MAC is a heavily used venue. I live in Beaverton but I have routinely attended events there over the past 34 years. In my 20s and early thirties I was an active member of the Oregon Orchid society and attended their monthly meetings (they filled the big meeting room/ theater room). In my 40s and 50s, I have been a member of the Portland Nordic Club which always holds well-attended meetings at the MAC (smaller rooms but typically full plus of eager members). I have also long appreciated the culture offerings of the location. It appears to have an impressive and active ceramics studio and the gift shop has beautiful handmade items for purchase. I've enjoyed observing Hawaiian dancing performances and quilt shows. I don't even live in Portland but through my life, I've routinely supported organizations that utilize the MAC. It is a vital location for community, cultural and artistic events and activities. Thank you for reading my comment.	05/20/25 3:46 PM
118		As an individual		NO on Amendment #45. Please do NOT PERMANENTLY close the Multnomah Arts Center.	05/20/25 3:46 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
119	Julianna Morasse	As an individual		I am writing to express my deep concern about the proposed closure of our community's art center. As a resident and a parent, I urge you to reconsider this decision and recognize the irreplaceable value this center brings to our city's cultural, educational, and social life. The art center is not just a building—it is a cornerstone of our community's vibrancy and identity. It serves as a place where people of all ages and backgrounds can come together to explore creativity, learn new skills, and connect through the shared experience of the arts. In a time when so much divides us, art has the unique power to unite, to foster understanding, and to build a stronger, more resilient society. Personally, my children have greatly benefited from the programs offered at the art center. They have been exposed to diverse forms of artistic expression that they would not have otherwise encountered. These experiences have enriched their lives, nurtured their confidence, and expanded their perspectives. The impact of this exposure is immeasurable, and I know many other families in our community feel the same. Closing the art center would mean losing an essential space where creativity and culture flourish. It would send a disheartening message about the value we place on the arts and their role in our civic life. I strongly believe that investment in the arts is an investment in the health and vitality of our community. Please reconsider this decision and explore alternative solutions that would allow the art center to remain open and continue serving as a beacon of inspiration and opportunity for all. Thank you for your time and consideration. Sincerely, Julianna Morasse	05/20/25 3:46 PM
120	Joanna B Uretsky	As an individual		Do not close the MAC in Multnomah village this is vital to the community!	05/20/25 3:46 PM
121		As an individual		Please do NOT close the Multnomah arts center. It is an important community hub.	05/20/25 3:47 PM
122	Rebekah Odgear	As an individual		I reject the proposed budget cut that would close the Multnomah Arts Center September 1 of 2025. The MAC is the center of what helps families including mine thrive in SW Portland and beyond. Children travel from all over Multnomah and Washington County to learn, create and connect. Do not approve this budget measure, go back and revise this budget to support our community!	05/20/25 3:49 PM
123	Nanci Lempert	As an individual		Please do not close the multnomah arts center. It is a vital part of multnomah village, providing classes to local adults and children and rental space at a reasonable cost. It would leave a huge hole in our community.	05/20/25 3:49 PM
124		As an individual		Please don't close thr Multnomah Art Center. It's a hub of Multnomah Village and offers art to our community. I've attended art shows there many times and my kids have attended art camps where they met a diverse group of kids and felt like they fit in.	05/20/25 3:49 PM
125	MaKenzie Godso	As an individual		I am an avid attendee at the Multnomah Arts Center and will be devastated to lose this community resource. From attending dance classes to engaging in arts classes, it has enriched my life and quality of living for the past 4 years. Please keep this community hub open and active!	05/20/25 3:50 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
126	Marie Gettel-Gllmartin	As an individual		Please don't close the Multnomah Art Center! We moved to Multnomah Village in 1999 from SE Portland because of the MAC. Throughout the years I've taken art classes there, and my children have studied music and also taken art classes. Recently I took my first calligraphy class there, and in June I'm joining a new rock choir that will be practicing there. It's the cornerstone of Multnomah Village and a priceless gem in Portland. Here are just a few of the benefits it offers: -Has fifteen partners throughout Portland, serving Parks' targeted communities at their sites including The Rosewood Initiative, Home Forward, and Y.O.U.th. -Houses several nonprofits including: Columbia Basin Basketry Guild, Neighborhood House, Oregon Children's Theatre, Print Arts Northwest, Community Policing, and Northwest Woodturners. -Provides discounted space rentals to nonprofits. -Makes arts education programming accessible by eliminating financial barriers to access, through the Parks Levy and MACA scholarships. -Received roughly \$1,000,000 in seismic and ADA facility upgrades from Parks in the past two years, surely not an indication of imminent building closure. -During summer months, MAC runs the Arts in the Parks program, providing free drop-in arts activities at parks (primarily in areas serving our targeted communities). Last year over 4,000 youth were provided activities through this program. -Produces Free First Friday Arts for All at MAC, which provides drop-in arts education experiences along with free food for the Portland community. -Staff works with Parks management and our partners to address long term facility needs.	05/20/25 3:53 PM
127	Samantha Schurter	As an individual		Arts organizations are one of the greatest ways to keep a community vibrant and engaged. Cutting this center is a false economy that will ultimately cost the city more tax dollars.	05/20/25 3:53 PM
128	Cailin	As an individual		The proposed permanent closure of Multnomah Arts Center would be a devastating loss to the city of Portland. Multnomah arts center has directly impacted my career and small business through metalsmithing classes and I would not have been able to grow my business without it. Multnomah arts center provides uniquely accessible, affordable and diverse arts education for our community and we would not be able to find the same caliber or diversity of class elsewhere. Please do not close Multnomah arts center, it plays a crucial role in the arts community that is at the heart of Portland.	05/20/25 3:54 PM
129	Alicia McCrory	As an individual		Closing Multnomah arts center. We pay an arts tax every year. Multnomah arts center is an important place for our children to learn and develop their art wonder, knowledge, creativity and skills. They get few opportunities in school. Art is important for building a positive view of the world and confidence. We rely on their programming. Why do our children and developing their wonder always come last?	05/20/25 3:55 PM
130	Jaden Johnston	As an individual		Shutting down the Multnomah Arts Center would be highly detrimental to the SW community. Community engagement centers are an integral part of healthy neighborhoods, and Multnomah Village and surrounding areas are lucky to have such a special, history-rich center that promotes art, music, and creativity for residents. It is a shame that the building has not been prioritized for safety. It is a shame that the option is to permanently close this creative hub of community. Our family has been a part of the MAC since 2019. It has been a very important place for our teen to thrive. Portland needs revitalization. Not less community spaces. Please do not close the MAC - revitalize it.	05/20/25 3:56 PM
131	Stephanie Sandmeyer	As an individual		Please continue to fund the outreach, education, and enforcement of the upcoming Citywide ban of gas-powered blowers, which starts on January 1st, 2026. Gas powered blowers are an unnecessary source of toxic fumes and noise. It's well past time to switch to electric tools as many urban cities in the United States have done in recent years Thank you.	05/20/25 3:56 PM
132	Diane Lewis	As an individual		The Multnomah Art Center has enriched our community immeasurably. I have been taking ceramic classes for several years and consider it to be vital for my mental health and community connection. I strongly urge you to continue funding the arts provided through parks and recreation.	05/20/25 3:57 PM
133	Lynn Sherman	As an individual		Please please do not close Multnomah Art Center! It is a vibrant part of our city, supporting the arts for all ages. Multnomah Arts Center is a treasured institution and as such enriches our community with creativity and cultural opportunities. My life has been positively influenced by my experiences at MAC, and it would be a deep loss for myself and generations to come if we were to lose it. Please preserve this unique community center! Thank you.	05/20/25 3:58 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
134	G Harvey	As an individual		I recently learned that there is a proposal to close MAC and CMC. I have personally been using these facilities for male all of my time in Portland. I think this would be a devastating loss for the Portland communities. They have provided so much positively to my life and those I know who use these facilities that closing them would actually make me consider if Portland is still home to me. Please preserve that wonderful places.	05/20/25 4:01 PM
135	James Winkler	On behalf of an organization	Hayhurst Elementary School	I am a teacher at Hayhurst Elementary School. I am writing in regards to amendment #45 that councilor Novick submitted, suggesting closing Multnomah Arts Center in Multnomah Village. I adamantly oppose this amendment. Students all over SW Portland access all the art, music and cultural classes MAC provides to the SW community. There are very few affordable options in SW Portland for students and families. SW Portland also has one of the largest subsidized housing complexes (Steven's Creek Crossing), of which many of our students reside and access programs at MAC. Additionally, many retired and elderly citizens of SW use the MAC on a daily basis to build skills, learn and socialize. Please do not defund the MAC. Our community needs it and uses it.	05/20/25 4:02 PM
136	Sue Shepard	As an individual		I am a student at the MACA center and as a senior citizen, it is of great value. Without this outlet for the arts as a senior my mental health would decline at a greater rate. This keeps me engaged and motivated to learn new things. Please don't take this away from the community. We need this especially in today's political climate.	05/20/25 4:02 PM
137	Heidi Millard	As an individual		Multnomah arts center is an integral part of our community. Most classes offered there fill up so quickly that if you don't sign up within the first couple of hours of each seasons schedule opening then you don't get into the class. My children have benefited from this community resource for the last 3 years. They have been exposed to a wide variety of art forms. The dance classes have been amazing and led by incredibly talented and devoted teachers. The music classes have given both of my girls an introduction to playing instruments that they other wise would not have access to. One of my daughters has fallen in love with the metal smithing classes. Closing this facility would negatively impact our community in so many ways. Our children are already experiencing cuts to their education because of PPS cuts, please do not compound this.	05/20/25 4:04 PM
138	Eric Hines	As an individual		I strongly oppose the budget amendment that would close the Multnomah Arts Center. The writing classes I have taken there truly changed my life, becoming essential to my personal growth and reconnecting me to our community. Closing it and the Community Music Center would be huge losses for Portland. Please protect funding for the Multnomah Arts Center and reject the amendment.	05/20/25 4:04 PM
139	Carol	As an individual		Please dont shut down the Multnomah Arts Center. Neighborhood House Senior Center helps alot of people and it is inside the Mult. Arts Center.	05/20/25 4:04 PM
140	Jason R. Brint	As an individual		I'm writing to ask you to please consider not closing the Multnomah Art Center. The MAC is an integral part of our community! When my family moved to Portland in June 2020, we had a difficult time meeting people. My wife and I decided to take a ukulele class class at the MAC with hopes of meeting like-minded people, and we indeed found the best friend group, which even includes our teacher and his wife. We've now been taking this weekly class (and others like painting) for three years, and afterwards we all go out and support our other local establishments for dinner or a drink. I'm sure there are countless others like us that are benefiting from the MAC. There are always so many people of different age groups and backgrounds taking classes there. It's a wonderful experience to walk through those hallways and hear a choir or a tap dancing class or a guitar lesson. We've even started to decorate our new house with sculptures and art that we purchase at the MAC's local art sales where members of our community have a chance to sell their art three times a year.	05/20/25 4:05 PM
141	Elizabeth Oakes	On behalf of an organization	Multnomah Arts Center	I started taking classes at multnomah art center when I was a student without a lot of extra money. I was completely burnt out and art provided me sanity and a source of creative community at very low cost. Since then I have learned printmaking in the beautiful studio, painting and crafts. This is a priceless community jewel	05/20/25 4:06 PM
142	Mal	As an individual		I am absolutely appalled at the proposal of closing the Mac. It has been a beloved part of our children's community for years and it is heartbreaking to think that the access to the arts will be taken away. Shame on councilor novick for wanting to take a vital part of our children's community away.	05/20/25 4:07 PM
143	Demaris Martinez	As an individual		Do not close MAC	05/20/25 4:07 PM
144	Fiona Cosmann	As an individual		PLEASE DO NOT CLOSE THE MAC! It is such a vibrant part of Multnomah County and a wonderful resource for both young and not so young . One of my favorite memories was hearing a lively community member say: "I've been tap dancing all my life . I'm now 83. I think I can do it! When can I sign up?" She was signing up for dance lessons at the MAC. This is what it's all about! Support the "common-wealth" of our wonderful city! Thank you.	05/20/25 4:07 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
145	Kevin Love	As an individual		So SW Portland gets forgotten again? You are our representatives to the city council, and we are your constituents. The Multnomah Arts Center is a cornerstone of the community in our much dispised and forgotten corner of the city. We have the worst bus access, the worst walkability, and now you take the MAC away? Why do we even vote for you? Keep the MAC! It provides access to art and activity for all ages and is a centerpiece of life in Multnomah Village! If you take the MAC away then you must hate elderly people who use MAC services each and ever day to keep life vital, you must hate children who use MAC services for their first lessons in music dance art and theatre, and you hate LGBTQ folk who are specifically represented in the art that is curated and displayed in its galleries, all of whom are served each and every day at the arts center, but most of all you must hate Multnomah Village, the most consistently forgotten corner of portland with the fewest public resources like this. Shame on you! Vote against this budget! There is no other replacement for the arts center this side of the river, and shame on you for wanting to close it.	05/20/25 4:09 PM
146	Jennifer Bauer	As an individual		Amendment #45 to the city's budget to PERMANENTLY close Multnomah Arts Center Please, don't close MAC - it is an essential agency for our community!	05/20/25 4:10 PM
147	Adeline Andres	As an individual		We moved to this area because of MAC (Multinomaha Arts Center), our taxes are higher than surrounding areas and we justify it because of the Arts, Culture and Parks. As part of the elderly community Mac offers culture and community so desperately needed in our world. I have made friends with young and old alike, people from other cultures and diversities. To close this center would be such a shame and would force many people to re-evaluate who is running our city and their connection to community.	05/20/25 4:10 PM
148		As an individual		Please make sure our city is amply funded for fire and rescue . I have been a victim of armed robbery and car jacking in front of my own house in NE Portland and want to make sure you are providing as much protection as your citizens as possible	05/20/25 4:11 PM
149	Kelly OHanley	As an individual		Please do not make any cuts to protectingthe tree canopy. 🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏	05/20/25 4:11 PM
150	Karl Mautner	As an individual		Public safety is a core responsibility of the government. If people and businesses don't feel safe in the city they will move out, reducing the tax base and leaving too little money for public safety and even less for all the other services. This in turn drives more people and businesses out, reducing the tax base further. We still have a change to avoid this loop, but we need to prioritize funding the police department. Yes, this means cuts in other services, and it will hurt. But If we don't, in a few years we will not be able to fund much of anything.	05/20/25 4:11 PM
151	Mara Zellinger	As an individual		I can't believe that the Multnomah Arts Center is on the list for closure. It is mind blowing considering they need more classes. The classes full up so fast, especially for kids I can barely get my kids in. Additionally it's used for events that make a difference to pdx. Like jackson middle school fundraiser for arts. It's a double benefit for the city, using the space and taking care of kids. It's in the middle of Multnomah village, please don't abandon it or the community.	05/20/25 4:12 PM
152	Dylan Dow	As an individual		Please approve Mayor Wilson's budget and I am quoting him because we want this for Portland: "I've made my priorities clear. It's time to pass a budget focused on building Portland's future: a budget that supports public safety, economic opportunity, and ending unsheltered homelessness. That's how we will unlock prosperity from our tallest towers to our furthest neighborhoods." It's about time. Let's get it done! I am a resident, homeowner and social worker.	05/20/25 4:12 PM
153	Phyllis Brudney	As an individual		PLEASE DON'T CLOSE THE MAC!!! Multnomah Village thrives because of it. Vote no on amendment #45.	05/20/25 4:13 PM
154	Gergana Petcova	As an individual		Please do not close Multnomah Arts Center. This center has been one of the best assets that we have in SW Portland. My kids learned how to play piano and guitar there. This center plants the seeds that last a lifetime. Also, my kids attend the summer camps that focus on theatre and art. Please do not close this gem and our community with affordable classes and an amazing community.	05/20/25 4:13 PM
155	Olga G. Straight	As an individual		Please don't close the Multnomah Art Center or the CMC! Please take the time to read my attached letter. Thank you, Olga G. Straight	05/20/25 4:15 PM
156	Chris McAyeal	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center. It is an important part and resource to the community. It is integral to keeping Portland the vibrant and cultural city it needs to be to keep thriving.	05/20/25 4:16 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
157	Geoff Painter	As an individual		I strongly urge the City Council not to close the Multnomah Arts Center. Both of my children have taken art and music classes through the Center and have also participated in summer camps. Those after school classes and camps enrich their lives, but also provide a valuable economic service by allowing my wife and me to work during times when we would otherwise need to provide care. It is increasingly difficult to find art and music classes, and certainly not in the variety available at the Center. The affordable prices for classes are especially important for making art and music accessible to marginalized communities. Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center.	05/20/25 4:16 PM
158	Joe Muldavin	As an individual		What in the DOGE are you trying to do? Eliminating a resource that people actually use, makes our community better, and provides more benefit than it actually costs would be the same type of mismanagement that has gotten us to a point where representative Novak is desperately trying to cut any programs possible just to say we're saving money, which this would not even do. Please do not bring misguided and myopic Elon/Trump type tactics to Portland. We are supposed to be better than that.	05/20/25 4:17 PM
159	Assunta L Cicalese	As an individual		Please vote NO on Amendment #45 to close the Multnomah Arts Center. I have taken several classes at MAC, and consider it an essential part of our vibrant community. The arts should not be treated as expendable items to be cut when the budget needs trimming. They are necessary to feed people's minds and spirits. I can think of no other place where one can learn such a wonderful variety of meaningful skills in such a welcoming and homey environment. This is truly a magical place, and it would be a tragic loss to the community to close it.	05/20/25 4:18 PM
160	Michelle Crimmins	As an individual		I cannot believe that this Council would even propose, much less vote in favor of closing the Multnomah Arts Center! It is a source of vibrant community belonging, instruction, recreation, creativity for our area - especially some of the most vulnerable, including our elders and children. It serves so many with arts, music, play, dance and more. The parking lots are full and people come from all over the city to engage in multigenerational activities. PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE don't eliminate this center or its programs - some of which community members will not be able to access *anywhere else* in this region. I am heartbroken, dismayed, speechless that this would even be proposed. Myself and my children and family members have taken so many enriching and life-changing classes here. NO!!	05/20/25 4:20 PM
161	Sarah Gault	As an individual		Closing Multnomah Arts Center would have a devastating impact on the SW community where I live. Not only is it the heartbeat of the neighborhood, it has been a place where my children and their grandparents have found community and connections as well as acceptance. If we want a more vibrant city for people to live in we cannot close or reduce services that make our city vibrant. Parks and recreation services is what draws families in and establishes community connections that reduce crime, drugs and other issues that would otherwise need to be addressed by cities as a measure to "fix" a problem. If we allow our positive programs to fix the problems before they start we are building and maintaining a better place for all of us to live.	05/20/25 4:20 PM
162	Alessandra Burgos	As an individual		Do not close down the MAC!! It is such an important part of our community. It would be a massive disservice to our community to shut this down.	05/20/25 4:22 PM
163	Leslie Burrill	As an individual		I am asking you to vote NO on amendment #45. Don't cut the Community Music Center and also don't cut the Multnomah Arts Center. Both of these places have been invaluable in my children's education. My children currently study music at the Community Music Center and in the past have taken art classes through MAC. Every summer we look forward to the Arts in the Park programs. These centers build community and make art and music education possible for my family through subsidized classes.	05/20/25 4:22 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
164	Madeline Carroll	As an individual		I live in the Woodlawn neighborhood in District 2. I am a member of Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ PDX). I am writing to urge you to cut the police budget so that other budgets, like housing and parks, can be spared. The Mayor's opening statement stressed how anti-racism is a core Portland value—a value very much shared in SURJ PDX. The Portland police have a long history of racist attitudes and actions, continuing up to the present day. Despite that, the mayor's budget proposal increases the police budget. The mayor's proposed budget goes against the priorities expressed by Portland residents in the listening sessions and survey commissioned by City Council, Portlanders testified passionately in favor of Parks and Recreation programs and assets that help to provide neighborhood families and youth with places to go and things to do that are affordable and accessible—this absolutely includes parks maintenance. The Housing Bureau is desperately needed at a time when the lack of affordable housing is a major crisis for the city. Both of these bureaus are vital to making Portland communities safer and more livable. They help to keep people out of poverty and out of the criminal legal system. Many people expressed that they would prefer to cut the police budget over other City bureaus.* And yet, the Mayor would rather cut funding from parks and housing than police. The small percentage of community members who are calling for increases to the police budget most often cite personal anecdotes involving assumed drug use, mental health issues, and camping safety issues of people living outside. The police do not and cannot solve addiction, health, or housing problems. They can and do escalate situations in ways that make them more dangerous, and make systemic problems worse by harassing people and funneling them into the criminal legal system. Most of the people arrested in Portland are homeless, and often they are arrested for a failure to appear in court, or other infraction that is a result of not having a permanent address, not for actual crimes.** If we focus our resources instead on ending homelessness—the mayor's top stated priority—the police would be left with much less to do. Let's make that our goal. Police also do not and cannot prevent crime in any significant way—which is the purpose they talk about most when they demand more funds. Police representatives like to threaten the community by suggesting that they are the only thing standing between us and danger. The solutions that the criminal legal system offers actually make systemic problems worse. Police ultimately make us LESS safe. Social programs like supportive housing, drug counseling and food banks help make us safe. Beloved public places like parks and community centers and the many services they provide help make us safe. And finally, many of us in the community rightfully do not trust the police and do not want to interact with them. No amount of "community policing" will make up for the violence and racism the police continue to embody. We want alternatives to policing. We want Portland Street Response to be fully funded and fully separate from the police, not to accompany the police on calls—a suggested *increase* in resources and also completely missing the point. Members of the Community and Public Safety Committee have already acknowledged that linking PSR to the police would lower PSR's credibility. Why provide more money to a bureau that is not trusted by the people it is supposed to serve? Instead, we should continue to expand programs like PSR and CHAT, and decrease the number of police officers.	05/20/25 4:22 PM
165	Sofia Peck	As an individual		The multnomah arts center should NOT be closed. It provides so many families, adults and children access to the arts. I have taken lessons at the MAC for over 12 years and it has completely changed my life. I urge you to vote no and prevent the MAC's closure. 2 years ago the building was renovated for ADA and earthquake safety, a measure costing about 1,000,000 in taxpayer dollars. This is not indicative of such imminent closure. The Arts Center provides studio space, instrumental lessons, voice lessons, dance classes, summer camps and many many more opportunities. Now is not the time to cut the arts. It is an extremely valuable part of our community and there is no substitute for the variety of classes and opportunities it offers. Consider looking for budget savings elsewhere.	05/20/25 4:23 PM
166	Rae Latham	As an individual		Multnomah Arts Center is a beacon of community for children, their families and seniors. It is vibrantly alive with learning, connection, education and creativity. There is no central replacement if we lose it, no place that brings people together to grow and learn and share culture and cultures, something so vital to our electronically-dependent society that is so missing in-person engagement. I urge you to keep this unique hub open and growing. It is the only anchor of community of its kind on the westside of Portland -- and people come from all over the city to participate in classes and events here. We need your support to keep the Multnomah Arts Center open and welcoming to all.	05/20/25 4:23 PM
167	Kathryn Ottesen	As an individual		Please do not close Multnomah Art Center! It is the heart of classes and art in the south west community. My family takes classes there regularly and it would be a tragic loss if we no longer had it as a resource. Kathy and Howard	05/20/25 4:25 PM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Stanley Penkin	On behalf of an organization	Home Share Oregon	Mayor Wilson's budget includes "\$500,000 in one time resources added to the Housing Bureau's budget that would allow for initial start-up of a homesharing pilot, including a staff position to research, propose, and help implement operational and legislative changes that would be necessary to establishing a homesharing program, as well as external materials & services funding to partner with a community-based organization that can work directly with prospective homeowners and landlords." I want to bring to your attention the nonprofit HomeShare Oregon www.homeshareoregon.org that is already doing this work with the utilization of a highly sophisticated software program that we have developed and which we are being asked to provide to other organizations and municipalities. Homer Williams, the founder of the organization, and I, as the past founding board co-chair, urge you to support this budget item. We are already more than a pilot for homesharing. We are doing it! HomeShare Oregon plays a critical role in utilizing existing spare room inventory to house people quickly. To date we have matched and house upwards of 500 people at an affordable rental rate of approximately \$750. We are serving both the homeowner, the majority of whom are single, senior women at risk of losing their homes and lower wage individuals who are in many cases a paycheck away from homelessness. I understand the many challenges you face with this year's budget, but \$500,000 is a small price to pay for a significant return in helping to get more and more people housed. We are helping to prevent homelessness before it starts. Thank you for your consideration.	05/20/25 4:25 PM
Hibiki Miyazaki	As an individual		I wish to vote NO on amendment #45. Specifically, I want to urge the city that Multnomah Art Center is a vital part of the city that has been providing essential community and arts services for decades. It is imperative that MAC still operate!	05/20/25 4:26 PM
Kay Betton	As an individual		I am writing to express my strong support for continued funding and investment in our community's golf course. As a member of the Red Tail Lady Hawks Golf Association, I believe the golf course plays a vital role in not only enhancing our local recreational offerings but also contributing to the economic health of the area. The golf courses serve as an important venue for residents of all ages and abilities, offering an accessible outdoor activity that promotes physical health, social interaction, and relaxation. It also provides valuable opportunities for local tournaments, charity events, and youth programs that enrich the lives of our community members. In addition to the recreational benefits, the golf course has a positive impact on our local economy. It attracts visitors from neighboring areas who participate in tournaments, events, and casual rounds of golf. This influx of visitors supports local businesses, including restaurants, hotels, and retail shops, creating jobs and generating revenue that helps fund other community services. Furthermore, the golf course has a lasting impact on our city's environmental and aesthetic value. As a well-maintained green space, it contributes to preserving local wildlife habitats, provides a scenic area for residents to enjoy, and adds to the overall beauty of our city. The golf community has taken to heart earlier directives from this body to improve our sustainability and created a reserve fund to handle necessary upgrades and improvements to the hundreds of acres under golf course management. Re-appropriation of these funds reinforces the reputation of Portland as a city that is unable to govern responsibly. We have done the hard work to build up the fund. We should be allowed to use it as intended. I respectfully urge the City Council to look at other options to balance the parks budget. Perhaps some of these other groups could begin building up their reserves to maintain their programs, rather than raid our funds. Regards, Kay Betton	05/20/25 4:29 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
171	Katherine J Schroeder	On behalf of an organization	Community Music Center	I am a long-time board member and current treasurer of Community Music Center, Inc, a non-profit friend's partner of the Park's Community Music Center in SE Portland, known as CMC. Yes, the same names, but different entities. The non-profit has supported and financially subsidized music programming at CMC and around the City since 1955, 70 years. Please do not vote to close CMC as a fix to the Parks' maintenance budget problem. There has been no clear evidence or substantiation given by Council that CMC and MAC will have to close down in the 'not-too-distant future' [Councilor Novick in proposed amendment.]. In fact, closing down now will erase 70 years of work in creating a reputable City music program. Repairs and concerns over CMC's old fire lookout tower are known; imminent closure is not. CMC, together with its nonprofit partner and other community partners, has actively explored additional and alternate locations for the City's programming. The nonprofit recently hired a commercial real estate broker to explore an additional, and ultimately an alternative, site for Park's programming through CMC. Closure of all programming now would only make it harder to restart programming that is and has been vital to the life and the community of Portland and beyond. Through the City/non-profit partnership, affordable music lessons and classes, free and low-cost concerts, and low-cost instrument rentals have been a reality for thousands of ever-increasingly diverse youth, adults & seniors. - With only 3 full-time and a few part-time city staff administering the programming, more than 25 professional, performing artist teachers teach and over-see in excess of 8000 hours of classes, lessons & events each year. - Live concerts/recitals are free to all together with livestream options for those unable to travel to CMC. - Families and households served by this programming come from over 50 zip codes throughout the Portland metro area and from every City Council district. - Programs specifically serve Black & Brown youth, Latinx youth, LBGTQ+ youth, seniors, immigrants, and people with disabilities. - Additionally, many studies have found that music education, even at a basic level, improves performance in school, reduces drug use, increases participation in exercise and in one's community. Music education is vital to a substitute for athletic programming. - And the music scene in Portland is recognized nationally as a hub of diverse, exceptional talent. The dedication of the City to arts and music with support from partners like CMC has helped make this happen. Although maintenance of existing Parks is very important, don't vote to end and close music programming that for 70 years has successfully added to and supported Portland's diversity, vitality and quality of life for those living here, choosing to stay here and those wanting to move here. Katherine Schroeder Board member & treasurer Community Music Center, nonprofit PP&R partner Katherine Schroeder 503-530-2562	05/20/25 4:29 PM
172		As an individual		I'm saddened and shocked to see that closing Multnomah Arts Center is being considered to address the city's budget shortfalls. Portland is a vibrant city because of its innate culture of supporting the arts and artists. Closing Multnomah Arts Center will cause irreparable damage to the arts community. I have been a student at MAC since 2018 and consider it a cornerstone of continuing my arts education. I can't even begin to describe the importance the center has had to me. It helped me find my calling as an artist through its Metals program. Losing the studios and community would be devastating to its current artists and future artists.	05/20/25 4:29 PM
173		As an individual		Multnomah art center cannot be closed! It is the heart of our community and constantly buzzing with activity. Everything in our area revolves around Multnoma art center. My adult children learned music and drama and dance at the Multnomah art center. Please do not close this treasure!	05/20/25 4:30 PM
174	Jessica Deupree	As an individual		Please don't close the Multnomah arts center! It has been a staple of our village for decades and we will be worse off without it! Please vote no!	05/20/25 4:33 PM
175	Emilie Franz	As an individual		Please do not shut the MAC down in the fall! It is absolutely Crucial for our child and many of her friends! She is currently learning music and has done dance, acting and many many art classes. It's truly one of the best parts of this neighborhood not to mention all of the events they have there that bring community together.	05/20/25 4:33 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
176	JANETTE LAURIN	As an individual		I am writing to express my strong support for Multnomah Art Center and ask that prioritize keeping this important organization funded and operating. Both my children attended art and music classes at MAC throughout their young lives, supplementing the almost non-existent music and arts program available through their public school. They became talented musicians and artists and they payed it forward as music and arts counselors for youth summer camps. When they went to college, I learned ceramic arts at MAC and it has started a new career for me. With the loss of the College of Arts and Crafts in Oregon, Multnomah Art Center is the only option available to thousands of Oregonians. Classes fill immediately and the demand is far higher than their capacity can handle. Loss of MAC would affect generations of Oregonians and there isn't a replacement. PLEASE keep Multnomah Arts Center running and vibrant.	05/20/25 4:34 PM
177	Gordon Campbell	As an individual		Community member testimony and support of the Multnomah Arts Center (MAC) As the largest community art center in the city of Portland, MAC is a flagship institution nationally recognized for decades for its ability to bring together people of different walks of life, backgrounds, incomes, and ethnic ancestry. Thousands of students ages two to 92 every year enroll in hundreds of classes. These people work on creative projects together, coming up with solutions while having a lot of fun in the process. This kind of collaboration what Portlanders need to be engaged in, given our polarized politics. In the classes, People are out in a neutral third space getting to know folks they would not otherwise ever meet, thus opening themselves to new ideas and ways of grappling with tough questions. Who else is going to offer this opportunity to Portlanders? If you would like MAC to start contributing more money to help balance the City's budget, stop tieing MAC's hands. If a low-income student (of any age) can pay as little as 5% of the fee to cover the cost of a class at MAC, through the Park's operating levy, how come the MAC break even? The site of a former public elementary school, MAC includes a large industrial kitchen off the side of it 250 seat auditorium. This kitchen needs significant upgrades, but if the city made these improvements, the auditorium would become a cash-cow for many groups, families, and organizations.	05/20/25 4:35 PM
178	Ellen Kaufer	As an individual		Please don't shut down Multnomah arts center. It is an incredible resource to our community and makes Portland into the wonderful city it is. I have taken many classes at MAC and all have been great!	05/20/25 4:35 PM
179	Bruce Bazley	As an individual		Please Lethe MAC open for the Community! Love Bruce	05/20/25 4:36 PM
180	Mike Wood	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is a crucial part of the Multnomah village and SW Portland cultural scene. It provides education, cultural improvement, and is a hub for the community. Closing this will have a very large ripple effect through Portland as these centers are helping bond community while providing arts and cultural learning for non-academic citizens. PLEASE, we cannot submit Amendments to permanently close the center to save on budget. There are other ways to budget then just "close the arts center"	05/20/25 4:37 PM
181	Allison Stark	As an individual		Dear Councilors, I am writing in opposition with the proposed amendment that would shutter the Multnomah Arts Center in September 2025. The MAC is the heart of the Multnomah Village community. My entire family has taken classes here. Our neighbors and friends have as well. The MAC is probably one of my most visited places whether it is for a class, my son's piano recital or just strolling through the gallery. I am dismayed that we would consider closure without trying to find a way to fund these services through other means - such as increasing fees or reducing services. This is an incredibly drastic measure. The arts are essential for fostering creativity, enhancing emotional well-being, and promoting cultural understanding, making them a vital part of human experience and society. Please reject this amendment and keep the MAC in tact!	05/20/25 4:37 PM
182	Alanna Hoyman-Browe	As an individual		Vote NO on amendment 45- Don't cut the Community Music Center! The Community Music Center is an incredibly important resource to our city. The support of art and culture is how we ensure that our communities will continue to thrive not just survive. The Community Music Center allows people from all parts of the city to learn about and participate in music programs. Its crucial for the vitality of our city that these programs exist.	05/20/25 4:38 PM
183	Ashlie Hempstead	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! It provides essential classes and enrichment to youth and adults, which is vital for building skills within a community.	05/20/25 4:38 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
184	Jere Grimm	As an individual		MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL My name is Jere Grimm, and with my husband Ray Grimm, we are/were artists and board members of Multnomah Arts Center. As a member of the arts community, Ray was Professor of Art , Portland State University for 30 years and mentor to most of the instructors there in the flourishing and well equipped ceramics department ,which is at present one of the remaining close-in locations to learn the craft of working with clay, with an excellent line-up of classe in that discipline; as in so many others! We are positively stunned and outraged at the idea of closure for this foundational, richly diverse, teaching center,that offers classes from weaving,drawing,and painting to music, and dance; serving more than 6000 students of every age, every year since 1982! And doing it affordably for moderate income folks. These are the places that provide the cultural foundations that glue communities together; In the current public life that seems so antagonistic and siloed into mean-spirited folks, the bonds of music and art, in a multitude of ways unify and let us look each other as possessing similar needs that together can be fulfilled by experiencing the bonds of community. Most sincerely, Jere M Grimm	05/20/25 4:38 PM
185	Lisa Zweben	As an individual		I am writing on behalf of the Community Music Center. Prior to my recent move to Corvallis, Oregon, I served on the faculty of CMC from 2010 - 2024 as a violin and viola teacher, chamber music coach and conductor of the adult string orchestra. I taught at CMC out of my commitment to providing affordable lessons to the community and especially to those for whom music lessons would not otherwise be possible. I cannot overstate the value and importance and value of the services that CMC provides. In a world where life is increasingly difficult and stressful, arts education is more important than ever. Closing CMC would be a tragic loss for Portland. PLEASE DO NOT CLOSE CMC!!!	05/20/25 4:40 PM
186	Azaria Coakley	On behalf of an organization	The Rosewood Initiative	I work directly with the team at MAC and their teachers. This program is vital to our organization's mission as well as to our community members on a daily basis. We are able to provide classes and access to arts that would otherwise not be accessible in East Portland, especially in the Hazelwood area. People find community and therapy in these classes and workshops, and they feel cared for as citizens of the city of Portland. This would be an incredible disservice and a step backwards for serving the people of Portland, especially East PDX, where the city tends to pay a little less attention to.	05/20/25 4:41 PM
187	George W Feldman	As an individual		Regarding the upcoming budget discussion: an amendment has been offered by Councilor Novick to de-fund the Community Music Center. This Center provides incredible and vital services to a wide variety of groups and individuals. In fact, this is what makes for "Community". It is distressing and appalling to see all that is good about our society now facing "the ax". Please reject this Amendment. Thank you.	05/20/25 4:41 PM
188	Elizabeth mohr	As an individual		Please don't close multnomah arts center. This is a vital community resource. Our family has enjoyed classes and performances here for years. It supports and serves all ages. It's a community treasure.	05/20/25 4:41 PM
189		As an individual		Being a child—or a parent—is hard enough without money being taken away from summer camps and other opportunities that actually help make Portland a better place to live. Please don't take away kids' parks and rec money, especially to give to our already overfunded police force, who seem to provide little in the way of crime-prevention or de-escalation in our city. Thank you.	05/20/25 4:43 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
190	Tina Connolly	As an individual		I live in SW PDX and am writing to urge the council to NOT close the Multnomah Arts Center. The MAC is an important part of both our local community and Portland as a whole. People come from all over the city to take classes and share in the arts community that has been fostered here. (If anything, we need *another* MAC for the east side of the river!) I truly believe in the power of arts to help a community thrive. The MAC helps kids, teens, and adults have equal access to making and sharing art. My two kids and I have regularly taken classes there. We attend art fairs, performances, and other community events (like last week's Meow Village fundraiser for helping feral cats.) At a time when communities all over are being deliberately torn apart, and tech oligarchs are trying to replace human creators with machines, we need places like the MAC more than ever. Art is resistance, art is joyful, art is powerful. Art is community. Please vote no on this amendment. Thanks for listening, Tina Connolly	05/20/25 4:44 PM
191	Corey Warning	As an individual		Oppose Amendment #45 – Save the Multnomah Arts Center	05/20/25 4:46 PM
192		As an individual		I urge you to reconsider the permanent closure of the MAC, given its unique and longstanding offerings that have benefited individuals of all ages for decades. The MAC has been dedicated to promoting awareness of the importance of arts and enriching the lives of many young people. The decision to close the facility would have a significant negative impact on our communities and generations to come.	05/20/25 4:47 PM
193	Barbara Ulman	As an individual		Please continue providing financial support to Community Music Center. Music is not just a frill. Students who study music do better in all of their school subjects, and are happier in their lives. This is one of the things that makes us human. Please support!	05/20/25 4:47 PM
194	Kylee Deterding	As an individual		We need more of Multnomah Arts Center, less MAC. This vibrant, unique place offers space for all ages to learn, grow, and develop into the culture that Portland is and is now being threatened. Please make the right decisions. Keep Multnomah Arts Center alive!	05/20/25 4:48 PM
195	Jeremy Cattone	As an individual		I'm writing to urge reconsideration of amendment #45 - the MAC (Multnomah Arts Center) has been an anchor in the culture of Multnomah Village and the SW area. It provides classes ranging from children's arts through adult music lessons, as well as many traditional arts (fabric, pottery, etc...). The center also features prominently as a sales venue for local artists (https://www.multnomahartscenter.org/arts-and-crafts-sale/) and for community events (e.g., the main auditorium has been used for community theater / talent shows, and also for educational forums such as 'STEM like a girl'). I would be saddened, and our community would be lessened, by the loss of this valuable center.	05/20/25 4:48 PM
196	Sofia Molimbi	As an individual		Please DO NOT CLOSE MAC- The Multnomah Arts Center is a vital center for my family of 5, and for the community! My children have taken classes there for the past 5 years and it has been the most enriching experiences from piano, to welding, ceramics, art, and dance. Please! There is NO OTHER center like this in our community. It is also one of the only places where cost of activities is not a barrier for our family. It is also one of the only places where I see a diverse gathering of people which is very important to us. Thank you.	05/20/25 4:49 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
197	Susan Clark	As an individual		Please don't close Multnomah Arts Center. I recently started taking ceramics classes at the MAC. As a retired senior this has been a life line to establish a community of my peers. In addition to classes, the Multnomah Arts Center: Has fifteen partners throughout Portland, serving Parks' targeted communities at their sites including The Rosewood Initiative, Home Forward, and Y.O.U.th. Houses several nonprofits including: Columbia Basin Basketry Guild, Neighborhood House, Oregon Children's Theatre, Print Arts Northwest, Community Policing, and Northwest Woodturners. Provides discounted space rentals to nonprofits. Makes arts education programming accessible by eliminating financial barriers to access, through the Parks Levy and MACA scholarships. Received roughly \$1,000,000 in seismic and ADA facility upgrades from Parks in the past two years, surely not an indication of imminent building closure. During summer months, MAC runs the Arts in the Parks program, providing free drop-in arts activities at parks (primarily in areas serving our targeted communities). Last year over 4,000 youth were provided activities through this program. Produces Free First Friday Arts for All at MAC, which provides drop-in arts education experiences along with free food for the Portland community. Staff works with Parks management and our partners to address long term facility needs.	05/20/25 4:50 PM
198	Leslie Pohl-Kosbau	As an individual		Please do not close Multnomah Art Center or the Community Music center. These are essential to the lives of our children and seniors, especially. Some counselors do not know the value of the arts for the participants and the public in general. Most counselors do know that value. Please persuade the one who suggested this to look elsewhere for funds. It has taken many years to develop staff and the programs that make these arts activities stellar programs for our community.	05/20/25 4:51 PM
199	Judy Presberg	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center (MAC) is in my district, but it serves people of all ages from all over Portland. I understand there's a proposal and discussion to close it. The joy and learning experiences it would remove from the lives of so many people will never again be replicated if you choose to do so. Please consider abandoning this action. Thank you Judy Presberg	05/20/25 4:52 PM
200	Emily Stebbins	As an individual		Please don't gut Urban Forestry to save parks! Urban Forestry does so many important things, including emergency response after storms, planting and maintenance of trees in underserved neighborhoods, and enforcement of codes that (despite a few well-publicized, and admittedly atrocious, incidents of bad enforcement) generally serve to protect our urban trees and make our city a healthy and attractive place to live. Instead, please support Councilor's Avalos' proposals for a more balanced approach that takes into account the critical role well cared-for parks play in public safety. We won't need to keep increasing the police budget if we can create a city where people want to be out on the streets and in the parks. More people out socializing in parks and on sidewalks leads to greater safety, without need for as much policing, because there are more eyes on what's going on. But without a strong Tree Code, neighborhoods will increasingly become heat islands where people only feel safe in their homes and in their cars. Public safety is important, but it should be achieved through vibrant communities, rather than at their expense.	05/20/25 4:54 PM
201	Laura Hill	As an individual		Multnomah Art Center is the ONLY place in Portland where art classes are available to the public at affordable prices. It serves children to seniors in a wide variety of performing and visual arts. I think it is a community treasure. It would be a tragedy to close it. Please reconsider closing this great community institution.	05/20/25 4:54 PM
202	Jay Skaggs	As an individual		Amendment #45 - please don't close MAC! It means so much to our community!	05/20/25 4:55 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
203	William Connors	As an individual		As a senior citizen I benefit from courses offered at the MAC. Young and old are the beneficiaries of this great resource for the arts. Closing or greatly restricting the budget here would be a terrible blow to the Portland community.	05/20/25 4:55 PM
	Joseph Enger	As an individual		I don't live in portland but I golf at Portland owned golf courses since they are the closest courses I live by. Adding fees to already expensive green fees is annoying, especially since the fees will be going to the general fund and not reinvested in the courses. Not everyone who golfs is some rich prick with unlimited resources. This makes golf more inaccessible to low and middle income individuals, which is in contrast to the Portland Golf system's mission: "The golf system's mission is to support the Portland community's overall health and wellness by making Portland Parks public golf courses accessible to people of all backgrounds." Adding fees to fund other budget priorities seems conflicting to that mission and makes it even more inaccessible for lower and middle income folks. While I understand the need to increase prices occasionally to keep up with rising costs of business (i.e. raising green fees, food and beverage, etc), adding on a fee to fund other aspects of the Portland City budget is extremely stupid. Please reconsider adding this fee.	05/20/25 4:56 PM
204	Lisa K Bates	As an individual		I am writing in strong support of the budget proposal from Commissioners Green and Dunphy to shift General Fund dollars out of Prosper Portland for the upcoming fiscal year. Prosper Portland—the Portland Development Commission—has a decades-long history of responding to the interests of the most economically powerful in our city. Its work has not supported the well-being of the working class or communities of color—in fact, the PDC has actively dismantled communities and their opportunities, with no accountability through our political processes. Under its new brand, Prosper Portland has pushed back on Community Benefits Agreements that would have delivered real benefits to those who are least advantaged and it has created community engagement kiddie tables while the real financial decisions are made elsewhere. This week, Prosper Portland is playing a classic game: when a budget is cut— in this case, due to unprecedented financial crisis— threaten a popular program that people will rally to support. In public administration study, it's called 'Washington Monument syndrome'--when agencies facing a budget crunch announce the most visible and used services are endangered in order to create political pressure. By whipping up fear of losing the few community-oriented programs it has available, Prosper leadership avoids tough questions about how their resources are used and where else their budget could be reduced. No one is requiring Prosper to eliminate support for small businesses or MWESBs—that's not what the City budget proposal says. That's Prosper's own decision. It's one that demonstrates where their true values and purposes lie: with the same powerful elite that Portland Development Commission was designed to serve— the same powerful elite that has been tearing down our city for the past five years, fueling the backlash against equitable development and anti-displacement, trying to eliminate every progressive program from universal preschool to climate action, and defunding community priorities for a never-ending stream of money for police. It has long been time to address the City's loss of the community development and community economic development function that was subsumed into—and dismantled by—PDC when the Bureau of Housing and Community Development (BHCD) was reorganized. Instead of a directly accountable agency with democratic principles, we have only a redevelopment authority with a deeply compromised history and a very limited vision. I encourage Council to consider the many priorities and needs in our city where there are no other funds available for backfill, and move forward with shifting general fund dollars away from Prosper Portland for this budget year.	05/20/25 4:57 PM
205					

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
206	Joan Grimm	As an individual		We are positively stunned and outraged at the idea of closure of the Multnomah Art Center --this foundational, richly diverse, teaching center,that offers classes from weaving,drawing,and painting to music, and dance; serving more than 6000 students of every age, every year since 1982! And doing it affordably for moderate income folks.What is the justification to close this beacon of hope? Why was this proposed at the last minute and no one notified? Why? Why? Why?? These are the places that provide the cultural foundations that glue communities together; places like Multnomah Art Center In the current public life that seems so antagonistic and siloed into mean-spirited folks, the bonds of music and art, in a multitude of ways unify us. Connect us and heal us. PLEASE do not destroy that which can save us.	05/20/25 4:57 PM
207	Alina Black	As an individual		I'm writing to express my strong opposition to amendment #45, which would permanently close the Multnomah Arts Center. This beloved community hub is a vital resource for our neighborhood, fostering a love of the arts, promoting community engagement, and providing a safe and welcoming space for residents to build relationships and access essential social services. Closing the Multnomah Arts Center would not only harm our community's cultural vitality but also undermine the social fabric of our neighborhood. I urge the city council to reconsider this decision and prioritize the preservation of this invaluable community asset. The Multnomah Arts Center is a shining example of how public investment can have a lasting, positive impact on our community, and I implore you to protect it.	05/20/25 4:58 PM
208	Beckah Selnick	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is vital to our community. A haven for creativity and art is necessary now more than ever and it should not be taken for granted that a physical space dedicated to these things is something worth preserving. I understand that the City of Portland is tasked with making decisions for the betterment of all people, but localized communities are the place from which our American culture and democracy will be saved. Please, keep the Multnomah Arts Center open.	05/20/25 4:58 PM
209	Michael Ray	As an individual		Please vote no on closing the Multnomah Arts Center. Counsellor Novick has no right to close something so great outside of his own district. The MAC is a central part of wonderful Multnomah Village. This is about art and children. We need this now more than ever.	05/20/25 5:00 PM
210	Chris Blattner	As an individual		My comments are directed at the budget proposal related to PDX municipal golf courses: •Portland's golf courses are community resources that have seen huge increases in use since the pandemic, notably among many folks who are new to the game. •A big reason why the courses are successful and accessible to more people is because of Portland's self-sustaining golf enterprise fund, which is funded by green fees and other golf revenue and used to re-invest in the courses, driving ranges, facilities, and non-golf spaces like Colwood's community center. •A proposal to pull millions from the self-sustaining golf enterprise fund and add it into the general fund would hinder the golf program's ability to invest in itself, undercut the appeal of the courses, and potentially stifle recruitment of new players (namely youth, women, and people of color who have not always felt welcome at golf courses)—all of which are key tenets of the 2015 golf strategic plan created by Portland Parks & Rec. •An alternative proposal is to add a surcharge to greens fees at courses to support other Portland Parks facilities and the general fund. This feels like a far more reasonable approach that I believe golfers will more willingly accept, given the funding emergency and value Portland's city-owned courses currently provide for their costs (which, even with a small surcharge added, would still be quite competitive compared to other public courses in the metro area.) •With inflation, costs for nearly everything are up, and I believe Portland golfers are more than willing to chip in and do their part to support Portland Parks and other key programs that make our city more livable. •As a Portland golfer and supporter of our amazing city-owned courses, I ask that the city council reject the proposal to pull money from the golf enterprise fund, and instead move forward with a small surcharge on greens fees. •Thank you for your consideration.	05/20/25 5:00 PM
211	Sara Tallarovic	As an individual		Please do not close Multnomah Arts Center! It is a keystone of the community and provides a creative and educational space for countless people. I have taken fantastic music classes and intend to take more because of the quality and accessibility of the educators and facility. Please don't discount how important the MAC is to the community.	05/20/25 5:00 PM
212	Kyeve Hurtado	As an individual		Do not close the MAC! It is vital to our community and offer a place for everybody to come	05/20/25 5:00 PM
213	Jenna Goldin	As an individual		I support councilors Mitch Green & Candace Avalos' proposed amendment to next year's budget for subsidies that would cover the cost discrepancy between what landlords are allowed to charge and what they should be charging for rent for tenants in affordable housing at Everett Station Lofts. 11/11/25 SEP 11 2025	05/20/25 5:01 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
214	Lara Jones	On behalf of an organization	Southwest Portland Martial Arts & CrossFit Hillsdale	I am writing in strong opposition to possibly closing Multnomah Arts Center and the Community Music Center through Portland Parks & Rec! As arts enrichment providers ourselves, our family and our business community has participated and collaborated with these organizations over the years; the (accessible/quality) programming they have to offer is INVALUABLE to countless children/families! It would be a grave error to close these facilities! Thank you, Lara Jones SW resident, educator and small-business-owner.	05/20/25 5:02 PM
215	Melanie Spitzer	As an individual		PLEASE DON'T CLOSE THE MULTNOMAH ARTS CENTER. THIS IS THE ONLY PLACE SOME SENIORS AND CHILDREN HAVE ANY FORM OF ARTISTIC OUTLET. I WAS A STUDENT THERE FOR 12 YEARS AND IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL PLACE FOR CREATIVITY. VOTING AGAINST THE ARTS WILL BE DEVASTATING TO THE PEOPLE OF PORTLAND.	05/20/25 5:03 PM
216	Melanie Spitzer	As an individual		PLEASE DON'T CLOSE THE MULTNOMAH ARTS CENTER. THIS IS THE ONLY PLACE SOME SENIORS AND CHILDREN HAVE ANY FORM OF ARTISTIC OUTLET. I WAS A STUDENT THERE FOR 12 YEARS AND IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL PLACE FOR CREATIVITY. VOTING AGAINST THE ARTS WILL BE DEVASTATING TO THE PEOPLE OF PORTLAND.	05/20/25 5:04 PM
217	Alyssa Pichardo	As an individual		My name is Alyssa Pichardo. I am an Analyst II at the Portland Bureau of Transportation and a member of CPPW. I am writing today as a member of the public and I live in District 4. Without my work half of the Vision Zero resolution brought before council on May 19th would not be written. I provided the analysis for every data point. The work of analysts may seem cryptic and easily replaceable by new technologies, but I bring over 15 years of experience in data analysis to the work I do every day for the City of Portland. The work to maintain public and internal dashboards that report on the changing conditions of traffic fatalities. The analysis I do to synthesize data collected by my PBOT colleagues and collaborate with PPB's traffic division. Focusing enforcement to where we see the greatest speeding and highest number of crashes. The development of data tools so I can empower my colleagues to get information fast. The in-depth crash analysis to prioritize investments where they are most needed in communities that have been systemically excluded and institutionally oppressed. Analysts save the City money every day by directing limited resources to where those investments will have the most benefit and pay dividends. If we are to be an equitable and data driven city this work is crucial. In this budget, Council must invest in Portland and your workers. Settle the CPPW contract now.	05/20/25 5:04 PM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Kenneth Thrasher	As an individual		My name is Kenneth Thrasher and I live in District 4 in the Pearl District. Our community previously engaged in a session of what our City needs for goals to regain its reputation, including being; 1. A safe and livable place for all 2. A place where businesses thrive 3. A destination for visitors 4. An excellent arts and education place We are a long way from achieving that, and this budget can lay a framework going forward to get back there. It starts with safety and livability. When 69% of people polled say police need to be at the national average per capita (and we are only about halfway there), we need a major investment in police, fire and 911. That is a top priority. Our businesses and residents (including many of the higher tax paying groups) are leaving (and businesses closing), and buildings sold at auction, because the value proposition in Portland has failed them. We pay high taxes, get low service levels for the money paid-in, and City red tape makes doing anything difficult. Don't raise taxes, flatten government, and reduce red tape through focusing on essential services in a zero-based budgeting approach. We were promised no new taxes through 2027, remember. We can't be a destination place again until our streets are free of unsheltered homeless individuals, and the issues of substance abuse and mental health challenges are resolved. The University of Chicago says it costs \$36,000 per year on average to leave a person unsheltered, a cost in the City and County of \$230 million for 6,400 people. The study says an integrated delivery approach can save one-half of the cost, or \$115 million. Start with the Mayor's overnight shelter plan and work with the County to do an integrated intake system to get every unsheltered person off the streets. Stop Home First strategies that don't work without wrap-around services, and hold Home Forward and its property managers accountable for the debacle they call affordable housing where residents are the real losers. How would Portland look like if we fixed these things? Because of federal cuts and the lack of State and local support our Arts organizations are struggling, our convention center and hotel are vacant of activities, and our schools aren't achieving their mission. If we want to keep and attract new businesses and residents, as well as more tourists, we must support and improve these organizations. Let's strive to get back to the Portland we remember through leadership and achieving those four goals above. Thank you.	05/20/25 5:04 PM
Nicolas Anne	As an individual		I cannot emphasize enough the importance of the Multnomah Arts Center is for our community, especially our Seniors. It provides a safe space to learn new skills, meet new people, and bring the community closer together. Portland and its surrounding areas are already so poor in the culture and arts department, that closing the center would be a terrible mistake. Taking away one of the few places where people can come together would only further divide our communities, in a time where we need this more than ever. My family has been taking classes here for more than a decade, and has brought us (and continues to bring us) rich friendships, new skills, and a lifetime of memories. PLEASE VOTE TO KEEP THIS AMAZING CENTER FOR THE ARTS OPEN. PORTLANDERS NEED MORE PLACES LIKE THIS. Do the right thing.	05/20/25 5:05 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
220	Fran Bittakis	As an individual		Testimonial: Fran Bittakis, JOOP JOOP Creative Indie Film Producer, IATSE Local 488 Production Office Coordinator Earlier this week, I sent a letter to City Council urging them to vote against the proposed amendment that would remove General Fund dollars from Prosper Portland — because I was deeply concerned about the impact it would have on the Events & Film Office (EFO). This office has been a vital partner in building more equity and access in Portland’s film ecosystem, especially for BIPOC and marginalized filmmakers like myself. My small business, received EFO support earlier this year for our Demystifying Directing workshop — a space created by and for filmmakers of color. It provided professional headshots, hands-on training, community connection, and support from a local WOC-owned business. It helped us create space for voices that have long been excluded from this industry. That’s the kind of work the EFO makes possible — and what’s at stake if this funding disappears. After I sent my email, I received a reply from Councilor Dunphy’s office claiming that the amendment actually saves the Film Office by instructing Prosper to use its Strategic Investment Fund (SIF) instead of General Fund money. But when I read the attached memo, what I saw was a lot of assumptions — not guarantees. Stripping Prosper of its core funding and telling them to backfill with one-time reserve money doesn’t offer real protection. It creates long-term instability for programs that are already under-resourced. What’s more, the language in that memo was incredibly concerning. It accused Prosper of being unaccountable and resistant to oversight — and implied that programs serving BIPOC communities are somehow wasteful or optional. This kind of rhetoric isn’t just dismissive — it’s harmful. It echoes the same dynamics that have historically excluded people like me from the industry in the first place. We’re not asking for special treatment. We’re asking for stability, transparency, and a seat at the table. If the goal is truly to preserve equity and economic development, then that commitment needs to be clearly spelled out — not buried in vague directives and “shared sacrifice” talking points. The creative community in Portland deserves better than budget games and rhetorical gaslighting. We need investment, not divestment. We need structural support, not just one-time patches. And we need leaders who understand that equity isn’t extra — it’s essential.	05/20/25 5:05 PM
221	Wanda Halbakken	As an individual		There are now so many programs and possibilities cancelled. It is beneficial to have as many opportunities as possible available for our children!	05/20/25 5:07 PM
222	Roberta Cation	As an individual		Downtown resident wanting to support local businesses, to make PDX a livable city again. Rising crime, drug sales and drug use, (especially in/around Central Library, SW Jefferson Safeway, Plaid Pantry and most of downtown) are keeping me from supporting businesses. Six or more people selling, doing drugs on the street corner, blocking my way, at the height of the day is common. There is an urgent need to deal with rising crime and support struggling businesses. It is important to maintain Mayor Wilson's public safety budget! Support the pro-safety and pro-prosperity amendments from Ryan, Smith and Clark. YOU NEED TO HEAR, LISTEN AND SUPPORT PORTLAND RESIDENTS OVER SPECIAL INTERESTS! Take care of us who pay high taxes to provide a safe city! Increase funding for PUBLIC SAFETY! Pay attention to the DHM Research poll! Listen to us!	05/20/25 5:07 PM
223	Joshua Caditz	As an individual		Please Vote NO on Amendment #45 – Keep the Multnomah Arts Center Open Dear Council Members, I’m writing as a resident of Portland and a parent in a family of four who deeply values the Multnomah Arts Center. We are in district 4, and the MAC is one of the most community-oriented and effective institutions we’ve experienced anywhere. Not only does it provide some of the most reasonably priced and high-quality classes and camps for our children, but it has also served as a powerful connector—bringing us into relationship with our neighbors and strengthening our ties to the community. We’ve made more connections through MAC than through any other organization in Portland. Eliminating this space would cut off access to the arts for many families who rely on MAC’s affordability and inclusive programming. It would also undermine the city’s investment in recent ADA and seismic upgrades and send the wrong message about our collective values. Please vote NO on Amendment #45	05/20/25 5:08 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
224	Christy Upton	As an individual		I am dismayed to learn the city is considering closing the Multnomah Arts Center. This community building provides vital arts education for children and adults in SW Portland. Without the Multnomah Arts Center these classes would be out of reach for so many because the cost of private lessons is so high. Many elementary age children also do not have music classes in their elementary school so without this opportunity they would get no music arts and theater education. The Multnomah Arts Center also provides important meeting space and event space for the community. Many schools hold their yearly fundraisers there and would not be able to afford more expensive space. They also support many neighborhood programs. Please support keeping this important part of the SW community open.	05/20/25 5:09 PM
225	Pamela Prysner	As an individual		I am commenting on the proposed budget. I understand that council member Steve Novick has proposed closing the Multnomah Art Center (MAC) and the Community Music Center (CMC). I adamantly oppose Mr. Novick's amendment. I moved to Multnomah Village in February of 2024 and being near MAC has been an enormous asset. It has also given me the opportunity to witness firsthand the vibrancy of MAC. MAC offers children, senior citizens, and everyone in between a space to hone a skill or learn a new art form. It especially serves those who, without MAC, would not be able to afford the classes, or the children's camps, that MAC provides. The MAC staff and teachers are like family, they provide a welcome and supportive atmosphere where all can be enriched. MAC and the community it creates are jewels in the crown of Portland's parks and recreation system. To close it would be a terrible loss for Portland's citizens. Please vote against Mr. Novick's amendment. Please keep MAC and CMC open!	05/20/25 5:09 PM
226	Katie Gertz	As an individual		Please don't close the multnomah arts center. Our community needs this. It provides so many classes and spaces available for the community, we truly don't have anything to replace it. So much has closed in this area that it has gotten increasingly more expensive and harder to have my kids and adults to participate in the arts. I have personally rented space for private party as well as have rented space for our Cub Scout meeting, and attended our elementary school fundraiser. It is at the heart of all of our neighborhood parades, Sunday parkways, First Fridays. It has an art show that I attend every year. Please do not close this facility. We don't have anything like it. The city has closed or restricted so many things in this area already. If anything, there should be more funding to be able to provide even more activities with a lower cost classes and activities in which to participate.	05/20/25 5:10 PM
227	Kassie Hughes	As an individual		VOTE NO on Amendment #45. Please don't close the MAC. The MAC is a vibrant hub for the community, truly serving all ages and walks of life. My kids have enjoyed so many art classes, as have I, over the past two decades. It has been a stalwart resource for accessing the arts at a price most can afford. The classes fill up every term. I would understand a bump in fees...but closing it? A shortsighted choice. Please, please don't close the MAC.	05/20/25 5:10 PM
228	Suenn Ho	As an individual		Dear Mayor Wilson and City Councilors: I serve on the PP&R Advisory Board. I am submitting this testimonial as an independent citizen of Portland. The attached data demonstrates how our already very lean maintenance crews have been working hard and stretched thin to ensure our PP&R parks and facilities are safe and clean settings that serve our Portlanders. Please do not mow down our dedicated maintenance crew! Sincerely, Suenn Ho	05/20/25 5:11 PM

Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
229	As an individual		Portland does not need cops at the cost of parks and libraries. Every dollar spent in prevention and community based programs means crime goes down exponentially. The ROI on prevention cannot be overstated, yet we keep funding overtime for law enforcement. We cannot afford to neglect our parks, we must stop funding the ever increasing extortion racket of police. "Research in 2022 analyzed data from the 301 largest cities in the United States to investigate the relationship between different types of crime and urban green space. The study found that greater amounts of green space were associated with lower incidences of property theft and fewer violent crimes. Similarly, a 2021 study by Michigan State University found that the greener a city is, the fewer homicides were recorded over a 30-year period. Data from 290 American cities between 1986 and 2015 was analyzed as part of the study. Research by the University of Virginia in 2020 found that appropriately designed and maintained green space has the potential to reduce violent crime and gun violence, while making communities safer and keeping residents healthier. However, existing green space that is neglected can help crime take root. In 2019, researchers studying a community engagement program in Flint, Michigan, found that neighborhood improvement efforts that get local residents involved can be an effective violence prevention strategy. Community-engaged greening of vacant lots was associated with nearly a 40% reduction in assaults and total violent crime. A similar study focused on Youngstown, Ohio, was published in October 2022 that supported the earlier findings."	05/20/25 5:11 PM
230	As an individual		Please keep the Multnomah Arts center open. This community needs it !!!	05/20/25 5:12 PM
231	Susan Ferguson	As an individual	Mayor Wilson was resoundingly selected as Portland's mayor because he communicated a vision of recovery for our city. I support the mayor's compassionate vision to end unsheltered homelessness this year. There is nothing compassionate about leaving people to live on our streets. At the same time I am also wholeheartedly behind Mayor Wilson's support of the Portland Police Bureau. Chief Day and his team have done an outstanding job of reducing crime in Portland, albeit with a skeleton crew. PPB has much more to do to make citizens and visitors alike comfortable on our streets again. Criminal gangs know Portland has one of the lowest police to citizen ratios of cities our size, and they know they are less likely to get caught here. Good "business" decision on their part. Today the Wall Street Journal did a story about Big Pink going up for sale because tenants are moving out due to safety concerns. We have been losing businesses in Portland for years now. That translates into property tax losses and income tax losses which means the City will have less to spend on the services Portlanders care about. Wake up!!!! Without safe streets the doom loop will become a reality. By fully funding PPB you will be supporting the current businesses and future tax dollars which will in turn support our parks, provide for those in need, fill our potholes and bring back the Portland we love	05/20/25 5:12 PM
232	Elizabeth	As an individual	Please don't allow MAC to close. It's such an important institution in our community and how many people are able to access arts classes.	05/20/25 5:12 PM
233	Steph Klinkhammer	As an individual	The Multnomah Arts Center is a source of joy, community, and well being to me and so many others. MAC is one of the most beautiful and welcoming spaces I have been a part of. I take a tap class every Thursday, and it is my favorite time of my week. To close MAC would be to strip away a vibrant and thriving community center that many people depend on and have dedicated themselves to. Please consider keep MAC open. Portland needs spaces like this now more than ever!!!	05/20/25 5:13 PM
234	Peggy Alter	As an individual	As a single Senior and property owner I pay a lot in taxes, upkeep, and general living expenses. The Multnomah Arts Center is one of the few affordable experiences that still exist for me in this city. If the things we love close, I will be selling and moving to someplace better managed and more supportive of the people who are actually paying taxes. Let PBOT take the cut, I have participated in several committees and know first hand how much tax money is mismanaged and spent on an administrative heavy budget along with unnecessary pet projects like the block of 42nd St by Whole Foods Hollywood, to name one of many (very many)	05/20/25 5:13 PM

Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
235	As an individual		NO on Smith 4 and Kanal 2 – A very hard NO on a whopping \$5million for council lawyers, especially due to what seems to be the “sour grapes” background to this request. The need for this step is unproven, especially since it is already the prerogative of the city council to make decisions that are counter to recommendations from the city attorney if seven votes can be secured. Not being able to get at least seven votes in such circumstances does not justify spending \$5 million for a legislative counsel office. This idea also does not consider that potential conflicts between a legislative counsel and the city attorney seem likely to increase the likelihood of lawsuits against the city due to increasing rather than decreasing legal uncertainty. The outside legal counsel option in Kanal 2 is a more defensible approach, but a NO vote on this amendment is still recommended. As noted above, the need is still not proven, especially when budget challenges are already reducing the staffing level in the city attorney’s office.	05/20/25 5:13 PM
236	Cherri Gallison	As an individual	DO NOT CLOSE Multnomah Art Center (MAC)!!! It is vital to the heart of the SW community -- especially for our children, teens, and all the adults who learn and do art at the Center. Both my daughters did dance classes there from the time they were little until they left for college. Where else would they have been able to learn art and music skills?? They also both began their piano lessons at MAC. I have taken numerous adult art and movement classes and look forward to the various performances that are put on at the MAC. My husband and I and friends have gone to dances and paid events in the evening in the big auditorium. And I frequent the art gallery as it is intimate and always so interesting. This building and the activates that go on in it are a treasure and should be kept open for all to partake. It would be a huge mistake to close the MAC. It would be a gut punch to the SW Community, for sure. DO NOT CLOSE MAC! It has many, many many years left in it to continue to create thriving art, music, and movement opportunities in such a wonderful location.	05/20/25 5:15 PM
237	Imani Muhammad	On behalf of an organization	To the Mayor Wilson and City Council Members,□ My name is Imani Muhammad, and I am a Portland Native, founder of the non-profit Youth Organized and United to Help (Y.O.U.TH). I am writing this letter in response to Councilman Steve Novick who believes that cutting 2 million dollars from the budget would be best fit by eliminating two programs that I believe are addressing systematic racism and opportunities that typically never reach specific communities. Those communities are the people who WE serve at Y.O.U.TH. I will not spend time trying to convince you that I know more than you in the political realm, but what I will say is, cutting Community Music Center and Multnomah Arts Center is a decision that reflects disinvestment in youth and families, specifically in East County. While I hope that you all will make the right decision, a Councilman who even considers cutting these programs is completely out of touch with community, culture and the future of our young people. Please do your research. Please consider the following impact of our partnership with Community Music Center since 2022. We have served over 164 students to date. •Since 2022 Y.O.U.TH X CMC has partnered to provided school year individual music lessons for East County students. •Since 2022 Y.O.U.TH X CMC has partnered to provide all day summer camp experience for youth in East County. •For two years, 2023-2024 Summer camp numbers have doubled and increased in subject matters to include, financial literacy, health & wellness, and community building focused on music, beats and sounds, all due to the support of CMC. •CMC has invested financial support and equipment in making sure East County students receive quality and affordable music education and classes. •CMC has provided 90% to 100% off of cost for students to gain access to music lessons and classes. •□ If this program is cut: •City Council will show their disinvestment in East County youth and families with programs and partnerships that have PROVEN success and concrete deliverables. •Y.O.U.TH will have an immediate halt in current programming •Y.O.U.TH will lose the talent of experienced CMC X MACA staff instruction and skill building. •Y.O.U.TH will no longer offer private and group keyboard and piano lessons for students •Y.O.U.TH will no longer be able to provide summer enrichment camps for students and families in East County related to music, theatre and performing arts. •Y.O.U.TH will be in jeopardy of closing their enrichment music program during the school year and summer. •2025 Summer camp could be the last one if funding is cut	05/20/25 5:16 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
238	Kimberly Matulef	As an individual		Please don't shut down the CMC and MAC. These are so important for our community, and the summer camps at the MAC have been amazing and affordable for those who need to send their kids to camp in order to work.	05/20/25 5:16 PM
239		As an individual		Zimmerman needs to stop listening to WW instead of the Mayor and Administrator.	05/20/25 5:16 PM
240	Caroline Morr	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is what makes our community what it is. It has been a cultural safe place and artistic home to my neurodiverse children. They love it so much that I now also take adult classes at the MAC. It is the only a space close enough to us and it has a history that brings genuine talent and depth to each class and activity. I love seeing seniors in returning classes and it must remain open and just as it is. I won't be supporting a watered down version of what has been built at MAC.	05/20/25 5:17 PM
241	Annabelle Dolidon	As an individual		I have never left comments to anyone before but I just heard the city is planning to close the Multnomah Art Center and that broke my heART!!! I took many classes there and my 7 year old son is registered for a summer camp. The Center is the only place on the Westside with quality programs for adult such as printmaking, weaving, poetry and more. There is NOWHERE ELSE TO GO to get this type of high quality offering that brings the community together all year long. They lower prices for those in needs; they offer many options for children during the summer; they contribute greatly to the wide neighborhoods around; and they have equipment for the public that can't be found and used anywhere else. It would be a tremendous loss. PLEASE DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN. VOTE 'NO' on amendment #45 tomorrow!	05/20/25 5:17 PM
242	Luke Blodgett	As an individual		I am testifying on behalf of the Portland Community Music Center. My family and I have been fortunate enough to be involved with the CMC since 2018. Both of our daughters have learned Piano, Violin, Voice, and Cello through the CMC. The teachers and community at the CMC have been instrumental for instilling a love and appreciation of music in my daughters. Beyond that, the support of the CMC helped us keep our daughters studying music even as our family experienced bankruptcy in 2021. As someone who frequently books classes at the CMC it is also frustrating to see the City propose to shut down something which is heavily used. It is currently very difficult to book classes at CMC because the demand far exceeds the supply, and in fact the current building is much too small. I cannot understand why the city would choose to cut an extremely in demand and nearly maxed out service rather than looking for areas of waste in much larger programs. There are only two reasons we have chosen to stay in Portland as it completely falls apart as a city rather than moving to Clackamas or Clark County, and those are the schools our kids are in and the CMC. Removing one of the last valuable things this city offers to families is foolish in the extreme.	05/20/25 5:17 PM
243	Eulalia George	As an individual		Please don't close Multnomah Arts Center! Our children need this amazing resource for connection and creativity in our community. I have a 19mo and 7 yo both is classes there.	05/20/25 5:18 PM
244		As an individual		Please vote NO on Amendment 45! Don't close the Multnomah Art Center. The MAC is an important resource for me as a weaver and for the community as a place to gather, learn and support the arts.	05/20/25 5:18 PM
245	Nico Kenji	As an individual		I'm writing in response to the news that Counselor Steve Novick submitted amendment #45 to permanently close the Multnomah Arts Center. It is clear to me that Mr.Novick has never taken classes there, nor has any true understanding of the importance of the MAC and its impact on the surrounding community. If he had, there is no way he would have submitted such an ignorant amendment, that would only divide our community even more. The MAC has been a safe haven for both friends and family over the course of my life, a native Portlander. I've spent countless days, months, years there taking classes, meeting new friends, learning new skills. It's a rare space that offers so many interesting classes that are hard to find elsewhere, especially in Portland where the arts are so often overlooked. I implore the committee / other councilors to dismissed this submission, as it would greatly disadvantage all communities especially seniors who rely on the MAC as a meeting place to learn new skills and meet new people (my mother being one of them). Do the right thing. Portland needs more community, as we continue to rebuild a disjointed and struggling city. Thanks	05/20/25 5:18 PM
246	Kristine Xu	As an individual		The MAC is a vital part of the pdx community. It would be devastating if portland residents (and children!) did not have this resource in the future. I pay the portland arts tax every year and I am a big supporter of community art programs.	05/20/25 5:18 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
247	Dave spitzer	As an individual		Support our public safety services in the new budget	05/20/25 5:19 PM
248		As an individual		Please do not close the MAC!	05/20/25 5:20 PM
	Massoud Khaleghirad	As an individual		I am a parent whoe children attend regularly at the Multnomah Arts Center. It is their favorite place to take classes and watch plays. My wife also takes adult classes at the MAC. The MAC is one of kind and the only place accessible for our family. It must remain open and it must be supported.	05/20/25 5:21 PM
249					
250		As an individual		VOTE NO ON ADMENDMENT #45!!!	05/20/25 5:21 PM
251		As an individual		Do not take the arts center away from children	05/20/25 5:22 PM
		As an individual		Closing down the Multnomah Arts Center would be a huge mistake. At a time in the US where public services are being shuttered, and access to affordable programs is being revoked, institutions like the MAC are essential to help people build skills that can help enrich their lives.	05/20/25 5:23 PM
252				We need affordable arts instruction	
	Terra Blakley	As an individual		Please do not close multnomah art center! It is a vital part of our community and something my family relies on for affordable classes and camps. This would be a devastating hit to our local community!	05/20/25 5:23 PM
253	Sofija Olson	As an individual		Please do not defund the multnomah arts center. As a politician that we have voted in to protect our rights, and keep our best interest in heart- this decision would undermine this value and go against the best interest of the city of Portland and its many generations of individuals that benefit from this establishment. This place is a place that brings community together, benefits the wellbeing and mental health of many, and feeds the lives and livelihoods of many Portlanders. I urge you to take this matter seriously, and to make the decision that best serves Portland. Please do not defund the Multnomah Arts Center! I was dearly looking forward to and relying on taking classes here to enrich my creative life as a local Portland business owner and metalsmith. I hoped to sign my niece up for classes that would enrich and deeply impact her life, autonomy and confidence around creating her own art. Please, if you defund this crucial community space this future will be forever changed for the worse.	05/20/25 5:24 PM
254					
	Rebecca Chevrel	As an individual		Multnomah Arts Center is a vital and important resource in our community. It would be foolish and devastating to deprive our communities of their programming.	05/20/25 5:26 PM
255					
	Soraya Go	As an individual		The Multnomah Art Center has been my one constant. As a lifelong citizen of Multnomah county, it has lead me to incredible friends, to new experiences I never thought I'd have, and an insight on how the arts build community and connect people of all ages. The creativity and movement it houses serves a purpose that nurtures the health of every person who walks through the door, brain and body. As a rainy state, it's an indoor sanctuary that keeps people moving through the dark months, and allows people the bravery of showcasing what they've learned when spring comes with all their loved ones. It's a place to learn, express, recover, and build friendships and identity. As a registered nurse, I can't emphasize enough how the Multnomah Art Center supports mental and physical well being through the social connections and the sense of community is creates. This is evidence based practice. This city needs an expansion of community centers, not an erasure of them, and I write in supplication that you consider how many lives you will be altering for the worse if you decide to take away a center that is the source of friendship and activity for many. Multnomah Art Center keeps Portland vibrant and lively and does its job in taking care of her people, I implore you to do the same.	05/20/25 5:27 PM
256					
	Gabe C	As an individual		The current delayed response times for emergency services are a risk to the public. We must increase funding to ensure safety and livability.	05/20/25 5:27 PM
257					
	Laurie Garber	As an individual		I support Mayor Wilson's proposed budget increase for police and fire services. These are tight financial times, but the increases are necessary for public safety.	05/20/25 5:27 PM
258					
	Karen Story	As an individual		MAC (Multnomah Arts Center) is THE HEART of Multnomah Village and much of SW Portland! PLEASE do not close this vital center. From preschoolers to seniors, it serves a wide array of us, and keeps un connected ot eachother. It houses a senior center, a theater/stage/event space, numerous art spaces, used for lessons in music, arts, exercise, and theater, and much more. We CANNOT LOSE this vital community hub.	05/20/25 5:28 PM
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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Aaron Kirk Douglas	As an individual		Public Testimony – Portland City Council Submitted by a Resident of District 2 – Clinton Neighborhood Re: Public Safety, Police Staffing, and Homelessness Dear Mayor and Members of the Portland City Council, My name is Aaron Kirk Douglas and I live in District 2, in the Clinton neighborhood—right near the Clinton Triangle. I’m writing today as a native Oregonian and 30+ year Portland resident who’s concerned, frustrated, and frankly heartbroken by what I see happening across our city. Let me start by stating the obvious: Portland has far fewer police officers per capita than any city of comparable size in the United States. It’s time we stop pretending this is sustainable. By most national standards, we should have at least 1,200 officers—bare minimum—and we need more than that if we’re going to have any hope of restoring public safety. If you’ve spent even five minutes on the Nextdoor app. or talked to your neighbors—you’ve heard it all: no police response when people’s property is vandalized, when cars are broken into, or when businesses are robbed. Residents feel abandoned. People are scared, and they don’t feel heard. It feels like some of you on this Council live in a version of Portland where it’s all green parks, public murals, and happy community picnics. I wish that were true. But step outside the progressive brochures and look around—especially in East Portland, Old Town, and Chinatown. People are wandering shoeless, wrapped in filthy blankets, clearly under the influence of hard drugs, screaming at the sky. This is not normal. It’s not compassionate to let people deteriorate like this in full public view. I want to acknowledge one bright spot: our neighborhood is part of the Clinton Good Neighbor Agreement, and our local streets are cleaner than they were before the sanctioned homeless camp arrived. That agreement matters. Structure matters. But when I travel to other parts of the city, I’m horrified by what I see. And as someone who relies on public transit—because I don’t own a car—I’ll be honest: transit is terrifying. If I weren’t a middle-aged man who lifts weights a few times a week, I might never ride the bus—or even feel safe walking down my own street. If we are serious about bringing businesses and residents back downtown—and revitalizing the city we all love—then we must make public safety the top priority for the next two years. That means more police. More mental health response. More visible consequences for crime. And yes—more help for people living on the streets, because the current situation is failing them too. ~~Thank you for your time. Please take these concerns to heart—not just as policy—but as a call to protect the people of Portland~~	05/20/25 5:29 PM
Edmund Guzman	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center has been an accessible way for me to grow and learn skills I never thought would be available for me to develop in my lifetime.	05/20/25 5:29 PM
Kat Mahoney	As an individual		Testimony in Support of Councilor Avalos’ Amendment to the Portland Police Budget, the Prioritization of Housing Over Shelter, Support for Councilor Smith’s Call for Clarity on Shelter Costs, the Funding of Third Spaces like Parks, and Reallocation of Prosper Portland’s General Fund Grant	05/20/25 5:30 PM
Bryce	As an individual		Please do not close the MAC! My girlfriend and her friends have been taking classes there for the past year and a half and it's made such a huge impact on her daily life. She's made a ton of friends, found community, and has a place to go to connect with others in a time where we find ourselves increasingly isolated. I myself do not participate in any classes at the center but see how much joy it not only brings here but those who she participates with. It'd be devastating to see it close. Please consider keeping it open as there aren't that many community places for people to gather.	05/20/25 5:30 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
264	Karen L. Solomon	As an individual		Dear City Council Members, Please vote NO on Amendment #45. I live in Multnomah Village and the Multnomah Arts Center (MAC) is the lynchpin of our neighborhood. The Center provides high quality art class at reasonable prices that are invaluable to the community. Just about everyone I know has had children who have participated in MAC classes. The MAC also has a beautiful gallery that I always bring out of town guests to. And I have gone to so many wonderful events there where we have bought pottery and hand carved wooden items. In addition, many clubs meet in rooms at the MAC. The MAC also provides Arts in the Park which has been a huge success. Please do not close this Portland gem! It is one of the best things about Portland. Best, Karen Solomon	05/20/25 5:31 PM
265	Jennifer Schloming	On behalf of an organization	Frog Ferry	Even though you have received letters of Frog Ferry support throughout these last few months, the attached signature sheets were collected in the past week, and are from Green Anchors and two St Johns' coffee shops. Folks on the peninsula are eager for better, cleaner, faster transportation that comes with a truly outsized impact on carbon reduction, and can be in service in 3 years. We're at a crossroads in Portland where visible change has to happen. An electric ferry that draws down the huge freeway mess of the daily commute, is just that. Downtown needs foot traffic as badly as St Johns--Embarking and debarking, you are either on a bike, or on your feet to access a connector mode. The ferry is a sure-fire means of getting folks moving among our small businesses. As a non-profit, Frog Ferry needs the Council to agree to a Memorandum of Understanding that will allow us to compete for philanthropic as well as public funding. Our request of PCEF will be for a total of \$10M, accessed in yearly increments until the completed three year build is ready for service. Thank you for recognizing that activating the Willamette is the triple threat answer to the City's climate commitments, to small business revitalization, and to gaining State funds to leverage a fantastic good for Portlanders.	05/20/25 5:31 PM
266	Cory Hoppmann	As an individual		I encourage you all to prioritize livability. Prioritizing drug addicts over families will continue the decline of this city. We all voted for a mayor who promised to prioritize restoring our cities vibrancy by holding addicts and chronic homeless accountable by setting up shelters, and requiring those people to get off the streets. Letting the people rot on the street and encouraging them to be taken advantage of by traffickers and fentanyl cartels is not compassionate. It's cruel. By even mentioning cutting funding for Portland Street Response and Police, you're further eroding trust in the community and further damaging the cities reputation and tourism. Permitting is still going to slow. Trust the design professionals in the community and get out of people's way. Reduce the permitting office and truly, truly streamline the processes by reducing administrative burden and perpetual meetings. Portland Water Bureau's double Bureau of water and sewer plan reviews are a huge obstacle. Thank you for your time.	05/20/25 5:31 PM
267		As an individual		Vote no on amendment 45. Don't close the Multnomah Arts Center, my children love the classes they take there. We play at that park and attend events there. The west side of Portland is already incredibly underserved by Portland parks and rec the loss of these areas programs would be devastating to our community.	05/20/25 5:32 PM
268	Emily shults	As an individual		Please do not close the Mac! The Mac has been incredibly important to our family and is an absolutely vital and wonderful community resource. Every member of our family has taken multiple classes over there and the space is a treasure. The Mac is part of what makes portland great.	05/20/25 5:32 PM
269	Kristen Wolden	As an individual		Please don't close Multnomah arts center. This center is a valuable contributor to the community and supports many children and adults as well as serves as a venue for schools and summer classes for kids. Closing this institution would be a mistake and would take away a valuable resource to the communiti, especially kids and families who don't have other access to affordable arts programs especially as the public school system is also cutting arts funding.	05/20/25 5:33 PM
270	Nedra	As an individual		Do not close MAC! The Multnomah Arts Center is a vital part of our community both near and far. What they bring to persons of all ages, backgrounds, classes; be it the arts, classes, non profit support or affordable child care through summer camps, would be a tragedy to loose for far too many members of our community. Please, do not let us loose one of the gems that Pirtland has to offer it's community members.	05/20/25 5:34 PM
271	Jessica	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah arts center! It is a special spot in our neighborhood. I don't understand why the city would opt to take away such beautiful and positive spaces. That's not what we vote for.	05/20/25 5:34 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
272	Jean Ellero	As an individual		We are deeply concerned about the proposed budget cut to the Multnomah Arts Center. Our family has taken music, dance, theatre, and writing classes at the center, as well as participated in summer camps and community events at the MAC. This facility and staff have been a wonderful resource for building community, developing in the arts, and becoming better human beings. We have supported the arts tax because we appreciate and value the arts. It is alarming that these budget cuts could happen so quickly without the general public knowing about this proposed decision, and having the chance to show how much the community arts programs mean to us. I would find it difficult to support future arts taxes if our beloved MAC is closed. Please find a way to keep the MAC open and let the taxpayers enjoy this excellent resource. Thank you.	05/20/25 5:36 PM
273	Jay Derderian	As an individual		The Community Music Center is a VITAL institution in Portland Parks and Recreation. Without it, countless children will not have affordable access to a musical education -- something that's being cut so deeply in high schools and colleges. While so many schools prioritize sports, so few prioritize the arts, and seem to make an effort to remove anything arts related if it means a bigger budget for a new stadium. As a former employee of the Community Music Center, I can attest from first hand experience the change and positive impact CMC has on the community. As mentioned before, countless children would be deprived of a musical education in a culture that says it values the arts while simultaneously de-funding and dismantling it. I witness hundreds of kids come out smarter, stronger, and more confident. This is a chance for the city to put it's money where it's mouth is and show where its true priorities are. Will this be the council that takes away a kids last chance at a musical education? Is that the legacy you want to leave behind? We can deflect and say, "well its just a budget issue" but the thing is, a budget is a *moral* document. It is a reflection of the priorities of the people who make it. Yes, sometimes we have to make hard choices, but more often than not if we really examine our circumstances, particularly in a county like Multnomah county that has some of the HIGHEST tax rates in the state, then I think we may find that this isn't so much a revenue issue as it is an allocation and prioritization issue. Do the right thing. Keep CMC.	05/20/25 5:37 PM
274	Roberta Michaels	As an individual		I have taken dozens of classes at MAC and am very upset this amazing facility is being discussed for closure. It serves the community in so many ways. Do not close the Multnomah Art Center.	05/20/25 5:38 PM
275	Elise Saporta	As an individual		Please vote to keep the Multnomah Arts Center funded and open! This center allows our kids to take lessons that enrich them and give them an appreciation for art and learning. Vote to keep culture and art available and accessible.	05/20/25 5:39 PM
276	Suzanne Gibson	On behalf of an organization	SW Portland Community Band	Don't close MAC! As president of the SW Portland Community Band, a non-profit organization that supports the Ida B Wells High School Band, I urge you to not close MAC. We are 50 members from the local community, and we perform twice a year at the Multnomah Arts Center. We fill the main auditorium to CAPACITY and proceeds from our concerts support new musical instruments and equipment for the Wells High School band program. If MAC closes it will negatively impact the students in the band program at Wells High School. Don't close MAC!	05/20/25 5:40 PM
277	Tiffany Harrold	As an individual		The proposal to shut down the Multnomah Arts Center in September cannot be allowed to proceed. The MAC provides vital experiences and opportunities for children and adults alike to engage with art. Their free summer programs in the parks were so important to my family when I was growing up and are the reason I have such a strong love for the arts as an adult. Shutting down MAC will have lifelong rippling effects in our city and the children living here.	05/20/25 5:41 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
278	Thia Pickering	As an individual		I was deeply disturbed and heartbroken to hear that there was a submitted amendment to close Multnomah Art Center. I have lived in Multnomah Village for over nine years and have consistently relied on MAC to continue working and growing as an artist. Having been recently widowed, MAC provides me a very much needed community of creative individuals. It would be a travesty to lose access to this valuable place - so, so many wonderful, creative people use MAC and it would be a devastating loss not only for me personally, but for all of the wonderful artists and creative individuals who take classes there - to me, it's the 'heart' of Multnomah Village and our surrounding neighborhoods. Our culture is what keeps us human and to suffer the loss of a cultural meeting place would be yet more destruction of what so many of us find valuable in life. Please do not vote to close MAC, I urge you with all my heart.	05/20/25 5:42 PM
279	Jamin London Tinsel	As an individual		We have been involved in Community Music Center for several years. It is an essential part of our parks and Rec system. My daughter and I both sing in the choirs. My kids have had lessons there. CMC is vital to this community and should not be even considered as something that might be cut. Do not cut this program!	05/20/25 5:42 PM
280	Kathleen L Messmer	As an individual		I live in Washington County and have taken classes at the Multnomah Arts Center over the years and paid extra for out of district. This center serves the region, not just the city of Portland! Also, I am a member of the Portland Handweavers Guild and we pay to have our monthly meetings there as well as to store our library. Also, this is the only public facility which houses a dedicated weaving studio , offering classes to adults and youth. Classes are always full, so they must bring in a decent amount of money to support the facility. Closing the facility seems like a drastic measure, especially after they invested in seismic upgrades. Perhaps they could raise prices for rentals, classes, etc.... As a former school counselor I have witnessed how important the arts have been to so many children, not just to develop their creativity, but for their emotional, and social growth. The arts are important! And so many schools have had to phase out the arts because of budgets. Please don't close down MAC!	05/20/25 5:43 PM
281	Kimberly Bernick	As an individual		Don't close the MAC! This is an invaluable resource for children and families across Portland, and is a huge economical advantage for the nearby businesses as families shop while their children participate in art and music. Please don't let a short sighted attempt to cut budgets destroy this huge part of our community.	05/20/25 5:44 PM
282	Katie Hoffman	As an individual		Please keep the MAC and CMC open. They provide access to arts and music that is often unavailable outside their programs other than expensive private organizations. MAC has also received significant community investments to the building and it should be utilized fully now that those have been done. Looking for opportunities to gain rental income from programs that need space would be much preferred to closing the MAC.	05/20/25 5:44 PM
283	Zahid Arab	On behalf of an organization	Uber Technologies, Inc.	Testimony on Proposed Per Trip Rideshare Fee Increase	05/20/25 5:44 PM
284	Kelly Egan	As an individual		Closing the Multnomah Arts Center would be a travesty. It is the beating heart of our neighborhood and its programs have enriched hundreds of thousands of Portlanders over many years. Why are the arts always targeted first in budget discussions? Who's proposing to close athletic facilities or parks? The arts involve all other subjects: science, math, history, languages, etc. and our citizens rely on places like the MAC for their wellbeing. Please vote NO on amendment #45.	05/20/25 5:45 PM
285	Lynn Mendoza-Khan	On behalf of an organization	The Latinx Choral Project	Three Months ago, I was awarded my first grant from Parks and Recreation to hold regular choir rehearsals at the Community Music Center. I started the Latinx Choral Project Community Choir in March 2025, and two weeks into rehearsals, I signed over 50 Latino/a/x/e singers. We've had four performances; our fifth is our spring concert, a month away, on June 14th. Latino/a/x/e make up less than 8% of choral singers in the United States. Our music and culture are largely left out of the choral canon. I have provided my local community with a place to feel seen and valued, feel safe, and engage in a healthy singing activity at no charge because I have a place to hold rehearsals. We need the Community Music Center to provide space for the performing arts. Removing the facility's ability to meet our needs will have devastating results that will ripple for a long time. Please do not follow through with Councilor Steve Novick's plan to shut this down. Please vote to keep the Community Music Center so that we will have something beautiful and joyful to look forward to. You can not wax poetic about the value of the arts while defunding them. We want to see people as a whole and keep the arts thriving in our communities. We need a place like this to gather and make music together. I'm attaching a picture of the choir in rehearsal at the Community Music Center.	05/20/25 5:45 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
286		As an individual		Hello! I'm writing as a Portland city citizen as well as a parent of two children who have been enjoying many music classes at the Community Music Center. This is deverstating news that the city is trying to shut this wonderful community down. The CMC and the talented and wonderful teachers have provided the Portland community, young and old, so many years of heart filled music lessons, recitals and education. Also the cost of the lessons at the CMC are a fraction of other music providers around town. Along with the Parks and Rec sliding scale discount, the CMC has made it possible for the people of all ages and colors the quality music, unless otherwise this quality might not be available for us all. Also with the ongoing school budget cut, there is no opportunity for the children to do the music with other kids at school. The CMC provides a place to enjoy music with other kids, wether you are musically talented or not so much. I simply don't understand why you have decided that this is the place the Portland community could exist without. You'll be taking so much joy out of our daily/weekly lives. Please don't shut it down.	05/20/25 5:45 PM
287	Hilary Miller	As an individual		Please don't close the Multnomah Arts Center!	05/20/25 5:45 PM
288	Jeremy Greenberg	As an individual		We love the MAC in our family, and would be so sad for it to close. We are expecting our first child in a few months and it was so excited to be able to have the MAC as a resource for our family. Please don't close it!	05/20/25 5:46 PM
289	Marisa Borrevik	As an individual		Don't shut down the CMC and MAC. This is a vital part of our community and I strongly oppose shutting down the MAC and CMC.	05/20/25 5:46 PM
290	Bonni Goldberg	As an individual		Please do not shut down MAC in Multnomah Village! it is not only vital to our immediate neighborhood but it is utilized y multiple organizations to support u deserved and vulnerable community members.	05/20/25 5:47 PM
291		As an individual		I am writing to support the Multnomah Arts Center. For nearly 35 years, my family has participated in classes and programs offered by the Center. It is not only an integral part of the Multnomah village community - it is a citywide resource that has contributed countless opportunities for children, seniors, nonprofits, and community members. I will also add that it is a safe space in many ways - safe parking, safe neighborhood - I drive there from my (unsafe) neighborhood to take advantage of this resource and so do many, many, other citizens of Portland. I would also hate to see another building (one that has received funds for upgrades only recently) become an empty eyesore. Closure of MAC would be a crushing loss for Portland.	05/20/25 5:48 PM
292	Hester Carr	As an individual		Please please please vote NO on amendment #45 Permanently closing the Multnomah art center. I have taken MANY art classes there over the years as have my children-where I learned, met people, shared stories and broadened my horizons. I attend events and visit the art gallery. The MAC is the HEART of Multnomah village. It is a place of joy, creativity and adds to the vibrancy of a community that would suffer greatly were it to close. Please find a way to save it!	05/20/25 5:48 PM
293	Tiffany Conklin	On behalf of an organization	Portland Street Art Alliance	On behalf of the Portland Street Art Alliance, we write today to strongly urge your support for Vibrant Communities, with specific and sustained investment in Arts and Culture funding across Portland. PSAA has spent the past 13 years advocating for and actively facilitating public art throughout the city, empowering local artists, enriching neighborhoods, and fostering civic pride through creative expression in shared spaces. Our work has proven again and again that art is not a luxury, it is infrastructure for a healthy, equitable, and thriving city. Murals offer creative problem solving, at low cost. Now, more than ever, Portland needs visible, accessible, and inclusive art to help rebuild community trust, support youth engagement, activate our streets, and inspire collective healing. Public art and cultural programming directly contribute to economic recovery, social cohesion, and a sense of belonging, especially in communities historically excluded from traditional art institutions.	05/20/25 5:49 PM
294	Isaac Miller	As an individual		Please don't close mac. Please support the arts . It's why I pay my arts tax	05/20/25 5:49 PM
295	Adam Graves	As an individual		Don't close MAC! As a Board member of the SW Portland Community Band and also a performer in the band, a non-profit organization that supports the Ida B Wells High School Band, I urge you to not close MAC. We are 50 members from the local community, and we perform twice a year at the Multnomah Arts Center. We fill the main auditorium to CAPACITY and proceeds from our concerts support new musical instruments and equipment for the Wells High School band program. If MAC closes it will negatively impact the students in the band program at Wells High School. Don't close MAC!	05/20/25 5:52 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
296	Julie Caron	As an individual		I just heard that the city council is voting to close down the Multnomah Art Center. I am very distressed by this. Many low income family and families across the Portland metropolitan area use the center. They have offered after school programs and summer camps for many years that are high quality. The cost is much lower than the private summer camps and summer camps. This allows children from all walks of life to experience the arts, which includes theater, music, dance, and fine art. I have been using the center since my kids were 2 years old (oldest child is now 31), starting with mommy and me classes and then other art classes. Also, there are many classes that seniors take that are affordable and provides companionship for often lonely individuals. For the past two years , when I retired, I have been taking photography classes there, which is the highlight of my week and provides a sense of community. Voting to close the center will harm many Portlanders. Please vote no!	05/20/25 5:52 PM
297		On behalf of an organization	Community Music Center	Please do not shut down Multnomah Arts Center or The Community Music Center. I have two children who have special needs, and without the services offered at both institutions, they wouldn't have access to music or art classes, or lessons.	05/20/25 5:52 PM
298		As an individual		Multnomah Arts Club is an important part of our community. Please do not take this from our children and families.	05/20/25 5:52 PM
299	Jason Franklin	As an individual		Portland needs more and better trained public safety officers and police. Now is not the time to pull back from the basics that local government should be providing.	05/20/25 5:53 PM
300		As an individual		Please don't shut down the MAC... this is one piece of wholesome community building location that our neighborhood desperately utilizes to keep our artists, children and elderly in community. Something we need more than ever. Our children need this place as a safe and welcoming space to keep them grounded and joyful during such a tumultuous season of life right now.	05/20/25 5:54 PM
301	Martha McCall	As an individual		I am astounded that there is a proposal to close the Multnomah Arts Center. (It is Amendment #45, proposed by Steve Novick. The MAC is a linchpin of the community. Its classes in everything from weaving to tap dancing are always full. The performance center hosts an abundance of community choirs, orchestras, dance recitals and plays. The Gallery is a revolving showcase for local artists who compete for showings. The facilities for jewelry-making, ceramics, spinning and weaving, etching and dance are unmatched in the community. Each day the facility buzzes with activity and joy. Through its scholarships and parks-backed funding, the MAC offers art exposure to low-income families in the wider area. Hundreds of families attend the monthly Arts for All Events at the MAC, enroll in youth and family classes and play in the outdoor structures. Amendment #45 states "the state of the assets" as a reason for closure. The MAC is well-maintained. The auditorium and art gallery have been recently renovated and the MAC Advisory Board raises money for further building improvements through its semi-annual arts and crafts shows. I urge you to drop this amendment. Keep the MAC open!	05/20/25 5:55 PM
302	Ty Brubaker	As an individual		Please do not close the MAC or CMC	05/20/25 5:56 PM
303	Kim McCarty	As an individual		Honorable Mayor Wilson and City Council, We must fully fund housing and homelessness prevention programs if we believe in public safety. Housing is the foundation of a safe and healthy community. Improving public safety does not mean that we need to increase funding for the police. Please reconsider your choices around making Portlander's safe. Sincerely, Kim McCarty	05/20/25 5:58 PM
304	Molly Mertens	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is a critical part of the SW Portland Community and should not be closed. Access to arts for all community members is a critical part of a vibrant community that brings together people of diverse backgrounds - generations, nationalities, different levels of ability, etc. Art is a great connector and should be invested in our city. I took my first drawing class at the Multnomah Art Center in 1996 (drawing with the the left side of the brain) and more recently when I returned to SW Portland as an adult took a Intro to Acrylic Painting in 2019. Both were wonderful, connecting experiences.	05/20/25 5:58 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
305	Andy Nicolais	As an individual		I would like to comment regarding budget amendment 45 and the possible closure of the Multnomah arts center or MAC. First and foremost I urge city council to vote no and keep MAC open. The arts are not expendable. they are what make us uniquely human, they bring communities together. My children and I have all benefitted greatly from taking classes at the MAC. I am writing this sitting in the hall at the MAC while one of my children are in theatre rehearsal. The hall is filled with music from other classes there are artists of all ages in the studios working. The MAC makes art accessible for everyone, everyone interested in creating, performing or just enjoying. My kids have made friends here. I have made friends here. As an artist I have been able to network with other artists here. This is such an important place and is such to so many Portlanders. Please don't vote against art, against community.	05/20/25 5:58 PM
306	AUBRI QIAN	As an individual		I strongly believe that budget notes - like the ones that Councilor Clark submitted (like amendments 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10), should not be budget notes, but should be submitted as regular council agenda items. It is within the powers of city council to request the Mayor and City Manager to provide these reports, but these shouldn't be tied to budget passage. Other cities use regular agenda and subcommittee items to request reports on policy ideas from staff. These ideas are good and deserve a proper discussion, and should be requested outside of the budget amendment process.	05/20/25 5:58 PM
307	Jessica Eiring	As an individual		Please don't close Multnomah Arts Center!	05/20/25 6:00 PM
308	Jean Gray	As an individual		I was just made aware of the council member Novick's proposal to close the multnomah arts center (MAC) and I'm writing on behalf of the MAC and all the community members that it benefits. Closing the MAC would be detrimental to the community. Children, families, adults, and senior citizens all rely on the MAC for accessible quality programming. If the MAC were to close it would leave a huge gap in the Portland area for individuals to access arts education. Closing the MAC would cause middle to low income people with NO access to arts, drama, music, and other essential fine arts opportunities.	05/20/25 6:00 PM
309	Rekha	As an individual		I was devastated to learn that Multnomah Arts Center might close. It is such a special community environment that brings people together of so many ages, backgrounds, and experiences. Closing it would be a detriment to the city and would have us lose yet another 'third space' where families can convene.	05/20/25 6:00 PM
310	Hannah	As an individual		Please do not close the MAC! Our family lives in the community and our children are continuously enrolled in programs at this location. Having these programs keeps our community vibrant, prosperous and gives a shared sense of togetherness in an otherwise unprecedented time. I can't imagine this being closed, as our preschool uses this as an event space and every time we're there the building is full of people partaking in the richness of these programs.	05/20/25 6:01 PM
311	Christopher Pierce	As an individual		The MAC is the sole location that my Mother-In-Law exercise & socializes. She is 85 years old & studies seated yoga classes at the MAC with her instructor Peggy. Without the MAC, she would probably never leave the house. I love supporting the MAC through purchase s at their art sales. I retire this year & way to start attending art classes there. Please don't rob. Me of this opportunity by closing the MAC.	05/20/25 6:01 PM
312	Lauryn Harriman	As an individual		Please do not shut down the MAC. It is a vibrant and vital part of the Southwest community and an important community center for Portland in general. It is a place where children and adults enjoy the therapeutic resource that is art. Please do not shut down art. My whole family has enjoyed classes and camps there.	05/20/25 6:01 PM
313	Logan Campbell	On behalf of an organization	Multnomah Arts Center	The multnomah arts center is a vital community hub for so so many people throughout the city. It is the only organization that has many youth and adult programs within the city. I have been attending classes at this center for many years along with so many other groups of people who I see weekly. The senior center is very important to the community and provides a hub for the community throughout Portland. Most of the classes at this school get filled up immediately, which I believe is testament to the fact that people rely on this community resource for so many reasons and in so many ways	05/20/25 6:01 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
314	Kaitlyn Elting	As an individual		My name is Kaitlyn. I have lived in the Portland area most of my life from age 7 forward and I am a constituent in District 4. I'm writing to urge you to oppose the proposed changes to Prosper Portland's budget and funding brought forward by Councilors Green and Dunphy. This amendment would severely limit Prosper Portland's ability to deliver programs that our communities—especially those historically excluded from economic opportunity—urgently need. As a new professional in Portland's film industry, this issue is personal to me. It took the Portland Film Office more than a decade to secure ongoing General Fund support, and to see that eliminated and replaced with one-time funding would be a major step backward. That funding supports the Portland Events and Film Office—critical infrastructure for the local creative economy. I grew up in Portland and love this city deeply. It breaks my heart to think that I may have to move to Atlanta or another major film hub just to sustain my career. There has been so much thoughtful, strategic work to prioritize and incentivize production companies to bring their work to Portland—and this funding cut threatens to undo that progress. Prosper Portland plays a vital role in making this kind of economic development possible, and I urge you to retain their funding through a General Fund allocation so they can continue their valuable work in building a stronger, more inclusive local economy. Please don't let short-term political decisions undermine the long-term future of our city and its creative workforce.	05/20/25 6:02 PM
315	Randy Tran	On behalf of an organization	South west Portland community band	Don't close MAC! As a member of the SW Portland Community Band, a non-profit organization that supports the Ida B Wells High School Band, I urge you to not close MAC. We are 50 members from the local community, and we perform twice a year at the Multnomah Arts Center. We fill the main auditorium to CAPACITY and proceeds from our concerts support new musical instruments and equipment for the Wells High School band program. If MAC closes it will negatively impact the students in the band program at Wells High School. Don't close MAC!	05/20/25 6:03 PM
316	Kele Goodwin	As an individual		This is a terrible idea. The multnomah arts center is a Portland institution that serves a multitude of communities and is vital to what makes this place special: community and creativity.	05/20/25 6:04 PM
317	Megan Tolliver	As an individual		I do NOT support closure of the Multnomah Arts Center in Multnomah Village. This is essential in our small community.	05/20/25 6:05 PM
318	Sara Salvi	As an individual		proposed closure of Multnomah Arts Center	05/20/25 6:06 PM
319	Aliyah Helling	As an individual		Please don't close MAC! As a member of the SW Portland Community Band, a non-profit organization that supports the Ida B Wells High School Band, I urge you to not close MAC. We are 50 members from the local community, and we perform twice a year at the Multnomah Arts Center. We fill the main auditorium to CAPACITY and proceeds from our concerts support new musical instruments and equipment for the Wells High School band program. If MAC closes it will negatively impact the students in the band program at Wells High School. I love getting to rehearse with this group, and our performances at MAC are vital to the band and our fundraising efforts for the high school band program. Closing the MAC will hurt our community!	05/20/25 6:07 PM
320	Carrie C McGraw	As an individual		Please continue to fund Multnomah Arts Center which has been available to all ages of the Portland Community for years. Upon retirement my husband and I took an incredible full year art class taught by a very experienced artist and teacher. The class became a close community that learned together with enthusiasm and sharing. We met weekly and both of us considered it one of the best learning experiences in our lives. I continue to grow my skills in drawing and painting and together we have a common experience and vocabulary to share in that area. We followed up with another class the following year. This kind of rich artist opportunity is the kind of thing that sets Portland apart. The staff, experience, and space is well suited to art and dance. They have a strong experience base to run the programs and classes well. Please don't take it away from so many Portlanders who can experience it for the coming years. It would be a terrible loss to our city. If it goes away it will never come back and that's a shame. PLEASE Support Multnomah Arts Center.	05/20/25 6:07 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
321	Jeff Schuh	As an individual		I just was forwarded notice that there is an amendment to close the Multnomah Arts Center. Portland is well practiced at mismanagement, and ill-conceived plans, but this is one of the most inane. I had for years participated in the Ceramics Studio. It was a great community, and that's what you should learn what to focus on, things that build community. Last I saw, you pretended to be non-MAGA, but sometimes just as tone-deaf with respect to neighborhood concerns. Prove me wrong. DON'T close MAC!	05/20/25 6:08 PM
322	Margaret(Harley)Porte	As an individual		As someone who lives in Multnomah Village, and someone who is a parent, I am angry and heartbroken that MAC is under fire. MAC provides arts to this beautiful community. It doesn't matter if a family can't afford to pay full price, they always found a way to make it so our children and community could participate in the arts. If MAC closes, it would be devastating and detrimental to our community. We need art. We need an escape from what's going on in this world. How could you take this beautiful community center away from our children? Please, take time to rethink your actions. Multnomah Arts Center is the heart of Multnomah Village. Thank you.	05/20/25 6:08 PM
323	Joe Colistro	On behalf of an organization	Indes Ferox Gladio	I am writing regarding amendment #45. I am president of Indes Ferox Gladio, a historical martial arts school that trains at the Multnomah Arts Center. We have been at the MAC for over 8 years now, and our predecessor school was there at least that long. Our membership is currently roughly 80 members, and we have experienced massive growth in the past few years. Via our training at the MAC we have engaged in tons of community outreach and have anchored ourselves in the community. Uprooting us from the MAC would be disastrous and possibly spell doom for our entire organization. I am happy to testify to this. I am hurt and saddened that the representative from my district, district 3, has proposed this amendment. Please do not take from us what we have worked so long to create. Our club is home to several of the top fencers in the nation, and unhousing us would do significant damage to our ability to train top level competitors. Our website can be found at www.indesferoxgladio.com	05/20/25 6:09 PM
324	John M. Volkman	As an individual		Please don't defund the Multnomah Arts Center. The classes I take there are really quite unique and, I think, irreplaceable. It is a real treasure.	05/20/25 6:10 PM
325	Will Fuller	As an individual		Vote NO on Amendment 45. Don't close MAC, a historic building and vital community asset, to save only \$2 million at most (including Community Music Center). The rationale of deferred maintenance is a weak one. The issue isn't a building: it's closing down a number of community programs that serve thousands of residents in unique ways, with no alternatives to house them elsewhere at potentially lower cost with less deferred maintenance. The MAC is a vital center of the Multnomah community, but also of the many people who come from all parts of the city to enrich their lives in ways not available anywhere else in such an energizing way.	05/20/25 6:11 PM
326	Rebecca C	As an individual		I am writing to express my deep concern about the proposed closure of the Multnomah Arts Center]. This center plays a vital role in our community by offering arts education, hosting cultural events, and supporting local artists. Our family has been taking classes at the MAC for years. The staff there are outstanding - highly dedicated to nurturing creativity, connection, and community. Closing the center would be a significant loss to residents of all ages and backgrounds. I strongly urge you to reconsider and explore alternative solutions that would allow the art center to remain open and continue to serve our community.	05/20/25 6:12 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
327	Brianna Tarnower	As an individual		Steve Novick's budget amendment #45 proposing to permanently close the Multnomah Arts Center is one of the most shortsighted, ill-advised, and badly-conceived budget amendments that one could imagine. MAC is *the* most important city resource for my family these past few years. My son - the next Lin Manuel Miranda thanks to his amazing instructor Mr. Yo - takes weekly private music lessons there for years. The summer camps have been invaluable for me as a single parent, and a source of inspiration and joy for my kiddo, in the four years since we started coming to MAC. Because of MAC, I hope to move to Multnomah Village in the coming years. Because of MAC, we discovered and now participate in activities at Southwest Community Center including TeenForce programming. Because of MAC, I learned metalworking and encaustics, my son learned visual art and stagecraft, now attends Da Vinci Arts Middle School, and wants to grow up to be a digital illustrator and creator. Because of MAC, we get to visit an art gallery monthly with an amazing rotating exhibition of local fine artists. Because of MAC, I was able to sell my ceramic wares in a spring market a few years ago. Because of MAC, we have found likeminded friends and community and other low- to middle-income folk who appreciate the accessibility of world class arts courses at reasonable costs. And of course, because of MAC, we visit Multnomah Village businesses regularly, who will suffer with the closure of this vital center in the neighborhood. From the incredibly talented and knowledgeable teachers to the very real art community created by MAC, there is literally nothing else like it in Portland, or beyond possibly to the entire West Coast, maybe even the entire country. It should serve as a model for community arts education across the country, not be shut down. I have so much more to say about the devastating effects that closing MAC would have on the people of Portland, and especially the many youth and seniors I see roaming the halls and in classes and the amazing artists and staff who make it what it is, but I imagine I am not the only one who is standing up to fight for a the continuation of this vibrant community resource. So I will close with a simple ask: Please vote NO on this destructive proposal.	05/20/25 6:13 PM
328	Melinda Binkley	As an individual		Please do NOT close the Multnomah Arts Center!! It is the heart of Multnomah Village and provides invaluable classes for children and adults as well as serves as a venue for camps. This would be a devastating loss for our community and a waste of taxpayer dollars which were recently used to seismically upgrade the center. Preserve at all costs please!	05/20/25 6:14 PM
329	Assunta L Cicalese	As an individual		Please vote NO on Amendment #45 to close the Multnomah Arts Center. I have taken several classes at MAC, and consider it an essential part of our vibrant community. The arts should not be treated as expendable items to be cut when the budget needs trimming. They are necessary to feed people's minds and spirits. I can think of no other place where one can learn such a wonderful variety of meaningful skills in such a welcoming and homey environment. This is truly a magical place, and it would be a tragic loss to the community to close it.	05/20/25 6:14 PM
330	LaJune Thorson	On behalf of an organization	Downtown Neighborhood Association	I am speaking on behalf of The Downtown Neighborhood Association and the District 4 Coalition. And I am here today to support Councilor Zimmerman's amendment regarding the Neighborhood Associations. You get a big return on your investment in Neighborhood Associations. When you want volunteers to step up and help with events or trash pick-up or just look out for the wellbeing of our neighbors, we are there to help. We put eyes and ears on our local streets, we keep our neighbors informed about what's happening in our neighborhoods. And additionally, and very importantly, we want to help each of you meet our shared goals for the city we love. Please make the District Coalitions and Neighborhood Associations whole by maintaining our budgets. If you can, please find \$80,000 to provide insurance for our volunteers to help us continue our work. Please support Councilor Zimmerman's amendment to support The District Coalitions and the Neighborhood Associations.	05/20/25 6:15 PM
331	LaJune Thorson	On behalf of an organization	Downtown Neighborhood Association	I am speaking on behalf of The Downtown Neighborhood Association and the District 4 Coalition. And I am here today to support Councilor Zimmerman's amendment regarding the Neighborhood Associations. You get a big return on your investment in Neighborhood Associations. When you want volunteers to step up and help with events or trash pick-up or just look out for the wellbeing of our neighbors, we are there to help. We put eyes and ears on our local streets, we keep our neighbors informed about what's happening in our neighborhoods. And additionally, and very importantly, we want to help each of you meet our shared goals for the city we love. Please make the District Coalitions and Neighborhood Associations whole by maintaining our budgets. If you can, please find \$80,000 to provide insurance for our volunteers to help us continue our work. Please support Councilor Zimmerman's amendment to support The District Coalitions and the Neighborhood Associations.	05/20/25 6:15 PM

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332	Allison Gross	As an individual		I was shocked to learn that anyone had proposed permanently closing the Multnomah Arts Center! The MAC is the heart of our neighborhood and an incredibly important resource. It would be a travesty if it were closed. My kids and I have been taking classes there for years, and we enjoy all the events that draw our community together that happen at the MAC. Our neighborhood is already experiencing so many changes--this would do permanent damage to our community. I had no idea this was even a possibility until a neighbor alerted me. Please vote NO!	05/20/25 6:15 PM
333	Andy Nicolais	As an individual		I would like to comment regarding budget amendment 45 and the possible closure of the Multnomah arts center or MAC. First and foremost I urge city council to vote no and keep MAC open. The arts are not expendable. they are what make us uniquely human, they bring communities together. My children and I have all benefitted greatly from taking classes at the MAC. I am writing this sitting in the hall at the MAC while one of my children are in theatre rehearsal. The hall is filled with music from other classes there are artists of all ages in the studios working. The MAC makes art accessible for everyone, everyone interested in creating, performing or just enjoying. My kids have made friends here. I have made friends here. As an artist I have been able to network with other artists here. This is such an important place and is to so many Portlanders. Please don't vote against art, against community.	05/20/25 6:17 PM
334		As an individual		I live in district 3 near Lents. Our street is quiet but we have one unruly neighbor. Last year many of the neighbors on the street called the police at 9 pm when they were lighting fireworks on the street and shooting mortar's at our house and the neighbors. Pets and kids were terrified. We have ptsd from this night and are anticipating more nights like this. We didn't get a response from the police until 3am. We also filed a police report and nothing has come of it. Our neighbors are drug addicts and gang members. The landlord is scared to evict them because they are afraid of being attacked and since they are on section 8, this makes it harder. The other neighbors who were also effected by this as well are selling their house and moving out of state because of this. There is nothing we can do about it. Not only do we need more public safety from the violent drug induced mentally ill people on the street but for instances like this. Not only this but there are drugs, trash, and encampments all over Foster rd. My kids get to see this daily. When can we have compassion for kids and families over drug addicts and homeless fentanyl users? I'm not into having compassion for people that don't care and defecate and leave trash everywhere, threatening people with machetes, and hurting plants and trees with their trash and tents/RV's...we need to do something to protect our kids and the environment around us. Why is this ok and why must I be made to feel guilty about it? Please put this as a priority! I want to move so badly but we are stuck here due to finances.	05/20/25 6:18 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
335	Annalisa Romano	As an individual		Hello, I am a resident of St. Johns, I own RōM, a clothing boutique in St. Johns, and a parent of two children at George Middle School. Our family is "all in" for St. Johns. I am concerned with the lack or safety response that seems to occur in St. Johns, the amount of vacant storefronts in our business corridor, and the lack of funding for public art in our part of town. Even though these three items are listed separately, I feel that they very much influence each other. As a community, St. Johns has been sold as the "up and coming" area for as long as I can remember. But so much of the effort that is put forth by residents and businesses within the community are stifled by the lack of funding and support from the city. We have lost our police department, that was once right in the middle of our downtown, which has lead to an increase in crime, vandalism, and public drug use. It takes a very long time for police to come up to St. Johns when. there is an incident, if they come at all. And in case you are unaware, our Elementary School, James John Elementary is also located right in the business district. It has had to have multiple (heart stopping as a parent) lock downs, because of armed and dangerous people. Our Local record store, has had a man masturbate in his window, Vinyl Resting Place is directly across the school, and no one showed up. Secondly, I would urge city council to look into a business vacancy tax. We have so many storefronts that need to rented, but do have landlords willing to rent them out. As a business owner, all i want is for our downtown to be full of life, fun and safe. If these storefronts were occcupied, the safety level would for sure increase, our public spaces would be occupied with families, and people enjoying what Portland is made of. Lastly, I would also love to encourage to put some Art Dollars into our community in the North. Our beloved St. Johns Bridge is plastered on every Portland vacation guide, though, it looks pretty sad, when the tourist come up here and expect the beautiful magazine cover of St. Johns, but see vacant storefronts, a public plaza that continues to have campers and open drug use, and no fun public art pieces that draw you in. St. Johns has so much to offer, and so much community support to make things happen, we just need the help of the city to make it happen. Thank You for reading, Annalisa Romano	05/20/25 6:18 PM
336	Jason Gallagher	As an individual		Whatever you need to do to balance the books, do NOT I repeat do NOT shutter the Multnomah Art Center. Do not shutter ANY community center or park. Removing the things the bring community and quality of life will only HASTEN the budget issues Portland is experiencing! There are three things that are driving away the tax base: 1. taxes that are not only way too high, but are exceedingly simple to avoid (move one county away) 2. not clamping down on homeless, drug addicts and criminals taking over random public places with chop shops, garbage and mental health crises and 3.deprioritizing quality of life for life of the citizens of Portland. It's important to be compassionate. But that compassion has turned into a bottomless pit managed by incompetent idealists who live in a different galaxy of reality than the one that actually exists. I understand that making painful cuts is going to be a must. But if you don't choose to keep the soul of Portland, things can and will get much worse. Even though I live only several blocks from the MAC, I don't personally go there much. However... every time I walk by the garden in front and see a bunch of families and kids shuffling in and out... I am so happy it exists. It definitely makes the community a brighter place. I'm sorry, but even if some people have to get less rent assistance (very expensive item) then before, it will be FAR FAR FAR better for the community as a WHOLE to keep thriving in the long run. THAT is actual compassion.	05/20/25 6:18 PM
337	Evan Klinkhammer	As an individual		PLEASE DON'T CLOSE THE MAC. It is an incredibly meaningful place for the community, and cutting things like this only make Portland a worse place to live for dedicated residents. This is a disservice to people all over Portland.	05/20/25 6:19 PM
338	Justin Meuer	As an individual		Please do not close the Community Music Center--it's such a great place!	05/20/25 6:20 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
339		As an individual		Multnomah Art Center has been a pivotal part of my life since I moved here 15 years ago. I have taken so many incredible classes here over the years. They serve a much needed service to the community. Community and arts are an important value to the Portland community. We have lost most of our art centers and art colleges in the area. This is the last art center there is left that teaches craft and art based classes! As a Portland resident this is what keeps me living in Portland. Please vote no on amendment 45!	05/20/25 6:22 PM
340		As an individual		Please do not close Multnomah Arts Center. It is vital to Portland's arts community, and to civic engagement overall. Arts funding has been decimated in the city, which extends to and affects many artists in the region. As someone who's visited, taken classes, and been part of an organization based at MAC, it will do irreparable damage to my sense of community, and that of so many other individuals and groups that depend on this wonderful, cost-effective resource.	05/20/25 6:24 PM
341		As an individual		The potential closure of the Multnomah Art Center would be a huge loss to the thousands of community members who come together to learn, be creative and connect with other community members. The services it provides for our youth after the school day and during summer is critical to their socioemotional development and physical needs. There must be community support for these programs, for libraries, and other community centers if we hope for our children to thrive. - From a concerned high school educator and MSC student.	05/20/25 6:24 PM
342	Frances Angiulo	As an individual		I have taken classes there and Multnomah art center should remain open	05/20/25 6:24 PM
343	Malcolm Hodge	As an individual		Prosper Portland should not be defunded. Small business advocacy is critically important to our future. I have been a small business banker for 28 years in Portland & our future depends on having a thriving small business community.	05/20/25 6:26 PM
344				I also think that public safety - especially police and fire - needs our full support.	
344	Louise Magun	As an individual		Do not close the Multnomah Arts Center. It is a vital part of the community. It is what makes Portland special.	05/20/25 6:27 PM
345	Anne Weiland	As an individual		Multnomah Arts Center. Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! It serves a wide range of people from different ages, backgrounds, and incomes. My family has been so grateful for the classes that are available for our daughter to take after school during the school year, and during the summer when it's summer vacation. Since I was a teenager I have enjoyed attending community events such as rummage sales and arts and crafts sales at the MAC. The Multnomah Arts Center is a much needed community treasure!	05/20/25 6:28 PM
346	Larkin Millar	As an individual		I have heard you are voting on the closure of the Multnomah Arts Center and I urge you to reconsider! The MAC is an amazing place for our community and it allows adults and children access to the arts in our neighborhood. I was so inspired walking down the halls after school one Monday. While my daughter was taking ballet, I saw children in choir, acting class, private instrument lessons, and adults taking classes as well. Little siblings lined the hallways working on homework, and community meetings took place. We have had multiple birthday parties and events at MAC. I can learn new skills as an adult and my children can thrive, having options for after school activities that will keep them enriched and active in the arts. I can't think of a better jewel of Southwest Portland than the MAC. I urge you to keep it open and even consider community fundraising to sustain it. Please!	05/20/25 6:30 PM
347	Sonja Wallsmith	As an individual		Hello, my name is Sonja Wallsmith and I am a 14 year old actor who found that passion here at the MAC. I am writing to plead that the organization that has raised me and given me the community I adore, not be shut down. Back in 2023, I got the news that my Grandmother had been diagnosed with stage 4 cancer. Her name was Sandra, and she had been an ever present angel in my childhood. She was always there, three blocks away from my home. The news was devastating, and made me lose hope in what the world was. It was the worst period of my life, yet looking back, it also brought me here to the MAC. During that time, I joined my friend at a teen theater class at the Multnomah Arts Center. Studio Theater. Scrambling to come up with a gesture to match my name for a simple theater game, I was unaware of the paradise I had entered. It became my ray of sunlight into the coffin of my mind. Every Saturday morning I'd drag myself out of bed and drive out to an auditorium of beaming faces, reckless laughter, and the touching wisdom and care of the people I met. That Studio Theater class took my hand and told me it would be okay. And it was. That class raised me just as much as anybody else. The tight knit community I am lucky enough to be a part of today resides within the walls of the MAC auditorium. I am able to live with the confidence I have today, because of the support I found at the MAC. For my own experiences, and for the little kids who haven't yet stepped out of their shell, please don't shut down the Multnomah Arts Center. Please don't take away the paradise of so many people. Thank you.	05/20/25 6:31 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
348	Luci Longoria	As an individual		I am writing to express my support for Councilor Morillo's amendments that transfer new police funding into better ways of reducing crime, such as restoring park maintenance, improving traffic safety infrastructure, doing gun violence outreach/prevention/intervention programming, or exploring evidence-based, place-based environmental interventions. In addition, I am requesting that the Council and Mayor explore applying additional community engagement strategies that result and support the re-opening and expansion of opportunity for entities to participate in the Portland Solutions RFP process around houseless day shelters. I have significant expertise in such areas with substantial and competitive public federal, state and local funds and want Portland to do right and better in this regard. Thank you in advance for your consideration and responsiveness.	05/20/25 6:31 PM
349	Faith Muñoz	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is a central part of the community in Multnomah Village, if not essential. I moved here over 6 years ago and the MAC is the reason I feel like I'm a part of this community. I enjoy being able to stop by on my way back from work and see the art exhibits, go to events on the weekends, stop by the senior center on my days off and support their resale shop and talk to the old folks. I love seeing all the art those who take classes at the MAC make and going to see my students perform in plays. I love reading through the stories and poems from local writers featured in the box in front of the MAC which I read while waiting for the bus and sometimes include them in my bullet journal. Not only is it essential to Multnomah Village but it is necessary to continue to promote arts and culture in District 4. Paying taxes sucks but I proudly pay my arts tax each year knowing that it keeps places like the MAC open. I can't even believe closing the MAC was even a consideration. If you close it, you'll literally kill a part that keeps the Village alive and families engaged in the community.	05/20/25 6:33 PM
350	Logan Ray	As an individual		I am with Indes Ferox Gladio a non profit organization that has been a welcoming group to all people we use the MAC as our home and have become a point of culture and community surrounding the entirety of Multnomah village. Please do not take this away from us.	05/20/25 6:33 PM
351	Alessia Harris	As an individual		PLEASE DONT CLOSE THE MULTNOMAH ARTS CENTER!!! i practice historical european martial arts with IFG and we have a tournament next month... so many cool things happen there beyond HEMA and it would be a real loss to the community.	05/20/25 6:33 PM
352	LISA WILEY	As an individual		The art center, I attended school there, my children and myself, and my mother have taken numerous wonderful art classes there along with recitals. I had an art exhibit in the gallery and now my grandson has just gotten old enough to take classes and it's walking distance. We need art we need a place for self expression. We need a place of community the art center in Multnohma provides these please don't close it.	05/20/25 6:34 PM
353	Kenneth Mackey	As an individual		Arts!	05/20/25 6:34 PM
354	Caitlin Motley	As an individual		Don't close the Multnomah Arts Center! MAC is an invaluable part of Portland's community. Kids and adult travel from all over town to take affordable arts classes and be in community with one another. I know this because both me and my kids participate in activities there. The classes are extremely popular and always full. This is a special amenity in Portland that is in high demand. It would be a major blow to the culture of our city to lose this affordable gathering place. It would be a tragedy in this day and age in which people are increasingly isolated and lonely. DONT CLOSE THE MAC!	05/20/25 6:35 PM
355	Bennett Gertz	As an individual		I am advocating against the proposed closure of the Multnomah Arts Center. I have lived in SW Portland for over 10 years with my family and we have found the MAC to be a very valuable community resource. We have used the facility in a number of ways: many community events, art shows, classes, event space for school fundraiser, scout meetings, etc. I cannot think of any remotely close replacement for this facility. I urge you to keep it open.	05/20/25 6:38 PM
356	Sidney Salud	As an individual		I've been informed that the City of Portland has proposed closing the Multnomah Arts Center. I attend a recreational fencing club there regularly and it's been an indispensable space especially in the winter. Please reconsider, as it is very valuable and one of the few remaining third spaces available to the public	05/20/25 6:40 PM
357	Douglas A Sottoway	As an individual		Don't close MAC! As a member of the SW Portland Community Band, a non-profit organization that supports the Ida B Wells High School Band, I urge you to not close MAC. We are 50 members from the local community, and we perform twice a year at the Multnomah Arts Center. We fill the main auditorium to CAPACITY and proceeds from our concerts support new musical instruments and equipment for the Wells High School band program. If MAC closes it will negatively impact the students in the band program at Wells High School. Don't close MAC! Doug Sottoway	05/20/25 6:41 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
358	Christopher Reinhardt	As an individual		Please vote no on Amendment #45, which includes a provision to close the Multnomah Arts Center. I've taken many classes at the MAC over the years, and i've always been impressed by the breadth of people served. I've had classes with high school students alongside people in their 80's, as well as people from all parts of the city. It truly cuts across all demographics. Shuttering it would be extremely shortsighted, and be a symbolic end to Portland's long history as a city that celebrates and promotes art.	05/20/25 6:42 PM
359	benjamin kugler	As an individual		MAC must not be closed. It provides community to dozens of groups, I myself am there two times a week along with up to 40+ other people. All closing MAC does is hurt the community and removes a source of revenue for the city. All of the classes are regularly sold out and rooms are constantly in use. The parking provides revenue to the city as well, there is absolutely no benefits to close the MAC.	05/20/25 6:44 PM
360	Mary K. Nitchie Lodwick	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center. It is the heart and soul of Multnomah Village. Most community centers focus on athletic activities. This is the only one in Portland that supports learning in the arts, which is critical for some people to maintain good mental health. Also, there are lots of activities for people of all ages. Small businesses of Multnomah Village will suffer if the center is closed, and a closed center will present new security challenges that will be costly.	05/20/25 6:45 PM
361	Robert McMillan	As an individual		The MAC was a very important piece of my childhood and I believe it's value is still very dear to the community. Closing it down would be losing a huge piece of personality multnomah village has enjoyed for more a long time.	05/20/25 6:45 PM
362	Susanne Menezes	As an individual		Please do NOT close the MAC in Multnomah Village. This is a priceless asset to the Portland community. There is no other facility like this in Portland. It provides inexpensive access for people of all ages to art, music, dance, and theater classes. It is so popular that the classes fill up on the first day, in the first few minutes of registration! It serves children, teenagers, adults and seniors. It is irreplaceable. It is loved by all. Please DO NOT CLOSE the MAC!!! remove ammendment #45 to the budget.	05/20/25 6:46 PM
363	LeAnne Vick Beaudin	On behalf of an organization	Multnomah Arts Center	Multnomah Arts Center is keeping people sane. Creative outlets in community are extremely important and keep mental health in check. It would be wise to reconsider closing this long beloved community center down. The repercussions could be devastating to all ages within the surrounding area.	05/20/25 6:46 PM
364	Rick Perry	As an individual		Keep MAC alive! I love the classes there. I've learned a lot through the years. It provides education and social connectivity. Don't kill culture and the arts!	05/20/25 6:46 PM
365	Melissa Sottoway	As an individual		Don't close MAC! I write on behalf of the SW Portland Community Band, a non-profit organization that supports the Ida B Wells High School Band, and I urge you to not close MAC. They are 50 members from the local community, and perform twice a year at the Multnomah Arts Center. They fill the main auditorium to CAPACITY and proceeds from the concerts support new musical instruments and equipment for the Wells High School band program. If MAC closes it will negatively impact the students in the band program at Wells High School. Don't close MAC!	05/20/25 6:49 PM
366		As an individual		DON'T CLOSE MULTNOMAH ARTS CENTER! The center is a vital resource for Portland residents of all ages (2 years through oldest seniors) to experience the joys and appreciation of the Portland art community. There is no other center that offers so many classes, workshops, shows and exposure to art and artists as the MAC. It would be an extreme detriment to community residents if it were to be closed. Please find ways to keep this valuable resource in the city budget!	05/20/25 6:49 PM

Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
367 Olga Straight	As an individual		RE: Vibrant Communities (Arts, Culture, Children) Dear Portland City Council Members! With great shock, I watched and heard Steve Novick propose fixing the city budget shortfall by closing the Multnomah Art Center and the Community Art Center. I plead with you, NOT to turn this into a reality. MAC and CAC are vibrant communities, rooted in Portland culture and artistic endeavors, not just for the present, but with deep roots that reach far into the future. They are not just buildings. They are important hubs of teaching and learning, of support and enthusiasm for life, of opportunities to interact with others in very meaningful ways for the young and old and everyone in-between. They are fertile grounds to form friendships, launching pads for people to discover what skills and aptitudes exist within themselves and in the other, nurturing groups of like-minded people to bring out the best in themselves and with each others - to unite rather than divide people. They are safe havens, where people learn not to judge others, nor themselves, where WE create art of all kinds and beautiful music. Yes, I am proud of being a student at that community myself which provides a welcoming home away from home. With a stroke of a pen, you could destroy these lovely natural green houses in Portland? Don't do it! If we do not have community centers like these, we can pack up and wither. Have no part in it! I can have not part in it, and that is why I am writing you to be an outspoken voice for so many who are not able to attend your meeting tomorrow, but share these thoughts and my gratitude to MAC and CMC and all its wonderful employees. At CMC mostly children, youths and seniors take classes. Many of them are on scholarships and could not partake in these activities at all, because of lack of funds. These art classes serve as enrichments for everybody in our communities and provide mentorships for our young. They offer additional adults who can provide mentorship, support, guidance and direction. What do many kids and youths do nowadays in their free time? If they are lucky, they are engaged in sports, or they just sit on a computer or laptop and play video games. As you know those games can be brain drains. They are way below the intelligence and dignity of a child. Instead, the doors of MAC and CMC are open to all people, with financial means or not, all who are interested just to dabble in or dedicate themselves to the joys and the work it takes to lean a new art form. Both places are centers of hope where people can enjoy a greatly enhanced present and where they still can dream of better futures. Thank you for taking the time to read my letter, Olga G. Straight	05/20/25 6:49 PM
368 Margaret Ellis	As an individual		I can't believe you are considering closing the Multnomah Arts Center. This city has been slowly killing off any incentive people have had to live here and vote to support parks. Columbia pool, Pier Pool, Peninsula Pool, now this. The city is awash in money but the urge to build bigger and farther from older neighborhoods has eliminated any money left to support our parks infrastructure. All these community centers are busy and crowded with people. It's consistently hard to get into classes everywhere. Why kill everything good about the city? Instead, why don't you cut middle management, office space for workers who would rather be working from home, and your own staff budgets.	05/20/25 6:50 PM

Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Jane Pagliarulo	On behalf of an organization	Print Arts Northwest	Friends, Multnomah Arts Center is in trouble. I am appalled that the City Council would suggest driving a stake into the heart of the arts like this. To kill permanently the affordable art classes for underserved communities is heartless. To eliminate music lessons and dance at a time when the schools have gutted them, in the heart of an arts community that is already gasping for breath in a city whose commercial rents have become unaffordable, is insane. Slashing and burning a vital arts hub will further undermine our vulnerable creative economy. Art can unite and inspire communities, and I wonder, does the city want to leave in ashes the values that Portland holds dear - creativity, wisdom, innovation - that create an engaged citizenry? Engaging in art activities fosters creativity and innovation, especially for children. Art, music and dance allows kids to foster crucial skills, boost confidence, develop fine motor skills, problem-solving abilities, and critical thinking. if we want our citizens to be innovative, life long learners, less screen time and more space for emotional expression and social interaction is needed. Now more than ever. Founded in 1980, Print Arts Northwest (PAN) is a 501(c)(3) educational nonprofit organization that advocates the art of printmaking through exhibitions, professional development, and educational programs that promote the creation, appreciation and collection of original artists' prints by professional and emerging printmakers. We offer free education and demonstrations of printmaking to children and adults alike. We have been a tenant of MAC for 11 years. PAN has been forced to move 7 times in the past 25 years, due to rising rents and a lack of support for the arts in Portland. We thought we had found our permanent home. But MAC, and the arts in Portland, are losing support. Don't close MAC! Thank you, Jane Pagliarulo Print arts Northwest president Multnomah Arts Center Cottage 3	05/20/25 6:50 PM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Katie Watkins	On behalf of an organization	Portland Center Stage	Dear Portland City Council, My name is Katie Watkins, and I am a proud employee of Portland Center Stage (PCS). I am writing today in strong support of two crucial proposed budget amendments: Dunphy 2, which includes \$135,000 in general operating support to small and mid-sized arts organizations Green 6, which proposes a \$450,000 one-time grant to support Portland Center Stage's capital campaign and ongoing programming Working at Portland Center Stage is my dream job, not just because of the artistry we put on stage, but because of the profound impact we have on our city every single day. PCS is more than a theater. It is a cornerstone of Portland's cultural and economic vitality. We are one of the largest nonprofit arts employers in Oregon, helping to sustain jobs not just within our organization but across the creative economy, from playwrights and costume designers to the local restaurants and small businesses in the Pearl that benefit from our patrons. Every performance we stage helps animate our neighborhood. We draw over 80,000 people annually to downtown Portland. That is foot traffic our restaurants, bars, shops, and hotels rely on. But even more importantly, I think about the 9,000+ students each year who experience live theater for the very first time at PCS. I think about the classrooms filled with kids who don't see themselves in textbooks but finally feel seen on our stage. These budget amendments are about ensuring those experiences don't disappear. I worry about what happens to our community if Portland Center Stage and other arts organizations are forced to scale back or shut their doors. Will those 9,000 students ever consider attending the theater again if their first experience is lost? The arts are habit-forming. They are foundational. When you take away the first exposure, you take away the possibility of a lifetime of engagement. The arts are not a luxury. They are a lifeline. For economic recovery, for cultural vibrancy, and for education equity. I urge you to pass these amendments and affirm your belief that Portland's future includes creativity, imagination, and opportunity for all. Thank you for your time and your commitment to a thriving Portland. Sincerely, Katie Watkins Director of Marketing and Communications	05/20/25 6:51 PM
Miriam Levitt	On behalf of an organization	Community Music Center	I have used the Community Music Center for over 35 years, and it has been an incredibly enriching experience which I dearly hope you will keep for the invaluable musical education and playing opportunities that it provides. CMC's existence has enabled me to learn to play violin as an adult (and lent me a rental violin to do so); let me continue to play weekly in its Adult String Orchestra, and gave me the opportunity to sing Madrigals which I had not done since high school. It furnishes accessible, friendly and talented staff, welcomes newcomers of every age, is affordable to all. Please keep CMC open!	05/20/25 6:51 PM
Catherine Firth	As an individual		Please don't close Multnomah Arts Center! I personally know people who travel from all over the city to partake of the unique offerings in the arts. I am lucky to live nearby and have taken classes, attended meetings, shopped at art sales, connected with local police and neighborhood groups, and recently used the equipment library at the senior center. Can't we find creative ways to support this community resource? Are there options to partner with businesses and NGOs? It seems such a waste to shutter excellent programs and mothballs a campus. It's still going to cost a lot to just hold the closed building. I hope we can find a way. Thank you for your consideration.	05/20/25 6:51 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
373	Betty Chen	As an individual		Dear City Council, I am a resident of district 4 and a strong supporter of the Multnomah Arts Center. I'm writing to urge you to VOTE NO on Amendment #45, which would permanently close MAC as of September 1, 2025. MAC is far more than just a building. It's a vital community space that provides accessible arts education for children, adults, and seniors from all walks of life. It helps foster creativity, community, and mental well-being — things our city desperately needs, not less of. Closing MAC would sever a cultural lifeline for so many Portlanders. It's one of the few places where people of all backgrounds can connect, learn, and grow through the arts. Please preserve this essential institution and explore better alternatives to balance the city's budget. Sincerely, Betty	05/20/25 6:53 PM
374	Melissa Sottoway	As an individual		Don't close MAC! I work in a small business toy store located in Multnomah village. Numerous people come to support our business... that are shopping because they have just been at the MAC or their child is currently taking a class. The MAC helps support our business and helps the village thrive. I urge you to not close MAC. If MAC closes it will negatively impact the businesses in the area which helps value for the area and supports countless families. Don't close MAC!	05/20/25 6:53 PM
375	Sarah Kent	As an individual		We need a safe community	05/20/25 6:54 PM
376	Stacey Smeltzer	As an individual		As an educator, I am deeply concerned by the proposed separation of the Multnomah Arts Center (MAC) and Music programs from Portland Parks & Recreation. For years, I have witnessed firsthand the transformative power of these arts programs, impacting students from elementary school children to active seniors. The MAC and Music programs provide invaluable creative outlets, foster community, and offer accessible arts education that enriches countless lives. Disconnecting these vital programs from the established framework of Portland Parks not only threatens their stability and accessibility but also undermines the holistic approach to community well-being that both entities champion. Maintaining this integrated structure is crucial for ensuring that these essential arts opportunities remain vibrant and available to all Portlanders, continuing to inspire and uplift individuals of every age and background.	05/20/25 6:54 PM
377	Jenny Jepson	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Art Center! Residents have been enjoying the classes year after year, bringing their children, and then their children's children. We enjoy the space for the arts, theater, and get together. I went there when it was Multnomah Elementary School, then had my wedding reception there. Our 8th grade class of 1976 plans on celebrating our 50 year reunion there. Multnomah just had a celebration of life for Moses Rossat the Art Center and it's a huge space for classes, art shows, playground, basketball, live music, community events and especially extra parking. This would be a great loss to our community. Thank you, Jenny Jepson	05/20/25 6:54 PM
378	Lesli Williamson	As an individual		Please DO NOT CLOSE THE MULTNOMAH ART CENTER. It is an incredible asset to the Portland community that exists nowhere else in town. It is cherished in so many ways by so many people young and old. It's loss would be devastating.	05/20/25 6:55 PM
379	Adri	As an individual		I support Councilor Morillo's amendments that transfer new police funding into better ways of reducing crime, such as restoring park maintenance, improving traffic safety infrastructure, doing gun violence outreach/ prevention/intervention programming, and exploring evidence-based, place-based environmental interventions.	05/20/25 6:55 PM
380	Jeff Kerestes	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center. It is an amazing place. My daughter currently takes acting classes there and I take adult tap dancing. There are no other places with this type of diverse programming. It truly is an asset to the community and everyone who lives in Portland.	05/20/25 6:55 PM
381	Anne Niedergang	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is a vibrant and valuable asset to our community. Toddlers, young children, tweens, teens, adults and the seniors use this space to gather, create art, dance, learn an instrument. My family has used the MAC weekly for the past 20 years. It is a true gem and a hub for our community. I oppose shutting down this vital asset in our neighborhood.	05/20/25 6:55 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
382	Dana Doggett	As an individual		Please do not close Multnomah Arts Center. It is essential to this community and provides resources that are not available elsewhere.	05/20/25 6:56 PM
383	Anonymous	As an individual		I am not about to discuss the level of damages I have endured on behalf of you. The entity Everett Station Lofts was intended as artist studios. This is far from the fact. Every instance of hostility against me through any US entity is recorded. You are perfectly aware that you are liable of the facts. Person are being warded off and displaced. Cultural landmarks and buildings are being destroyed in the favor of public corruption and money laundering. Please adhere to such.	05/20/25 6:57 PM
384	Raymond Brigleb	As an individual		As a District 3 resident and parent whose daughter studies violin at the Community Music Center, I strongly urge you to VOTE 'NO' ON AMENDMENT #45. The CMC is more than just a building in our Portland neighborhood—it's where my daughter has developed confidence, perseverance, and a love for music that wouldn't be possible without affordable, accessible instruction. I've witnessed firsthand how this nurturing environment serves families from all districts and backgrounds, especially those who cannot afford private lessons. The center operates efficiently with minimal staff while creating inclusive programs and free concerts for our community. At a time when arts funding is already scarce, protecting successful programs like the CMC should be our priority, not eliminating them. Please preserve this essential community resource by voting NO on Amendment #45.	05/20/25 6:57 PM
385	Serena Best-Prostrednik	As an individual		Testimony to Support the Multnomah Arts Center My name is Serena, and I'm writing to express how deeply important the Multnomah Arts Center has been in my life and to urge you not to shut it down. When I was in middle school, my friends and I started a small after-school drama group called The Shake It Up Drama Club. We wrote, rehearsed, and created our own performances, and the Multnomah Arts Center gave us the space to bring our ideas to life in front of an audience. It was one of my first experiences seeing the magic of theatre not just as a spectator, but as a young artist finding my voice. Over the years, I've returned to the Multnomah Arts Center again and again to support friends performing in plays and community events. It's always been a space that fosters creativity, belonging, and community connection. Now, I'm proud to work as an acting coach at the Acting for Kids and Teens Studio, helping the next generation of performers grow in confidence and creativity — just like I did. I know firsthand that opportunities like the ones the Multnomah Arts Center offers can shape lives. Please don't shut down this vital community space. It's more than just a building — it's a launching pad for dreams, growth, and connection. Sincerely, Serena Best-Prostrednik	05/20/25 6:59 PM
386	Chris Dearth and Rosemary Furfey	As an individual		We would like to urge the council to defeat amendment #45 which would close the Multnomah Arts Center. We have participated in hundreds of community events and meetings in the center over the past decades. It is more than an "arts" center--it is a true center of the community, housed in a historic schoolhouse. The center is a place for countless community meetings, educational forums, musical events, and so much more. There is no other facility in Portland which can take its place. PLEASE, vote against amendment #45.	05/20/25 7:00 PM
387	Marcel Eugene Alexander Montero	As an individual		The MAC is an invaluable resource to the people of the Portland metro area. It is a thriving hub of culture and community in multinomah village. The loss of community and cultural tradition that comes with loosing the MAC would take decades to rebuild. I personally attend the IFG fencing club located there, multiple times a week. I and the dozens of members who attended its classes would be devastated by its loss. The facility is a historical fixture and its removal would be a tremendous waste. It also generates a significant revenue from the renting of its facilities. This is a bad decision. If your job is to serve the bublic, this is doing the opposite.	05/20/25 7:00 PM
388	Aaron Andrade	As an individual		Please ensure that the new budget covers the transition from gas powered leaf blowers to electric, as well as other climate change/pollution initiatives. Thank you!	05/20/25 7:00 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
389	Bettina McEntyre	As an individual		Multnomah Arts Center saved my life. Please don't take the only accessible arts away from poor people. I am biracial and poor, living in one of the most disenfranchised neighborhoods in Portland. I am also a domestic violence survivor and single parent of two children. After we fled our home, I needed creative communities for my kids and myself to join and help us heal. MAC and Rosewood Initiative, and the various arts integration into summer in the Parks programming has saved us from isolation and provided the only accessible arts programs for people like us on the poverty line. We are creative AND poor at the same time. Taking MAC away would destroy our well being not only as a family, but everyone around us. There are plenty of for profit private arts communities, but MAC provides professional arts classes to those of us who cannot afford that. I drive all the way from east Portland just to go to MAC, for family classes with. My kids, after school programs, summer camps, and classes for myself to help with my PTSD. It has been the most positive impact on our lives. Every time registration comes around, there is so much competition to get into these classes that so many of us are on the waitlist each term. The demand is there. Please investigate yourself and go walk around and get to know the teachers, the students, and the families affected by your ignorant proposal. Have you not done this as city council members? I am your constituent, please hear me now. We need more accessible arts in Portland, not less!!!	05/20/25 7:00 PM
390		As an individual		Multnomah arts center is a gem! It's the reason we moved to the neighborhood. My son was in plays, my daughter took dance. I taught writing classes. Gathering places are the hub of community. Save Multnomah Art Center!	05/20/25 7:01 PM
391	Kai Eva	As an individual		I work with a local fencing club that regularly uses the MAC's space to offer our classes. Not only that, but the MAC's classes and availability is a massive positive force in Multnomah Village. This closure would severely impact the community negatively.	05/20/25 7:02 PM
392	Gail Simmons	As an individual		I'm appalled there's a suggestion to close Multnomah Art Center. In over 30 years residence in Portland, it's provided me with multiple opportunities to learn and prosper as an Artist, both taking classes and showing Art. It would be a huge mistake to close the center.	05/20/25 7:03 PM
393	Alia Jackson	As an individual		Please don't close the Multnomah Arts Center! It's an integral part of our community here and offers young and old people alike a place to learn new skills and be productive!	05/20/25 7:03 PM
394	John Balicanta	As an individual		Hi Tiffany, I am deeply saddened and hurt by the decision to close of the Community Music Center on SE Francis and 33rd. We have lived down the street from the CMC for over 10 years and have had nothing, but the best experience with people coming and going and more recently having both of our children take classes and learn music from there. We are a hard working class family that has always supported the arts... I myself am a 2nd generation Filipino former touring musician who just recently joined the IBEW local 44 this last year. If it wasn't for the low cost and safe environment that CMC our children would not be able to learn music at. I work full time and rely heavily on CMC's staff and curriculum to help our children learn and grow. Please do something to CMC open. Our community needs CMC to continue to help minds stay open and awake. Please don't let us down. Please don't let the arts die in our neighborhood. Thank you, John.	05/20/25 7:03 PM
395		As an individual		I am writing to vote no on AMENDMENT #45 - DON'T CUT THE COMMUNITY MUSIC CENTER. I have been going to the community music center for over 20 years. My kids took dance and music classes, they have thrived from these programs. My kids are now adults and have begun taking other music lessons there. I too now take lessons at the center. I look forward to my classes every week and write to support keeping the community center open.	05/20/25 7:03 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
396		As an individual		Vote NO on Amendment #45 - Keep Multnomah Arts Center OPEN! I'm deeply concerned about Amendment #45, proposed by City Councilor Steve Novick from District 3, which calls for the permanent closure of the Multnomah Arts Center (MAC) – a vital community resource located in District 4. I strongly urge that City Council VOTE NO on this amendment. MAC is a vibrant community center that provides affordable arts, music, dance, and theater classes to people of all ages across Portland. My family and I have personally benefited from its programming, including classes and summer camps that consistently fill up due to high demand, many with long waitlists. This clearly demonstrates how essential MAC is to our community. Beyond classes, MAC supports the community by hosting nonprofits, offering space rentals, providing scholarships, running free drop-in programs during the summer, and organizing inclusive events that bring people together. Shutting down MAC would be a loss not just for District 4, but for the entire city. Please vote NO on Amendment #45 and protect this invaluable community resource.	05/20/25 7:04 PM
397	Nancy Kelly-Culberson	As an individual		Please don't close Multnomah Athletic Center (MAC)	05/20/25 7:05 PM
398		As an individual		Please do not cut funding to our police and fire departments!	05/20/25 7:05 PM
399	Lily Burton	As an individual		The Community Music Center is truly a treasure! Everyone needs music in their lives and CMC has been a beloved, historic, and valuable institution in Portland, serving students of all ages and providing high quality music instruction and performances for decades. It is accessible to all. Music is math in real time...it helps our students in school in numerous ways. It brings people together. And it satisfies the soul with beauty and expression that is beyond words. We need CMC more than ever in our world. Please vote NO on #45.	05/20/25 7:06 PM
400	Diane Zhitlovsky	As an individual		Attached	05/20/25 7:07 PM
401	Sophie McMillan	As an individual		As an Ida B. Wells High School senior, the MAC (multnomah arts center), has always been a safe space for me. It is an amazing community landmark that myself, and many peers utilize for various purposes. I know my school and community would not be the same without it, as it is a very special part of our community that not many areas get to have. It brings us closer, and overall makes me feel more connected to Multnomah as a future art major. Please reconsider closing the Multnomah art center, and other related facilities.	05/20/25 7:07 PM
402	Gemma Fischer	As an individual		Don't close the MAC! The MAC has created such an important community for any age, skill, or interest. I, personally, have found quite possibly the most welcoming, accepting and dedicated community I have ever known through the Multnomah Arts Center's Studio Theatre program. It has introduced me to the people I can now call my closest friends, taught me valuable lessons and helped me find my confidence as an actor and overall as a person. But what is the most important and wonderful is that everyone gets a chance. No matter their experience level or age, or even if Theatre is something they aren't yet committed to, they get a chance to try something new, find their confidence on the stage, or discover a new passion, all while being in a supportive community and getting the chance to make new friends. Our directors Dawn and Timothy are so incredibly devoted to their craft. They put on at least 4 shows per year at the MAC, and it would be devastating to see all of their almost 20 years of hard work shuttered with no place to go. I am not exaggerating when I say that the Multnomah Arts Center changes lives. It has changed mine and those of many I know. Aside from theatre, the MAC offers so many other incredible workshops and classes. A friend of mine, as well as my mother, both took Jewelry making classes here, and my grandfather is part of the woodworking guild associated with the MAC, which were all positive and valuable experiences. The MAC is a gathering space for arts-focused community events, such as free art exhibitions, free plays and weekend markets. All of which are vital to the local arts community, and the Multnomah Village community overall. Once again, the MAC has changed lives, and it would be a huge loss if those experiences for those to come were to be lost. Do not close the MAC. Thank you.	05/20/25 7:08 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
403	Emily Garcia	As an individual		My name is Emily Garcia and I reside in district 4. I am shocked and deeply saddened that the city council is considering shutting down the Multnomah Arts Center. I have been taking classes at the center for two years now, and it has significantly improved my quality of life. The Multnomah Arts Center is the only way I could afford to access this life-changing instruction. It is the only community arts center of its kind. Portland has always been known as a city of creative community, and cutting funding to the only accessible arts center is a grave and ignorant insult. People visit and move to Portland for the creative culture. It is self-defeating to actively attack the very foundations of that culture. I am begging you, please vote no on amendment #45! Do not close the Multnomah Arts Center!	05/20/25 7:09 PM
404	Diana Rosales	As an individual		Please do not close multnomah arts center. So many families rely on our children getting art education and after school activities! Please!! WE NEED ART!	05/20/25 7:09 PM
405	Gina Levine	On behalf of an organization	SW Portland Community Band	Don't close MAC! As a member of the SW Portland Community Band, a non-profit organization that supports the Ida B Wells High School Band, I urge you to not close MAC. We are 50 members from the local community, and we perform twice a year at the Multnomah Arts Center. We fill the main auditorium to CAPACITY and proceeds from our concerts support new musical instruments and equipment for the Wells High School band program. If MAC closes it will negatively impact the students in the band program at Wells High School. We fundraise for the Ida B. Wells music program at every concert and have raised thousands of dollars for the program. The concerts at the Multnomah Arts Center have also brought so much joy to ourselves, our family, friends, loved ones, and community. Don't close MAC!	05/20/25 7:09 PM
406	Jamie Jensen	As an individual		To the City Council— We moved to Portland intentionally for a city that had vibrant and supported arts education. Multanomah Arts Center is a cornerstone of that programming in the city and adds cultural diversification to Southwest. Losing it would be a huge loss to the neighborhood and another mark of a city that has lost its identity. Removing services and gathering spaces like this, similar to the St. John's and North Community Centers, is only further undermining the loss of the spirit of community and pride in Portland. Please reconsider actions similar to these in all areas.	05/20/25 7:09 PM
407	Chris Weiland	As an individual		Please VOTE NO on Amendment #45 - DON'T CLOSE MAC! This is an incredibly important resource and hub for the SW Portland community. Our whole family has taken classes here and I see people of all backgrounds and ages using this facility throughout the year ranging from art events, classes, camps, performances and more. Closing MAC would be short sighted and as a local resident and frequent user of this facility I encourage you to vote no on amendment #45. Chris Weiland Hillsdale resident	05/20/25 7:10 PM
408	Teresa Grompe	As an individual		Please, please, please!! Do not close the Multnomah Art Center! This is such a valuable community resource. I use it 4-5 times a week for weaving class and my children and grandchildren use it too.	05/20/25 7:11 PM

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409	Diane Zhitlovsky	As an individual		I have been a patron of the Community Music Center since I moved to Portland 20 years ago. I have sang in its bedrock Tuesday evening choir and have taken piano lessons there. CMC is an indispensable part of the Portland community. Serves hundreds of families and households in over 50 zip codes throughout Portland, in every Council District, Has programs for all ages from kindergarten to seniors, Makes classes and lessons affordable, with up to 100% discount for low-income participants, Supports programs specifically serving Black & Brown youth, Latinx youth, LGBTQ+ youth, seniors, immigrants, and people with disabilities, Gives dozens of free, drop-in concerts a year, with livestream options for those who can't travel to CMC, Partners with organizations for programs in underserved areas in outer East Portland, Provides alternative to sports for youth afterschool activities, Contributes to the musical and economic vitality of Portland, Relies on City general fund and Parks Levy dollars to operate, with additional significant program support from the non-profit CMC Inc., Administers its programs with only 3 full-time a few part-time staff, Hires over 25 part-time performing artist-instructors from the community to provide about 8,000 hours of classes, lessons, and events per year, Is actively working with PP&R management and community groups to ensure its long-term facility needs. Closing the CMC should not be the price we pay for safety and better policing. This is a false choice. Do not close CMC in order to fund more police that we desperately need. Please find a way to do both. Thank you,	05/20/25 7:12 PM
410	Ron Bloodworth	As an individual		In your budget process please fund the outreach, education, and enforcement of the upcoming Citywide ban on gas powered blowers that starts on January 1st, 2026. Stop the noise pollution and the fossil fuel pollution in the air we breathe.	05/20/25 7:12 PM
411		As an individual		It would be unthinkable to close the Multnomah art center. It is the center of community in the village. It provides so many services to so many. Over the years I have taken many classes and when my children were young they also enjoyed classes.	05/20/25 7:12 PM
412	Colby Hood	As an individual		Our family goes to the art center twice a week. Our boys take music lessons and we enjoy our time there. Please don't close it down.	05/20/25 7:13 PM
413	karin graves	As an individual		please do not close multnomah Art Center. This would be a disaster for young and old. please do not close. i have used this faculty numerous times. It is a gem for artists and support for seniors, all humans.	05/20/25 7:14 PM

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415

Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Board of Directors	On behalf of an organization	Multnomah Village Business Association	On behalf of our 100+ MVBA members and the local Multnomah Village business community, we are urging all council members to vote NO on Amendment #45 that was recently submitted by councilman Steve Novick. The idea of shutting down Multnomah Arts Center (MAC) as is suggested makes no sense given its importance in providing a range of critical services and programming to our local community and beyond, as well as being an invaluable asset for helping to drive traffic to our local businesses. Losing MAC would have a devastating affect on our business community and multiple non-profits. Multnomah Arts Center represents the heart and soul of Multnomah Village area. In addition to classes, the Multnomah Arts Center: Has fifteen partners throughout Portland, serving Parks' targeted communities at their sites including The Rosewood Initiative, Home Forward, and Y.O.U.th. Houses several nonprofits including: Columbia Basin Basketry Guild, Neighborhood House, Oregon Children's Theatre, Print Arts Northwest, Community Policing, and Northwest Woodturners. Provides discounted space rentals to nonprofits. Makes arts education programming accessible by eliminating financial barriers to access, through the Parks Levy and MACA scholarships. Received roughly \$1,000,000 in seismic and ADA facility upgrades from Parks in the past two years, surely not an indication of imminent building closure. During summer months, MAC runs the Arts in the Parks program, providing free drop-in arts activities at parks (primarily in areas serving our targeted communities). Last year over 4,000 youth were provided activities through this program. Produces Free First Friday Arts for All at MAC, which provides drop-in arts education experiences along with free food for the Portland community. Staff works with Parks management and our partners to address long term facility needs. VOTE NO ON AMENDMENT #45 - DO NOT CLOSE MAC	05/20/25 7:14 PM
Allyson King-Corson	As an individual		Vote no on amendment 45. Don't close the Mac. The Multnomah Arts Center is an important community space in SW Portland. Generations of families have had affordable access to the arts , a space to gather, and a home for important resources. Let's continue to provide this resource for our SW community.	05/20/25 7:14 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
416	Kristin Rencher	As an individual		DON'T CLOSE MAC Portland is a city with very few affordable community music venues. The Southwest Portland Community Band makes it home at MAC. There is no other venue in our area that can accommodate a full concert band at an affordable price for our members. If MAC is closed, the city council will effectively wipe out community music and theater in SW Portland. There is no other location in the area that can accommodate these groups. The events held throughout the year at MAC are provide more than cultural enrichment. They also fuel businesses in Multnomah Village. Closure of the facility will have a NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACT on local businesses. The center draws people for events who then dine and shop in the village. Perhaps, at some point, the facility might be leased to a company that might help fill that gap but that doesn't make up for the tremendous loss to the many individual, families, and senior citizens who rely on classes and events the MAC for cultural and personal enrichment. DUE DILIGENCE should be done before voting to close MAC. The potential economic and cultural impact should be assessed prior to taking such a drastic step.	05/20/25 7:15 PM
417		As an individual		Please keep the Multnomah Arts Center open. This is a huge community asset. People from all over Portland come for arts, ceramics, and wood. This is a great place for kids, as well as seniors. It is perfect for seniors in the neighborhood and who belong to meals and wheels. It's a community hub that can't be shut!	05/20/25 7:15 PM
418	Ellie LaRue	As an individual		Do not close The Multnomah Arts Center. Our community needs a space like this for families and kids.	05/20/25 7:16 PM
419	Molly Fishman	As an individual		Please vote NO on amendment 45 tomorrow which would close the Multnomah Arts Center! This is such a valuable resource to many in the community, with programs and support for people of all ages!	05/20/25 7:18 PM
420	Evan Benally	As an individual		I am about on my tenth year here in Portland and been paying arts tax unknowing how I will see that money and how it's used till I started taking a weaving class at multnomah arts center and gosh I would be destroyed, alongside the hundreds of jobs, if y'all let this pass and I want to plead to let the arts and music center live on. We need these tools for healing and I support taking some of the police millions towards arts. I think that's proactive to solving issues not reactive to things happening.	05/20/25 7:18 PM
421	Suzanne Hidde	As an individual		Do Not close Multnomah Arts Center!! It is a historic and vibrant part of our community! Do Not close our arts center! Our multigenerational community uses it on a daily basis. Do not close our community center!	05/20/25 7:19 PM
422		As an individual		Multnomah Arts Center has provided, not only an essential summer child care service to me, as single working mom, but has nurtured my child's talents in the arts in ways that elementary public school simply can not. I honestly don't know where I would take my child during summer vacation if not MAC. I would face losing my job, if I lost this essential service.	05/20/25 7:21 PM
423	Cassie Clervi	As an individual		Please don't close the CMC and the MAC!	05/20/25 7:22 PM
424	Sheila Hanson	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is one of the most important community services in SW Portland! Not only is it a hub of learning, acceptance, growth and joy, it supports community services such as the Senior Center and The Neighborhood House. It's a growing program that even has offshoots in SE Portland. Closing this facility would not only hurt SW Portland, but it would hurt all of Portland. Portland is a city of artists. Show your support for the arts by voting now on 2025-208-FY 25-26 Approved Budget.	05/20/25 7:23 PM
425	Kate	As an individual		Please please reconsider clothing multnomah arts center!! This is a vital community hub to SW Portland, my kids have taken tons of classes there: dance, ballet, and art. They've attended tons of memorable birthdays. It would be such a loss.	05/20/25 7:23 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
426	Robin Song	As an individual		Vote NO on Amendment #45! DON'T close the Multnomah Arts Center! The MAC is a vital part of the SW Portland community. In my 22 years in Portland I've lived in every quadrant of the city. In all that time I have not seen a community center that was so much of a central hub for its community as the MAC. Let me tell you a story that illustrates exactly how important and beloved the MAC is. When the Little Big Burger across the street from the MAC closed, I didn't hear anything about it from my neighbors. When the Ice Cream shop right next to that closed, I didn't get any texts from my neighbors. But when the first news of the MAC *possibly* closing came out, I got a FLURRY of urgent texts from my neighbors. You'll be hearing from all of them. We care about the MAC. A lot. They host First Friday art events where you'll find everyone in the neighborhood gathering. Their arts classes are in such high demand that you must register the moment they go live on the website. These classes offer the sort of rich arts education that you just CAN'T find elsewhere (looms for weaving, a full pottery studio, a theater program, dance classes and SO much more). When our family was struggling financially, the MAC offered the only art and music classes we could afford to send our daughter to. They have the only affordable rental space for meetings and events in the area. Even when we're not taking classes there, we're at the MAC on a nearly daily basis because it is the HUB of our community.	05/20/25 7:24 PM
427	Anderson family	As an individual		Please DO NOT close the Multnomah Arts Center! This is a vibrant necessary part of the SW Portland community. It supports the elderly in our community with all of the classes and guilds. Its supports youth with theatre, music, summer camps, etc. It is the only reason my family could afford instrument/music lessons for our children. It supports budding artists, musicians and teachers, show casing their art, selling it at art sales, and giving music and art teachers much needed work and income. Closing Multnomah Arts Center would be a huge mistake and it would be a "NO" vote for this cimmunity...as in No, city council does not care or support this community. Please keep this valuable community asset open at all cost. There are no good reasons to close such a valuable hub of the community.	05/20/25 7:25 PM
428	Carol Ann Kirby	As an individual		My daughter has been dancing at MAC since she was 4 (she's on the mural on either side of the entrance transit window). I've also taken classes at MAC. We both play in the SW Community Band, which raises funds for Ida B Wells' band program. The art classes and community are a vital part of SW Portland. I know you have budget issues, but please do not close MAC. SW Portland depends on it to provide are, dance and music to our community.	05/20/25 7:25 PM
429	Jeffrey A. DeHaan and Amy Cassleman	As an individual		Written Testimony Amy C. Cassleman Jeffrey A. DeHaan Portland City Council: We live and work downtown (near Powell's Books). We will be leaving Portland soon if security and livability are not achieved. We support Mayor Keith Wilson's budget priorities. Everyday we experience the brokenness that is Downtown Portland. The ONLY priority right now must be greater security and dealing with the unhoused in our city.	05/20/25 7:26 PM
430	Shawna Baskin	As an individual		I saw that Steve Novick has proposed to close Multinomah Art Center. As a local resident of Multinomah village I and my family have attended many classes through the year. It is a vibrant cultural pillar of our community. Closing it would be devastating in an area that does not have the same public resources as the East side of Portland. DO NOT SHUTTER THIS INSTITUTION! Closing this important part of the community would be on the wrong side of history.	05/20/25 7:26 PM

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431	Eric Earl	As an individual		Our family has been participating in Multnomah Arts Center (MAC) activities since 2021, when our first child was 5 years old. The MAC is a central part of us and our local community. I was stunned to hear the budget on the table would cut out this critical part of SW Portland's arts. Our young artist has grown with the MAC learning to dance, draw, paint, craft, act, play an instrument, and has made so many new friends as well as sharing the MAC with old friends in its fully welcoming space. I can't compliment enough all the wonderful work the MAC and its teachers and staff do. They are the very definition of supporting local artists. And their seasonal break camps are childcare life savers for working families. All of their classes and camps and paid activities are so reasonably priced, we rely on the MAC for enjoyable and enriching activities for our school age kid. Getting hands-on art time is so much more important for my child than any screen they might find elsewhere or the same old neighborhood friends they see all the time. Please vote to save the MAC and its community of young and experienced artists.	05/20/25 7:28 PM
432	Chelsey Andrews	As an individual		I cannot believe I have seen this is an actual possibility. The MACA is the heart of the Multnomah Village Community. I am disgusted that it could possibly be closed. "Local" Steve Novick should find another way to save money. Community centers are not the places to cut. It's almost impossible to get into a class in the MACA because it's so popular. It supports the growth of children, arts, and senior support. This would be a detriment to our community. I regret voting for Steve.	05/20/25 7:29 PM
433	Steve Arts	As an individual		I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed budget cuts affecting the City of Portland's Parks and Recreation division. I am a part-time employee at a city facility, I have served in this role for nearly four years. During this time, the manager responsible for overseeing our facility I have seen only twice. I have consistently voiced concerns that remote management—conducted almost entirely via Zoom—leads to a disconnect from both staff and community needs. Unfortunately, these concerns have gone unaddressed. The initial recommended cuts from Parks leadership include closing a community center and eliminating funding for the SUN School program, which provides critical services such as after-school meals for low-income students. Meanwhile, top administrators such as Michael Jordan and Adena Long earn annual salaries of \$400,000 and \$250,000, respectively. I ask: how many essential programs could be preserved by reconsidering compensation at the highest levels? If these programs are eliminated, what exactly will these highly paid managers be managing? Is the mission of Parks and Recreation to serve the public—or to sustain a top-heavy administrative structure? Remember, last July before any new council people were elected the upper management created an entirely new bureaucracy and even spent money on the rebrand on SWAG. I support Mayor Keith Wilson's proposal to reduce administrative spending by nearly \$10 million, including cuts to internal services like equity, communications, and human resources—primarily through layoffs. He has also proposed freezing raises for city managers and supervisors, which would save over \$4 million. These are necessary steps that prioritize frontline services over excessive bureaucracy. Normally, I would not involve myself in the city's budgeting process, recognizing the complexity of government operations. However, Portland voters recently sent a clear message: they want change. By adopting a new form of government, residents demanded accountability and reform. Now is the time to act on that mandate and implement meaningful change at the upper levels of city leadership. Steve Arts, Concerned Citizen	05/20/25 7:29 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
434	Olive Perry	As an individual		Hello Mayor Wilson & Portland Councilors, My name is Olive Perry, in District 3. I'm writing to ask you to vote no on the budget amendment that would remove Prosper Portland's budget for investing in small businesses. Native small businesses are growing generational wealth for a community that has long been denied equal economic opportunity. Do not break the City's promise to Native and other BIPOC communities. I stand with NAYA and the many community leaders who are clear that this amendment is dangerous, as it "undermines racial equity, erodes public trust, and walks back years of community-led economic development." We can not continue the pattern of supporting Native organizations when it's politically favorable to do so and cutting them out as soon as money gets tight. As a small business owner, I know balancing a budget is not easy, but the absolute minimum of what we can do is follow through on the commitments we've already made. Thank you.	05/20/25 7:30 PM
435	Curtis Roth	As an individual		Please don't close the Multnomah Arts Center! My community band plays there twice a year, and my partner Amy Lupro goes to dance there regularly.	05/20/25 7:31 PM
436	Sean Skelly	As an individual		Please VOTE NO on Amendment #45. The MAC is an important part of our neighborhood where I've learned to play the piano and created many lifelong memories. Losing it would be a travesty for Portland. Please vote no	05/20/25 7:31 PM
437	Kristi Baack	As an individual		Don't close MAC! I've been going to the Multnomah Arts Center since it was converted from Multnomah School in the 80s. I took classes there as a youth, as a young adult, and I do now as a middle-aged adult. My children took many, many classes there as they were growing up. My husband and I were just talking the other day about what we might do in retirement (down the road) and we both agreed that classes at MAC would be on our lists! Multnomah Arts Center is a unique center for arts in Portland. Please keep it open now and for generations to come!	05/20/25 7:32 PM
438	Marcia Bechtold	As an individual		Multnomah Arts Center provides a center for arts education but even more important a place for community engagement. Closing it would be a great loss to Portland	05/20/25 7:33 PM
439	Ron Dolen	As an individual		Please, please don't get rid of the Multnomah Arts Center. It's been a vital, vibrant part of Multnomah Village for a long time, and it's a public space that ties our community together. I was looking forward to growing old there with its various nonprofits and arts groups, which retirees flock to. I've also attended countless events there such as classes (dance, Tai Chi), family baby showers, award celebrations, and contra dances. Why would we want to lose this public space that makes our area special? For what: new development? We might as well live someplace like Wichita instead of Portland if that's the route we're taking our community. I'm happy to pay more taxes to keep the MAC, if that's the problem. Clearly, whoever proposed this bill has never used this wonderful resource.	05/20/25 7:33 PM
440	Shayla S	As an individual		Please don't close the Multnomah Arts Center. This center plays a vital role in helping our small community flourish. Taking this away will strip a community staple and safe haven to those who seek respite in creativity and togetherness. Multnomah Arts Center is a gift to the community and we need it to thrive.	05/20/25 7:34 PM
441	Frank Rudloff	As an individual		The Multnomah Art Center is an irreplaceable community resource. The proposal to permanently close the facility fails to recognize the incredible community-building value the city gains through the programs run through its operation. People meet each other and develop relationships. The City is safer, the arts community is more vibrant and enriches the City through the artists' collective work. Creativity is fostered there. Portland can't afford to throw away the investment that we have made over many years in the institution known as the Multnomah Arts Center.	05/20/25 7:37 PM
442		As an individual		Vote no on amendment #45, don't close MAC	05/20/25 7:37 PM
443	Sydney	As an individual		Do not close Multnomah Art Center. MAC has made a significant impact on me, and because of MAC I have discovered a love for ceramics. Please do not take this valuable studio away from the community.	05/20/25 7:39 PM
444		As an individual		Budget amendment number 45 closing Multnomah Arts Center would be a blow to Portland's arts community. Their education program is important to emerging artists. There are few alternatives to what MAC provides in a city so defined by its arts and music. Please reconsider.	05/20/25 7:39 PM
445	Mary Pearl Wilson	As an individual		I'm very concerned to learn that Multnomah Art Center may be closing. This community center for the arts is the heart of Multnomah Village and the surrounding neighborhoods. It's an incredible resource for education and life enrichment for people of all ages and it's one of the few and best places where genuine and wholesome community engagement can happen. The arts in general have been struggling and they are essential for the well being of society.	05/20/25 7:41 PM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Clif Cannon	As an individual		As a Portland resident I come to count on the arts and support that makes our community attractive and vibrant. By cutting these programs you will be detracting from Portland as an attractive and vibrant community - we are already struggling to keep people in Portland. PLEASE DO NOT CUT THE BUDGET FOR Community Music Center and MAC. As you know CMC Serves hundreds of families and households in over 50 zip codes throughout Portland, in every Council District, Has programs for all ages from kindergarten to seniors, Makes classes and lessons affordable, with up to 100% discount for low-income participants, Supports programs specifically serving Black & Brown youth, Latinx youth, LGBTQ+ youth, seniors, immigrants, and people with disabilities, Gives dozens of free, drop-in concerts a year, with livestream options for those who can't travel to CMC, Partners with organizations for programs in underserved areas in outer East Portland, Provides alternative to sports for youth afterschool activities, Contributes to the musical and economic vitality of Portland, Relies on City general fund and Parks Levy dollars to operate, with additional significant program support from the non-profit CMC Inc., Administers its programs with only 3 full-time a few part-time staff, Hires over 25 part-time performing artist-instructors from the community to provide about 8,000 hours of classes, lessons, and events per year, Is actively working with PP&R management and community groups to ensure its long-term facility needs. VOTE NO on Amendment #45 by tomorrow, May 21 – DON'T CLOSE MAC! The Multnomah Arts Center: Has fifteen partners throughout Portland, serving Parks' targeted communities at their sites including The Rosewood Initiative, Home Forward, and Y.O.U.th. Houses several nonprofits including: Columbia Basin Basketry Guild, Neighborhood House, Oregon Children's Theatre, Print Arts Northwest, Community Policing, and Northwest Woodturners. Provides discounted space rentals to nonprofits. ~~Makes arts education programming accessible by eliminating financial barriers to access through the Parks Levy and MACA~~	05/20/25 7:41 PM
Sharon Rose	As an individual		I'm a member of the Creative Metal Arts Guild, which meets monthly at the Multnomah Arts Center. I have been to the center many times for other things over the years - classes, meetings, sales, training sessions - for everything for knitting to sword fighting. The MAC is an invaluable resource for our community! Please don't close it. Art is a big part of what defines a civilization!	05/20/25 7:42 PM
Merna Skinner	As an individual		I am a local poet and I strongly urge you to not close the arts center in Multnomah village. Closing it will significantly diminish the cultural life and vibrancy of our community.	05/20/25 7:44 PM
	As an individual		Please prioritize public safety, police, fire, and Street Response. It's the hard hit areas like Old Town and Outer East Portland that are really suffering. Plus small business owners that help our City Thrive. Thank you for your attention to this matter.	05/20/25 7:44 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
450	Caitlin Upshaw	As an individual		I am writing in support of two proposals to expand arts funding in the city budget—(Dunphy 2) Motion to Amend the Budget to Fund Arts Economic Development and (Green 6) Motion to Amend the Budget to Provide One-Time Grant to Portland Center Stage. As a lifelong theater kid (and now the Director of People & Culture at Portland Center Stage), I've had a front row seat to the ways in which the arts in Portland—and Portland Center Stage in particular—have brought people and safety to downtown Portland, served thousands of our public school students, and opened hearts and minds at a time when the powers that be are working day and night to squash empathy, diversity, and progress. Theater changes people for the better—one can't help but feel connected to their community when they sit in the dark and experience a story alongside their neighbors. Theater challenges us; it builds empathy and critical thinking skills. Art has the power to bring people out of their homes and into the downtown core—where they also go out to dinner in the neighborhood beforehand and grab a nightcap nearby after the show. Portland Center Stage is in the unique position of being the large professional theater in town, providing living wage jobs to hundreds of union artists and technicians every year, ensuring that they don't have to leave Portland and take their talents to another city in order to survive. Those artists can earn a living in Portland because of PCS, which means they can also do design work, or act, or paint, or direct for smaller theaters and arts institutions in Portland. We are all connected. Allocating funds to ensure PCS's survival would mean keeping those hundreds of jobs—and artists—in Portland, especially when paired with expanding funding for the arts in general. Without our artists, what kind of city would Portland be?	05/20/25 7:44 PM
451	Robert R Romo	As an individual		The MAC is an important part of the southwest community allowing people to have a place to do art. The classes allow people to learn art and there is space for people to do art! My kids attend summer camp there as well taught summer camp! I ask the council to save our beloved MAC and allow people to enrich their lives.	05/20/25 7:45 PM
452		As an individual		PLEASE DO NOT CLOSE MAC. I was severely depressed and lonely in portland until i found MAC. Now my mental health is so much better. I am around creative beautiful people and teachers. I have loved every class. It has been integral to my survival and happiness while living in portland the last 3 years. I am very poor and still able to be creative. it makes me so happy. The community would be severely hurt if MAC closed, especially senior citizens and children.	05/20/25 7:45 PM
453	Kirsten Bosnak	As an individual		My family and I live in District 4. I was completely shocked to learn of the proposal to permanently close the Multnomah Arts Center! The MAC has always felt like the heart of our neighborhood and an incredibly important resource. I can't even imagine if it were closed. My kids birthdays are always there....My kids and I have been taking classes there for years, and we enjoy all the events that draw our community together that happen at the MAC. Our neighborhood is already experiencing so many changes--this would do permanent damage to our community. I had no idea this was even a possibility until a neighbor alerted me. Please vote NO! Don't close the MAC!	05/20/25 7:46 PM
454	Elaine Comstock	As an individual		Don't close MAC! It is such an important hub for community and culture. Please remove this amendment from the budget.	05/20/25 7:48 PM
455	Hannah proctor	As an individual		Multnomah Art Center is a vital part of our community and my place in it. I have taken tap classes, loom weaving, watercolor and have brought many new people to MAC to join me in classes, it has brought me so much joy and I love the space it holds in the community. Taking tap as an adult and performing at their spring recital gave me so much confidence and pride at a time that was very challenging for me. I was diagnosed with blood cancer in 2020 and the support, education and community that MAC offers brings me and everyone who enters it so much joy. It is vital to the heart of this city.	05/20/25 7:49 PM
456		As an individual		Keep the Multnomah Arts Center!	05/20/25 7:49 PM
457	Sedona karlin	As an individual		Multnomah Art Center is an incredibly important part of our community. For adults, children, elders, and families. We want to emphasize that we want it to keep receiving funding so it can remain open.	05/20/25 7:50 PM
458	Emily Shea	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center. This is a critical resource for the community.	05/20/25 7:51 PM
459	John frentress	As an individual		Don't close MAC. it's an extremely important part of PDX. It's one of the few remaining arts/education places in a city that values such places.	05/20/25 7:52 PM
460	Adrien C.	As an individual		Don't close the Multnomah Arts Center! Firstly there has not been sufficient time to gather the community's thoughts on this matter, there was very short notice to spread the news of something that will deeply impact the people and businesses of the area. MAC is part of what makes our community great, they provide a lot of value and draw me into the village. My first Christmas in Portland I walked down to Multnomah Village and MAC was open showcasing local artists, it was extremely lively and I'm sure the other people there would appreciate the chance to make a comment and defend this place. Please reconsider including this cut as part of your agenda.	05/20/25 7:53 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
461	Meagan Free	As an individual		Dear Members of the Portland City Council, I am writing as a concerned resident and parent to express my strong opposition to any plans to shut down the Multnomah Arts Center. This center is far more than a building — it is a vital cornerstone of our community, serving individuals and families of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. My 3-year-old daughter takes ballet classes at the Multnomah Arts Center, and the joy, confidence, and creativity it brings to her life are immeasurable. For many families like mine, it's one of the few accessible, affordable places where our children can safely explore the arts and grow through structured learning and self-expression. Beyond serving young children, the center plays a critical role for seniors — offering them a place to connect, engage, and maintain their mental and emotional well-being. For many older adults with limited daily interaction, the center is a rare and precious source of community and companionship. The variety of classes offered — from painting and pottery to dance and drama — enriches the lives of countless Portland residents. The arts are not a luxury; they are essential to a thriving, compassionate, and connected city. Closing the Multnomah Arts Center would be a profound loss to Portland, both culturally and socially. I urge you to find alternative solutions to preserve this invaluable resource, and to continue investing in the spaces that make our communities vibrant and inclusive. Thank you for your time and service to our city. Meagan Free	05/20/25 7:53 PM
462	Stacy Peterson	As an individual		I am strongly in support of public safety measures in the proposed budget. We need more officers all around Portland. As a public school teacher for 18 years I am saddened that it is no longer safe to take field trips throughout the city. We used to do tours of the bridges and downtown areas but haven't in years due to safety concerns. We have been yelled at and followed by people with medical health issues who posed a threat and with rising class sizes it's no longer safe to protect 30 kids in the city. I have seen people doing drugs in broad daylight and been confronted in a hostile way. Every year it seems to get worse. Portland is not as safe as it once was and I think that's in large part due to lack of police and safety measures.	05/20/25 7:54 PM
463	Kimberly Hutchison	As an individual		Please don't close the Multnomah Arts Center! It brings sooo much value to our community and is an affordable and accessible option for so many to experience the arts -- including summer camps for kids. PLEASE, vote no!	05/20/25 7:55 PM
464	Lisa Dunning	As an individual		Please vote NO on amendment #45 and maintain the Multnomah Art Center as a vital community asset. For over 30 years, I have paid the out-of-district fees for a variety of classes because MAC is a welcoming space with knowledgeable instructors and valuable programming. I have attended Portland Handweaver Guild meetings and have seen how well attended events are. Please vote NO and keep MAC open & vibrant. Thank you.	05/20/25 7:55 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
465	Susan Wickstrom	As an individual		Regarding Item #16 on the agenda, specifically Novick 4 amendment to close the Community Music Center and Multnomah Art Center. I've been a Portland resident since 1991. During the past 25 years, I've served on the supporting board of directors for both the Community Music Center (CMC) and the Multnomah Arts Center (MAC). I've seen firsthand how access to art and music education can save lives. On a recent First Friday, 230 people—mostly families with school-aged children—crowded into the Multnomah Arts Center auditorium to complete fun art projects, enjoy nutritious food and commune with other families at a fun, safe event. This is just one typical example of how Portland Parks and Recreation art programs build community and promote creativity and peace in our neighborhoods. My own son, a Portland native, participated in affordable music and art education through Portland Parks and Recreation (PPR), filling the creative gap his public school education couldn't provide. Today, he is a productive member of our community who works fulltime in arts education, inspired by his years at CCM and MAC. Personally, I've been a member of the MAC community chorus for 12 years; singing with 70 people every Wednesday night offers mental health benefits like nothing else. And we are just one family. I personally know countless friends and neighbors whose quality of life has been improved and enriched by PPR arts programs. Please keep CMC and MAC open! They are vital assets to our city and all the people who live here. So many people will be devastated if these centers are closed. To paraphrase Dorothea Lensch, PPR's first director of recreation, "Community recreation isn't all balls and bats." Thanks for your consideration. Respectfully, Susan Wickstrom	05/20/25 7:55 PM
466	Zach Numan	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is a vital resource for the city. I urge you to not close the MAC.	05/20/25 7:56 PM
467	Roseann Getchell	As an individual		Dear Council Members, I am very concerned about the proposed budget cuts regarding the Multnomah Arts Center. The MAC is the lifeblood of our community. A place for children to learn and grow, community members to come together, a space for safety and security, and so much more. As a working mother of a little toddler, I have benefitted from the MAC and its services to support my family. Especially in a time of economic, social, and political strife, our neighborhood and fellow Portlanders has depended even more on this community center. In addition to my experience, there are more ways the Multnomah Arts Center impacts our community: -Has fifteen partners throughout Portland, serving Parks' targeted communities at their sites including The Rosewood Initiative, Home Forward, and Y.O.U.th. -Houses several nonprofits including: Columbia Basin Basketry Guild, Neighborhood House, Oregon Children's Theatre, Print Arts Northwest, Community Policing, and Northwest Woodturners. -Provides discounted space rentals to nonprofits. -Makes arts education programming accessible by eliminating financial barriers to access, through the Parks Levy and MACA scholarships. -Received roughly \$1,000,000 in seismic and ADA facility upgrades from Parks in the past two years, surely not an indication of imminent building closure. -During summer months, MAC runs the Arts in the Parks program, providing free drop-in arts activities at parks (primarily in areas serving our targeted communities). Last year over 4,000 youth were provided activities through this program. -Produces Free First Friday Arts for All at MAC, which provides drop-in arts education experiences along with free food for the Portland community. -Staff works with Parks management and our partners to address long term facility needs. Please do not close the MAC. I am urging you to continue to approve funding for this very important center. Sincerely, Roseann Getchell	05/20/25 7:57 PM
468	Ellen Voth	As an individual		I am against the closing of the Multnomah Arts Center.	05/20/25 7:57 PM
469		As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is a gem of the community. It allows a space for kids to find hobbies and community and stay out of trouble. We can't let it close! This is what makes Portland special.	05/20/25 7:57 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
470	Mary Moll	As an individual		Please don't cut the community music center on SE Francis St. I am a senior, and have enjoyed the piano class for seniors. I would hate to see it go.	05/20/25 7:57 PM
471	Rachael Rider	As an individual		Hi there! I'm a homeowner in Multnomah Village and want to ask you to VOTE NO on Amendment #45 - PLEASE DON'T CLOSE MAC! It is the heart of our community and provides an artistic outlet that otherwise would not be available! Art is always the first thing to get cut when times are tough and yet it's the thing that allows us to express our humanity beyond simply living. It's the thing that allows us to work through our feelings, to show others who we really are. I know it sounds corny but people need the chance to make a mess and make something mediocre and then magically make something beautiful! Please don't take that away. Life can't just be grind grind grind. Thank you for your time and attention.	05/20/25 7:58 PM
472	Lori Kaul	As an individual		I want to testify as to the incredible asset the MAC center is to the entirety of SW Portland. I have taken several classes there and as a senior am hoping to take many more. The MAC is beloved and adds so much opportunity for community involvement. It is a vital part of Multnomah Village that serves the entire population, from the little ones to the elderly. It is so special. Please, please keep it open! I just heard about the possibility of it closing and I'm devastated. We need the arts! More than ever!	05/20/25 7:58 PM
473	Murphy Terrell	As an individual		Don't close the MAC. We need it. You tried to close it before, but you thought better. Our needs have not changed.	05/20/25 7:58 PM
474	Matthew Getchell	As an individual		I've lived in Portland my whole life. I currently live in Multnomah Village in District 4. I am strongly opposed to Amendment #45 on the May 21, 2025 Agenda. Arts and Community are central to the City of Portland's way of life. The world outside our beautiful city is currently a very challenging and dark place. But just because there are budget constraints and "competing priorities" does not mean it's the time to disinvest in community hubs, in cultural touchstones. The Multnomah Arts Center should not be closed. Please vote No.	05/20/25 7:58 PM
475	Henry Jokela	As an individual		Please choose reason and vote no on Amendment #45. We need the arts and the arts need us.	05/20/25 7:58 PM
476	Martha Decherd	As an individual		I am writing in opposition to Amendment #45, and asking the members of the City Council to vote NO on it. Closing the Multnomah Arts Center is short-sighted and a detriment to the city. Programs are provided there that are not available anywhere else in the city or the region. The wide variety of classes and programs are available to people of all ages at reasonable cost. The arts are the heart and soul of the city, and the Multnomah Arts Center is a crucial part of the arts community of Portland. Please vote NO and continue to support this vibrant, welcoming, crucial part of Portland,	05/20/25 7:58 PM
477	Carrie Bleiweiss	As an individual		PLEASE DO NOT CLOSE THE MULTNOMAH ART CENTER!!! THE MAC IS A VITAL PART OF THE COMMUNITY. PLEASE SAVE THE MAC!!	05/20/25 7:59 PM
478	Rob Deagle	As an individual		This comment is regarding Amendment 45. I support a "No" for this amendment. My daughter has been taking violin lessons at the Community Music Center for the last 9 years. She has built a strong relationship with her instructors and made lifelong friends with not only the other students, but with her instrument as well. Music has been a formative part of her childhood, and CMC is an important place very dear to her (and my) heart. Please consider the impact of closing an important building and organization, and ending the magic and wonder of music for so many young kids (AND ADULTS). Please. Please don't close CMC.	05/20/25 8:00 PM
479	Susan Baillet	As an individual		I'm writing to urge you NOT to close the Multnomah Arts Center. It contributes immensely to the Portland community; it is used all day every day by people of all ages from all over the city as well as a few from Beaverton and Lake Oswego (and other suburbs too I'm sure). I have taken many classes there in art and dance, I have made new friends and learned new skills, I have bought art and pottery at the sales, and I have enjoyed talks about art and photography. I am there at least once a week, and it has enhanced my life immeasurably. Although I personally have not been involved with the several nonprofit organizations that are housed there, I know that they serve important roles to elders and the less advantaged. PLEASE DO NOT CLOSE the Multnomah Arts Center! Thank you.	05/20/25 8:02 PM
480	Vicky	As an individual		The Multnomah arts center is a major staple for the community. We need creative art and Thus wonderful place offers so much	05/20/25 8:02 PM
481	Robin Korybski	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is a very special place. It offers many programs not found elsewhere. It brings makers and would-be makers of all types together under one roof. The programs offered at the MAC are not easily found elsewhere. In fact, a number of classes are only available during the first five minutes of registration. It often takes people new to the center multiple terms trying to get into the weaving and ceramics programs. It would be a shame to close this vital asset after it has received upgrades in the past few years including an HVAC system, seismic and ADA upgrades. There must be other options. The center is unique to the Portland Parks system in that it does not charge out of district fees.	05/20/25 8:03 PM

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482	Kristen sanders	As an individual		I am writing about the potential closing of Multnomah Arts Center. This Center is the heart of Multnomah village. I teach group fitness to seniors under the basketball court at MAC. I started teaching there after the pandemic. I have a beautiful group of seniors that live in Multnomah Village, Many went to elementary school when MAC was a school. They have learned pottery, tap and even displayed their art at MAC. One of my students teaches tap at MAC. So many parents & children come dance with us. The basketball court has many group fitness classes going on there. The senior center is important & vital for seniors. They gather to socialize, knit, get food. The activities generate income. I don't understand why the gymnasium isn't utilized, rented, why fitness classes aren't offered to generate income. We don't want to lose this vital building that contributes to a beautiful community in Multnomah Village. Please don't close this building	05/20/25 8:04 PM
483	Kristen sanders	As an individual		I am writing about the potential closing of Multnomah Arts Center. This Center is the heart of Multnomah village. I teach group fitness to seniors under the basketball court at MAC. I started teaching there after the pandemic. I have a beautiful group of seniors that live in Multnomah Village, Many went to elementary school when MAC was a school. They have learned pottery, tap and even displayed their art at MAC. One of my students teaches tap at MAC. So many parents & children come dance with us. The basketball court has many group fitness classes going on there. The senior center is important & vital for seniors. They gather to socialize, knit, get food. The activities generate income. I don't understand why the gymnasium isn't utilized, rented, why fitness classes aren't offered to generate income. We don't want to lose this vital building that contributes to a beautiful community in Multnomah Village. Please don't close this building	05/20/25 8:04 PM
484	Darryn Sikora	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center (MAC) is the lifeblood of SW Portland and the only setting within the city that gives both youth and adults the opportunity to participate in visual and performing arts. Please vote AGAINST any motion that would temporarily or permanently close the MAC.	05/20/25 8:05 PM
485		As an individual		DON'T CLOSE MULTNOMAH ARTS CENTER!!!!	05/20/25 8:07 PM
486	Steven Lower	As an individual		The CMC has been part of our lives for 3 years. Our son has been able to explore other talents that he would otherwise not be able to. The CMC is a treasure, a community asset and shining example of funded programs that work for Portland youth.	05/20/25 8:07 PM
487	Julie Johnson	As an individual		Do not close the Multnomah Arts Center!! This is a vibrant, community-centric hub of artistic learning and culture in the Portland area! Classes sell out as soon as they're listed. The Front and Center galleries provide an ever-changing display of local artists. The building itself hosts many local arts guilds and associations. Portland artists convene to learn, sell, and exchange ideas. The guilds who are housed at MAC provide free public education skills days. The auditorium provides a wonderful space for those people needing a large convening space - for performances, sales, skills days, memorial services, etc. This space is easy to access - right off the highway and has plenty of parking. Closing this art-centered gathering and learning space would be an unimaginable loss in the Portland community.	05/20/25 8:09 PM
488	Vincent Clervi	As an individual		I'm lease don't close down MAC	05/20/25 8:10 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
489		As an individual		Obvy don't have to use this but I added what you just text and it came up with this. Dear Council Members, I'm writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed closure of the Multnomah Arts Center. This place has been part of my life for decades, and its value to our community simply cannot be overstated. I grew up taking dance classes at this very studio, and now, years later, my 3-year-old daughter attends the same ballet program. Watching her dance in the same rooms I once did has been deeply meaningful — it's a beautiful reminder of the community continuity that places like MAC foster. In addition to my personal connection, I've also worked at the senior center and seen firsthand how essential the Multnomah Arts Center is for older adults. For many seniors, this center is not just a place to take a class — it's a lifeline. It provides structure, friendship, and a sense of belonging to those who might otherwise be isolated. I've seen people's spirits lifted through art, conversation, and simple human connection. That impact is real and deeply needed. The Multnomah Arts Center offers opportunities across generations — children, families, seniors, and everyone in between. It is a place where people gather not just to learn, but to feel seen and supported. Closing it would be an enormous loss to Portland — socially, culturally, and emotionally. Please consider the long-term harm that would come from taking away such a vital community resource. I urge you to find a way to keep the Multnomah Arts Center open and thriving. Thank you for your time and consideration.	05/20/25 8:11 PM
490	Saskia van de Poel	As an individual		Please do not close down the multnomah art center. Individuals need spaces to be creative and form community especially in a time like this. I have always been interested in their programs and have wanted to take one. Also I have friends who have found their classes very fulfilling. I urge you not to go through with this decision. Please and thank you	05/20/25 8:12 PM
491	Karen Horkitz	As an individual		I am a 22 year resident, taxpayer, and small business owner in Multnomah County District 4 and am strongly against proposed budget amendment #45 to close the Multnomah Arts Center and direct the budget savings to restore parks maintenance. The MAC is a vital community resource that serves every population segment in our community and keeps SW Portland vital. Portland parks will continue to exist without the relatively small budget savings from eliminating this vital community resource. This is precisely the type of proposal that encourages homeowners and business owners such as myself to reconsider remaining in Multnomah County. I urge you to vote NO on this budget amendment.	05/20/25 8:13 PM
492		As an individual		I oppose budget amendment #45, which would close the Community Music Center (CMC) and Multnomah Arts Center (MAC). These programs are essential to Portland families — including mine. For nearly a decade, my children have been part of the CMC community. Since they were small, they've learned violin and cello, made friends in orchestra, and performed in countless recitals. CMC gave them not just musical skills, but also confidence, discipline, and joy. Without CMC, they wouldn't have had any sustained music education; in 16 cumulative years in Portland Public Schools, my kids had music instruction for only two. My children have also taken ceramics and drawing at MAC, and have been at the MAC for birthdays and school events. Both CMC and MAC are true community hubs — places where people come to learn, connect, and create art. We should be investing in these programs — not cutting them. Once they're gone, they're incredibly difficult to rebuild.	05/20/25 8:15 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
493	Koleman Burk-Convery	On behalf of an organization	Sunrise PDX	Hello Portland City Council, My name is Koleman Burk-Convery. I'm proud to be a Portland citizen and a member of Sunrise PDX, a youth-led climate organization working toward a better future for all. I'm writing to express my discontent with the general fund budget which Mayor Wilson recently proposed. To put it simply, we need less money in the police budget and more money in the housing budget. Based on Mayor Wilson's success in his campaign as a single-issue candidate claiming he would end our housing crisis, it's clear that Portland voters' main priority is the housing crisis. I believe in the unique democratic process we're engaging in by implementing the new City Council. But it will only work if you proceed according to the will of the people. We've made our voices clear: we must put our community first and ensure our neighbors have access to the basic necessities they deserve. In the darkest days our modern country has ever seen, it is imperative that we focus on building our community, not keeping it controlled with the police force. Thank you for your time and for your service to our community. Regards, Koleman Burk-Convery	05/20/25 8:17 PM
494	Joel Glick	As an individual		I simply cannot fathom how the City Council is even considering closing the Multnomah Arts Center. It is a vital and irreplaceable asset in our community. Multnomah Village would simply not be the awesome place it is without the MAC! How can any Councilor walk through the halls of that precious building, look at the arts and crafts studios, the looms, the kilns, the senior center, the dance studio, the music rooms and the auditorium, and then seriously propose that the building be closed? The people of Multnomah Village and surrounding neighborhoods depend on the MAC as our central meeting place and cultural hub. My Jewish congregation, P'nai Or will soon be holding Saturday morning services in the Capitol Room. Please don't even put the proposal to close the MAC up for a vote!	05/20/25 8:18 PM
495		As an individual		I urge you in the strongest terms not to close the Multnomah Arts Center. MAC is a cornerstone of the community that brings creativity and inclusion far beyond Southwest Portland. Eliminating MAC to cut costs is a terrible idea and fiscally shortsighted. The arts are proven to reduce social isolation, improve mental health, boost academic outcomes, and foster civic pride. Cutting a community resource like MAC may yield short-term savings on a budget line, but the long-term consequences like higher demand for social services, loss of youth engagement opportunities, and degradation of community cohesion will come at a far greater cost. If this resource goes under, it cannot easily be rebuilt. It took decades of community investment and volunteer support to make it what it is today. Please protect this vital cultural resource. The loss to our city would be immeasurable.	05/20/25 8:18 PM
496	Jon Decherd	As an individual		OPPOSITION TO AMENDMENT #45: Closing Multnomah Arts Center will devastate Multnomah Village as well as arts education in the Portland area. It will eliminate important arts/music programs for both teenagers and seniors for the Portland area. It will reduce property values for all residents of the Multnomah neighborhood.	05/20/25 8:19 PM
497	Aaron Tensen	As an individual		I urge you not to close Multnomah Art Center. Multnomah Art Center is a staple of our community. A gathering place, a learning place, a place for fun, expression and community. My children love taking art classes at MAC. My daughter age 6 and son age 3 come home from their art classes, often with paint or clay still on their faces, so excited to tell what big art project they worked on. Children already have so many challenges that have been created by greed and recklessness of the generation before them, don't destroy something that enriches the community they love.	05/20/25 8:19 PM
498	Judy Colligan-Marshall	As an individual		Closing the MAC would certainly hurt the community and stop the wonderful opportunity for adults and children of all ages to explore creativity. Stop this plan!!	05/20/25 8:20 PM
499	roger crooks	On behalf of an organization	Northwest Woodturners - www.northwestwoodturners.com	I am president of the Northwest Woodturners. We are close to 400 members that range from beginners to professional woodturners. We meet once a month at the MAC who has a top notch A.V system, stage, and storage for our supplies. We have a monthly demonstrator with experts and visiting professionals. we also rent meeting rooms for training classes. See our brochure attached.	05/20/25 8:20 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
500		As an individual		No on all amendments that reduce the Portland Police Bureau budget except for Novick 1 and Novick 2. A particular NO on Avalos 3 since it represents a slippery slope back into the commission form of government's co-mingling of administration and legislative responsibilities in its requirement for council approval and action to draw down from contingency funds for pay for police and/or fire overhead expenses. Novick 6 and 7 are distinguishable from Avalos 3 by providing clear and pre-approved criteria for use of police overtime set aside funds.	05/20/25 8:21 PM
501	Elizabeth Snyder	As an individual		I'm not sure what the reasoning is behind the possible permanent closure of the Multnomah arts center, but I am raising my voice to the chorus of people who are are stunned to hear about this today. My children and I have taken art, music, and dance classes there, I have gone to lectures and visit the gallery regularly. I have gone to basket guild meetings, have attended fiber arts shows, have watched Morris dancing practice there, and have enjoyed being able to participate in a valuable arts community since I arrived in Portland in 1979. Please reconsider this.	05/20/25 8:22 PM
502	Rowan Spillman	On behalf of an organization	Sunrise PDX	My name is Rowan Spillman and I would like to express the following opinions as a member of Sunrise PDX: I strongly support Candace Avalos' budget proposal. I strongly appose the cuts to the department of homeless services. I strongly appose the funding increases to the Police Bureau. I support cuts to Portland Prosper and feel overall positive to Mitch Green's proposal. I work with vulnerable communities in East county, and have seen firsthand the difference services like housing supports and SUN/park can make in a families life, and adversely I've seen how harmful interactions with police have been. Policing address symptoms of broken systems. No amount of funding to police will address public need. We need to invest in community care and safety nets. Thank you for your consideration and time.	05/20/25 8:22 PM
503	Alina lambert	As an individual		Don't close the Multnomah Arts Center!	05/20/25 8:22 PM
504		As an individual		A new amendment is needed regarding budget notes: Budget notes that require analysis and reports from the administrative branch, especially notes that include specific deadlines, will require time from pertinent bureau staff. Since time is money, a new overarching amendment is requested: all such deadlines should be considered tentative and subject to a comprehensive review of their scope by the mayor and city administrator. Such a review will be completed and submitted to council no later than August 15, 2025. That way the council as a whole will see the budget note related workload imposed on the administrative branch via budget notes from individual councilors. The review submitted no later than August 15, 2025 should include priority and timeline suggestions from the mayor and city administrator for adoption by the council by early September 2025.	05/20/25 8:23 PM
505	Amy Swain	As an individual		I'm a student at and donor to the Multnomah Arts Center and am deeply troubled by the proposal to close MAC. I'm typically there 2 times a week and witness first hand the incredible creative community it has fostered for years. Losing this important resource would be devastating to thousands of valuable Portland residents who are bettering themselves through learning new skills and nurturing their existing talents. In addition, every faculty member I have interacted with is incredibly accomplished and renowned in their fields. If MAC were to close, especially with little to no notice, it would be an irreparable loss to the Portland community for generations to come.	05/20/25 8:23 PM
506		As an individual		I am very concerned with the proposed amendment to close the Community Music Center and Multnomah Arts Center. Both of these are critical in the education of our children. With the reductions in music from PPS, Portland kids do not have much music education beyond outside resources, such as the Community Music Center. Any cut here will further deepen the issues that budget issues are doing to the education of our community. I ask you to not pass the amendment to close the CMC and MAC.	05/20/25 8:24 PM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Bart Borosky	As an individual		Preserve Access to the Portland Tennis Center – Oppose Budget Cuts I urge you to reject the proposed reclassification and reduction in operating hours for the Portland Tennis Center (PTC) in the 2025–26 budget. PTC is Portland's only public indoor tennis facility near downtown, providing essential access during our long rainy season. Cutting even one hour a day would significantly reduce court availability, which is already strained during peak times. This facility represents more than just a place to play tennis—it's a vital, inclusive community hub where children, seniors, and residents of all income levels can stay active and connected. For a city that prides itself on equity and inclusion, restricting access to affordable recreation directly contradicts Portland's core values. I also encourage the City to prioritize critical infrastructure needs including roof repairs, outdoor court improvements, and development of a sustainable long-term plan for this important public resource. Please reverse this proposed cut and maintain full support for the Portland Tennis Center. Our diverse community depends on it for year-round recreation, physical health, and social connection. Sincerely, Bart Borosky Portland, OR 97202	05/20/25 8:24 PM
	As an individual		No on Clark 10 and any other amendments related to SW Trails due to the need to first clarify maintenance and liability responsibilities for these trails before spending limited city resources.	05/20/25 8:24 PM
Bailey Burk-Convery	On behalf of an organization	Sunrise PDX	Hello Portland City Council, My name is Bailey Burk-Convery. I'm a proud Portlander and a member of Sunrise PDX, a local youth-led climate organization. I'm writing today to share my hopes for a better budget than the one proposed by Mayor Williams. I was a Camp Counselor at East Portland Community Center all through high school and college, and working with kids during the summer was the best job I've ever had. I got to work with so many creative, funny, bright, kind kids who came together from all over the city in my camps. Parents had an affordable childcare option, and I had a great summer job that helped me pay for college. Parks programming enriches the summers of kids who would probably be home in front of a screen if it wasn't for Portland Parks and Rec. The budget shortfall of about \$5 million would be catastrophic for the programming and resources families and communities rely on. At the same time, the Portland Police Bureau is slated to receive a nearly \$14 million increase from the general fund. Keeping kids in underserved communities off the streets would truly decrease the need for police funding. We should be providing safe spaces for kids to spend time in, not more armed officers to police them. My ask for this budget is straightforward: Less money toward the Portland Police Bureau's bloated budget, more money toward clean parks, safe community centers, and accessible green spaces for all Portlanders. Thank you, Bailey Burk-Convery District 4 Resident	05/20/25 8:25 PM
	As an individual		Though I am a resident in District 4, I urge a NO vote on Clark 9.	05/20/25 8:26 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
511	Blue Tippet-Hunt	As an individual		Hello, my name is Blue and I live in Sellwood and work in the NW industrial district for a locally run company. I am both excited and nervous to be contributing to the city government process, as I think we are in an unprecedented time of having both a willing and ready City Council that is dedicated to public service and representing our communities, while also having many significant and tender issues up for debate. This budget season is a hard one, and is coming down directly on our new electeds. As a member of Sunrise Movement, a youth focused youth led climate justice organization, I feel strongly that we as a city need to prioritize services for the public, including outreach, parks, transit, support for those in crisis, and government transparency. Creative solutions are essential, however I think that pulling money from PCEF for shoring up the general fund sets a bad precedent that could result in the fund being abused for non-environmental forward projects. The councilors proposal to take a loan from PCEF to support the parks department that is being cut by the Mayor's plan is a stop gap solution that could be otherwise accounted for by reducing the PPB budget by the extra 10 million they did not request, at minimum. Thank you for your time, work, and service, especially to the city staff who process this testimony and present it to the city councilors. Many regards, Blue	05/20/25 8:26 PM
512		As an individual		The Multnomah Art Centershould not be forced to close, being an important part of community and history.	05/20/25 8:26 PM
513	Robert Lucas	As an individual		MAC is an essential education center for a massive creative need for the peoples of Portand and surrounding cities. Please sustain needs important to your constituents. Regards Robert Lucad	05/20/25 8:28 PM
514		As an individual		I am comfortable with the City Administrator's plan regarding core services alignment and enterprise efficiencies. If more council input is deemed appropriate, however, Morillo 10 is preferable to Avalos 9. The end of FY 25-26 timeline is prudent. Though Councilor Zimmerman thinks that these kinds of changes could have already been made, that timeline was never realistic since thoughtful assessments take time. We don't want rushed DOGE like decisions that are disrespectful to employees. I also support Pirtle-Guiney 8 regarding this core service alignment topic.	05/20/25 8:28 PM
515	Zari Santner	As an individual		Dear members of the City Council - I am writing to urge you to vote against a recommendation to use \$5m from the golf enterprise fund reserve to backfill cuts in other Parks and Recreation programs. The reserve fund was established in 2022-23 with guidance and strong recommendations by a 12 member Golf Advisory Committee of which I'm a member. During Covid, the golf program, like many other outdoor recreation programs, experienced a substantial surge of use, which continues to this day, after years of decline in use. This trend is national and has led to an unprecedented diversity of users as people have discovered the affordability of municipal golf fees. For the first time in many decades, Portland's golf program has began to rebuild the staffing of its grounds' maintenance and has established a reserve fund to achieve two goals. First, to set aside a rainy day fund to cover the program's costs during prolonged inclement weather, in summer or winter, avoiding the operating fund going into the red. Second, to build up the reserve fund to begin tackling the deferred maintenance and the immediate needs of the program's physical infrastructure such as the 50+ year old irrigation and drainage system, dilapidated restrooms, barely functioning cart paths and club houses in disrepair. Years ago, the City Council declared the golf program an enterprise fund, meaning it had to operate independent of General Fund, with funds generated by golf players fees. And for the first time in years, the program has the ability, financially, to be strategic and responsibly plan to exercise good stewardship of golf systems infrastructure needs. I find it very ironic that you might punish a recreation program, used by thousands of diverse groups of people from the ages of 10 to 87+, for being prudent and trying to operate within its means and not rely on tax payers to rescue its operational and major maintenance needs. By raiding the golf funds to remedy the Parks Bureau's other program budget shortfalls, you will essentially discourage any other infrastructure bureau or program in the City to be fiscally prudent and build up reserve funds for unforeseen situations or long- term needs because they will be penalized for it.. My hope was, and still is, that with the new form of government, the Mayor and City Council will consider their decisions strategically and factor in the long term needs regardless of the acuity of the immediate needs because shortfalls in the General Fund are not an exception but the norm.I urge you not to act on a recommendation that not only seriously impacts the golf program but discourages the bureaucracy to manage the city's assets responsibly. Sincerely, Zari Santner	05/20/25 8:29 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
516		As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center. It is a long time fixture in Multnomah Village and SW Portland. Many in our community (kids and adults alike) have taken or are taking classes there. It's also a community gathering space. Please fight to keep it open.	05/20/25 8:29 PM
517	Heather L Peterson	As an individual		My husband and I have taken music lessons at the Community Music Center for almost two decades. This extraordinary center has been a place for people of all ages to come together to learn, study, and play music. There is no question that playing musical instruments and singing has a large impact on brain function, improving concentration, focus, motor skills and memory. This is especially important for young people. Playing in ensembles, as we have done at the Center for many years, is also very social. It is one of the best ways to learn to work together and cooperate with others to create something beautiful. With music programs being cut from our schools, the Community Music Center is one of the few places where youngsters can find good teachers and develop valuable life skills. Closing the Center would be a terrible loss to the Portland community as well as many outside Portland who benefit from the opportunities there. Please vote "No" on Amendment #45.	05/20/25 8:29 PM
518	Greta Schoeneman	On behalf of an organization	Southwest Portland Community Band	I don't think that the Multnomah Arts Center should be on the chopping block. This building helps our community in so many ways. They already want to cut art programs in schools, where will our children build their art skills?	05/20/25 8:30 PM
519	Emma Rawnsley	As an individual		Please do not allow the Multnomah Arts Center (MAC) to be closed! The MAC is a vital community hub providing services and opportunities for all in our community - for all ages and all income levels. In addition to being a waste of the money spent in recent years to seismically improve the building, closure would create a large vacant property that would require ongoing security and maintenance, and could become a blight on our community and cause potential public safety concerns. In addition to the wonderful classes offered, the MAC also: Has fifteen partners throughout Portland, serving Parks' targeted communities at their sites including The Rosewood Initiative, Home Forward, and Y.O.U.th. Houses several nonprofits including: Columbia Basin Basketry Guild, Neighborhood House, Oregon Children's Theatre, Print Arts Northwest, Community Policing, and Northwest Woodturners. Provides discounted space rentals to nonprofits. Makes arts education programming accessible by eliminating financial barriers to access, through the Parks Levy and MACA scholarships. Received roughly \$1,000,000 in seismic and ADA facility upgrades from Parks in the past two years, surely not an indication of imminent building closure. During summer months, MAC runs the Arts in the Parks program, providing free drop-in arts activities at parks (primarily in areas serving our targeted communities). Last year over 4,000 youth were provided activities through this program. Produces Free First Friday Arts for All at MAC, which provides drop-in arts education experiences along with free food for the Portland community. Staff works with Parks management and our partners to address long term facility needs.	05/20/25 8:30 PM
520		As an individual		Please don't close this center!	05/20/25 8:30 PM
521		As an individual		No on Clark 12 since it implicitly sets Keller Renovation as a higher priority than a new performing arts facility at PSU.	05/20/25 8:31 PM
522	Gavin Gentry	On behalf of an organization	Sunrise PDX	My name is Gavin and I am with Sunrise PDX. I am humbly requesting the budget shortfall the city is facing this year to be resolved with a reduction in funding for the police as proposed by Candice Avalos. I have moved to Oregon recently from Bozeman Montana and I have been blown away by a government care about the same issues I do. I am proud to live in a city with a street response, that cares about maintaining beautiful parks for all, providing public transit, and is actually doing things to fight the climate crisis. I want to see the ambition Portland is known for reflected in their budget. Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony :).	05/20/25 8:31 PM
523		As an individual		As a resident who cares deeply about our tax base that supports schools and public services, I urge the Council to continue to fund the programs that support small business and community development around jobs. Our high school graduates who can find internships and apprenticeships in Portland will stay and help strengthen our community; our ability to attract and retain small businesses will help build a culture of growth and uniqueness, the latter which our city used to be known for, and the former what our city is sorely lacking now.	05/20/25 8:33 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
524		As an individual		No on Dunphy/Green 1 and Dunphy 2 – These are premature due to the need for far more analysis and discussion of the role of Prosper Portland under the new form of government. In other words, slow down fellas. The specificity of spending mandates in Dunphy 2 is also troubling due to lack of discussion of other options. It also isn't a “good look” for this level of spending details coming from just one councilor. It smacks of past “pet projects” of council members under the commission form of government. Yes to Ryan 1, 2, 3, and 4 The inventory of City and Prosper Portland grant agreements via Ryan 4 is one example of the legwork needed before future movement on the Dunphy/Green 1. What distinguishes Ryan 1, 2, and 3 from Dunphy 3 is its focus on support for small businesses.	05/20/25 8:33 PM
525	Teresa Monfort	As an individual		I live in district one. I am a renter and have resided about a mile and a half from the Multnomah Arts Center for the past five years. I am a 27 year resident of the state of Oregon. The arts are immensely important to the vibrancy of our communities. My family and I have participated in activities and classes arts center the Multnomah Arts Center for as long as we have lived in this district. The Multnomah Arts Center also supports many nonprofits that are so crucial to our culture and society as a whole. In this time of axing funding of so many culture and arts resources at the federal level, we cannot bear to lose the local gem that the Multnomah Arts Center is. There really is no replacement for it. Our communities are stronger because of the arts. Please please please vote no on stripping funding from the Multnomah arts center. We need the arts now more than ever!	05/20/25 8:33 PM
526		As an individual		I'm born and raised in Portland. Been golfing in and around Portland for over 30 years. De-funding or closing golf courses would be worse than adding more bike lanes. I hope everyone who votes to do that gets voted out next time, but the voters here are just as intelligent as our supposed leaders.	05/20/25 8:35 PM
527		As an individual		No on Green 4 – reducing spending for council offices with the goal of supporting pedestrian safety projects is commendable. But allowing one councilor the discretion to pick pedestrian safety projects instead of just supporting PBOT sets a troubling precedent and a slippery slope back to “pet projects” of council members under the commission form of government.	05/20/25 8:35 PM
528	Bernie Deazley	As an individual		I am writing to advocate for the continued funding and support of the Multnomah Arts Center (MAC). MAC serves the entire city in a variety of ways including a multitude of arts classes for all ages, senior center, a large space for performances such as plays, music, etc. My family and I have taken classes at MAC over many years and frequent the auditorium to see music perforances and plays featuring members of the community. We also enjoy the art installations by local artists. MAC is important to our family, an asset to our entire community, and should be prioritized for ongoing funding.	05/20/25 8:35 PM
529	Morgan Lane-Tanner	As an individual		I am writing to oppose the amendment to PERMANENTLY close the Multnomah Arts Center. I am asking the city council to VOTE NO on Amendment #45. The arts center is an important part of our community and it would be devastating it it were to be shut down.	05/20/25 8:37 PM
530		As an individual		Closing the MAC is an unreasonable response to current circumstances. If anything we need the arts more than ever. Not here	05/20/25 8:37 PM
531	Clover Javurek-Humig	On behalf of an organization	Sunrise PDX	Hi, my name is Clover Javurek-Humig. I'm a graduate student at Portland State University and a member of Sunrise PDX. Having grown up in Portland, I take great pride in our commitments to increasing green space, our care for our communities, and our commitments to improving services like PSR that provide community-informed care to Portlanders. That said, I we are facing a budget shortfall, and I would like to share some of my positions. I strongly oppose Wilson's (or any) proposed increase to PPB while we are cutting anything else. Very few officers live in Portland, and my experience is that very few people in Portland would even consider becoming an officer. I support funding for our parks and retaining current funding for them. I support increasing support for housing services in Portland, as federal funding decreased for supportive services. I strongly support Avalos' proposed way to make up the budget, and I feel generally positive towards Green's proposal. Thank you for reading. - Clover Javurek-Humig	05/20/25 8:38 PM
532	Liz Elliott	As an individual		Multnomah art center is the center and spirit of all things Southwest Portland. Please don't close it down.	05/20/25 8:38 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
533	Ian Miller	As an individual		I would like to comment on the golf issue. I would be willing to pay more to keep from dipping in to the fund. Golf is a vital form of exercise and mental stimulation and positive mental health.	05/20/25 8:38 PM
534		As an individual		NO on Kanal 3 and NO on Kanal 9– Please slow down.... The appropriate balance between community engagement needed regarding city operations/administration and community engagement needs of the city council is yet to be determined. Figure that out first. Before clearer delineations about community engagement needs by and for whom are determined, these amendments are premature.	05/20/25 8:39 PM
535		As an individual		No on Zimmerman 4 – Portland’s first reorganizational chart was just a first step and already the Vibrant Communities service area and its Deputy City Administrator has, appropriately, been eliminated. It is premature though to change the Assistant City Administrator to a chief of staff position at this time as proposed in Zimmerman 4 given the scope of that role. Since a chief of staff approach would increase the direct reports to the City Administrator, this should be a decision left to the person who will replace Michael Jordan, the Mayor’s initial choice for that job. No on Kanal 8 – Overall this is a better idea than Zimmerman 4. But the last sentence in this budget note is essentially requesting a certain conclusion before analysis has been completed, which is inappropriate. Though financial savings may seem likely occur to the requested analysis of directors and deputy directors of bureaus, that analysis needs to come first. Delete that last sentence and then Kanal 8 is ok.	05/20/25 8:42 PM
536		As an individual		Don’t close the MAC, it has been a huge part of why I loved living in Portland. It would be devastating if it was closed.	05/20/25 8:42 PM
537	Emily Polanshek	As an individual		Dear members of Portland City Council, Please do not close Multnomah Art Center! I live in District 4 with my husband. We reside in Gabriel Commons Condominiums near the SW 40th Street USPS station and a 10 minute walk from Multnomah Art Center (MAC). I’m writing to oppose Councilor Steve Novick’s proposal to close Multnomah Art Center because it is important to many of us, from seniors to families with children. Steve Novick used to live about three blocks from us when he and his wife were on SW 36th. I know the city budget is inadequate to meet all our needs, but am puzzled and greatly saddened by his proposal. It seems to indicate he does not value all that MAC provides to Multnomah Village, or perhaps mistakenly believes that residents here are all so affluent that we can just go elsewhere to find substitutes for MAC? I’ve taken many art classes at MAC since I retired in 2013. Our two children took classes there when they were young. Our son sang in the MAC chorus as a young adult. Now, his children - our grandchildren who live nearby - also participate in classes and summer programs there. We used to take them to play in the playground weekly as pre-schoolers; now that they’re in grades 2 and 5, our son takes them there to ride their scooters away from traffic. In the past, we attended Multnomah Neighborhood Association meetings in MAC’s Capitol room. We’ve purchased useful items at the thrift store now that we’re seniors and have donated items to it. We sometimes donate food to Neighborhood House. I found the following list that is more comprehensive – though less personal – to illustrate more ways in which MAC is an anchor for our neighborhood and beyond. In addition to classes, the Multnomah Arts Center: •Has fifteen partners throughout Portland, serving Parks’ targeted communities at their sites including The Rosewood Initiative, Home Forward, and Y.O.U.th. •Houses several nonprofits including: Columbia Basin Basketry Guild, Neighborhood House, Oregon Children’s Theatre, Print Arts Northwest, Community Policing, and Northwest Woodturners. •Provides discounted space rentals to nonprofits. •Makes arts education programming accessible by eliminating financial barriers to access, through the Parks Levy and MACA scholarships. •Received roughly \$1,000,000 in seismic and ADA facility upgrades from Parks in the past two years, surely not an indication of imminent building closure. •During summer months, MAC runs the Arts in the Parks program, providing free drop-in arts activities at parks (primarily in areas serving our targeted communities). Last year over 4,000 youth were provided activities through this program. •Produces Free First Friday Arts for All at MAC, which provides drop-in arts education experiences along with free food for the Portland community. •Staff works with Parks management and our partners to address long term facility needs. Please vote against closing our beloved MAC! Thank you, Emily Polanshek	05/20/25 8:43 PM
538		As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is a flagship facility providing key services to a wide range of the community. Its programs are popular, well attended, and create bonds in the community across demographics. It is a perfect example of the services that local government should provide. Shutting it down would be callous, shortsighted, and do lasting damage to the city.	05/20/25 8:43 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
539	Debi Dereiko	As an individual		My children when they were young, my mother at age 90 and I have all taken classes at the Multnomah Arts Center over the years. From painting to pottery, tap dancing to potlucks , we have all benefitted from affordable learning and gathering in our small slice of SW Portland. Save the Multnomah Art Center for us and our future generations.	05/20/25 8:43 PM
540		On behalf of an organization		No on Kanal 14 – FPDR is definitely a problem child, but this budget note jumps to a solution prior to analysis and discussion by the full council and input from the city’s finance experts as well as from FPDR itself.	05/20/25 8:44 PM
541	Stephanie Volkman	As an individual		I’m writing to ask that the Multnomah Arts Center not be sacrificed for financial reasons. It is the gem of the region. One of the few places people can go for excellent art instruction at reasonable cost. Many of the programs, such as weaving, are unique. Please don’t cut out the heart to preserve the limbs. Especially in this time of political darkness. We need the arts more than ever. I am a long time student and donor. Thank you.	05/20/25 8:45 PM
542	Kristin Kjome	As an individual		The Community Music Center has been a unique, beloved, and important part of the entire Portland community for 70 years. My family and I have valued it for the past two decades. It is where my children got their musical starts. I am certain that the Multnomah Arts Center is similarly valued by the many individuals and families served there over the decades. If we allow CMC and MAC to die, part of Portland dies. Please do not allow that to happen. CMC and MAC contribute to making Portland a great and vibrant place to live. I urge you to keep them open. Please vote against the amendment to close those two centers.	05/20/25 8:45 PM
543	mary neustader	As an individual		Vote NO on Amendment #45 The Multnomah Art Center (MAC) is a beloved institution providing art classes to more than 6000 people annually, to children, adults, seniors, and families. Art classes are of a wide variety including music, movement, dance theater, woodshop, literary arts, conditioning, metal arts, mixed media, ceramics, drawing, painting and more. It’s the only institution like it in Portland, and fulfills a critical role. Portland has been known as the City of Arts but over the years we have seen the closure of the Oregon College of Arts and Crafts and the Marylhurst Art Department. If MAC closes, there will be no major art institutions in the Portland area.	05/20/25 8:47 PM
544		As an individual		Re: Tribal Relations – I prefer Pirtle-Guiney 12 to Koyama Lane 4. This is especially the case if Zimmerman amendments that remove administrative staff in Civic Life moves forward. Not sure I support those Zimmerman amendments, but they speak to the need to evaluate the role of Civic Life given its history of being a home for misfit programs that then began to be dismantled in recent years. Do that analysis before adding or subtracting from current Civic Life responsibilities.	05/20/25 8:47 PM
545		As an individual		Both the Multnomah Arts Center and the Community Music Center have given me and me and my children opportunities to be engaged in the community, access arts education and equipment we otherwise could not, and positively impact our mental health. I had been struggling to afford access to ceramics, and was unable to pursue it because classes range from \$350-500. Multnomah Arts Center (through the Parks Department) is the only access for ceramics for folks with socioeconomic barriers (inclusive of elders on fixed incomes.) Rather than feeling isolated and detached--which leads to a multitude of poor social and health outcomes, we are all engaged in meaningful art and community making. It is literally the mental health difference that can prevent the cycles of despair, addiction, and health deterioration that plays into costly outcomes like houselessness, recovery, and crime. These services are fundamental to community health and well-being.and provided to populations in need at accessible fees. I know from personal experience how having this pursuit makes me a better parent--which has large ripple affects in my children's lives and throughout our community. As well, these facilities connect cross sections of community that do not readily interconnect--promoting intergenerational, varied socioeconomic, interracial, and multi abled connections that dramatically improve our city.	05/20/25 8:49 PM
546	Violet Johnston	As an individual		Please see the attached letter in support of saving Multnomah Arts Center!	05/20/25 8:50 PM
547	Jessica Dalpiaz	As an individual		Do not close the MAC and CMC!!! They are a vital community gathering place, cultural outlet, learning center and so much more!! For all ages!	05/20/25 8:50 PM
548	Colette Cassinelli	As an individual		My name is Colette Cassinelli and I've been a resident of the city of Portland for almost 40 years. I am urging the council to VOTE NO on Amendment #45. The Multnomah Art Center is a unique and vibrant community center of Southwest Portland. Over the years, my children and I have taken art, dance, printmaking, and music lessons. My husband is a member of the Woodworkers Guild of Oregon and they have used that space in the past. There are many other organizations who utilize the space and the art center is essential to the Multnomah Village neighborhood. I urge you to vote no and keep the Multnomah Art center open.	05/20/25 8:51 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
549	Laura Lester	As an individual		Please do not close Multnomah Arts Center! When my husband and I moved to Portland in 2017, MAC was one of the first places we visited, and it was a revelation to us! There were so many art offerings, community offerings, and all within the vibrant center of Multnomah Village! I have attended exhibitions, met with my elected officials and taken classes of all kinds there. It is one of the things that makes Portland a special place to live! Please find ways to economize without losing such a civic jewel.	05/20/25 8:51 PM
550		As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is a place that has given members of my family a way to reach out and experience community in a time and place where that seems more and more rare. Please vote no on amendment 45 which will permanently stop funding for the Multnomah arts center. In a city that seems to vote with our hearts to raise taxes in order to care for the needy and less fortunate, it would be a shame to shut down one of the few beacons of community that are left in SW Portland. Many people, myself included, will see this vote passing as a clear misunderstanding by our councilors of what our city needs to prioritize in order to continue its legacy as a vibrant and creative place for people to live and thrive.	05/20/25 8:52 PM
551	Mathurin Fogg	As an individual		Closing the MAC is a terrible idea and will have negative consequences for the whole community. Stop being a bunch of trump supporting fascist dick heads	05/20/25 8:52 PM
552	Loo Bain	As an individual		I am writing on behalf of multnomah art center. I have been teaching at multnomah art center since the closure of oregon college of arts and crafts. It is the only public art center that offers an extensive amount of multigenerational, affordable art classes in the city. My weaving classes are always full and have waitlists of students wanting to learn, make, and find community. It would be a tremendous loss to the greater portland community if the art center closed.	05/20/25 8:53 PM
553		As an individual		No to Novick 3. Yes to Pirtle-Guiney 8 and use Pirtle-Guiney 8 savings for Pirtle-Guiney 7 – If possible, shaving \$300,000 (as Novick suggests) instead of \$200,000 (as Pirtle-Guiney suggests) from council offices makes sense. But those savings should be used for more support to the Council Clerk which is a more logical policy nexus than how Novick wants to use those savings. If these 3 amendments are tweaked and combined, however, Novick’s idea to provide more dollars for the Council President’s office is well-meaning, but not an appropriate approach. Additional staff support to the Council President makes sense, but should take the form of a council operations staff person dedicated to whomever is Council President. This ensures ongoing support to the Council President, whomever fills that role, to ensure institutional memory. After all, the Council President term is just for one year unless re-elected. Therefore, more staff support for the Council President should not take the form of each new President hiring an additional staff person, with then the next President hiring somebody else etc. Also note that Mayor Wilson imposed a 12% cut in his office budget, so following his lead seems both prudent and politically astute. In fact, go ahead and cut one of the three positions added to the Mayor’s office back in January.	05/20/25 8:53 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
554	Dennis Hunt	As an individual		Don't close Multnomah Arts Center! As a 40 year resident of SW Portland, I have seen the importance for community and the MAC is vital to ensure community outreach. I have been going to the MAC for many years as a community member to take classes, volunteer, receive support, and watch my daughter find a love for art. I have found support, community, and friends when I need it most in my life. It is thanks in part to the MAC and its services that I have made it through very difficult portions of my life. My daughter took tap dance lessons, art classes, and theater classes at the MAC for almost 20 years. Additionally, it is one of the few affordable option in the Portland metro area dedicated towards exploring and enhancing various forms of art. Without the MAC, there is no outlet for art, creativity, learning, and community support in an area that is all too often frowned upon. My daughter was even selected to represent and embody the importance of the MAC when the 2010 mural was commissioned. Right above the main entry doors you will find her on both sides overlooking the community center. She is there to represent inner-peace and serenity to all patrons who visit the MAC. Please see the picture I have attached of her still doing events at the MAC and proud to be a community member. My wife and daughter are also members of the SW Portland Community Band, a non-profit organization that supports the Ida B Wells High School Band. The band used the MAC to support and fundraiser for the band and other performing arts programs at Ida B Wells High School to ensure every student gets the opportunities to explore art, even when main funding revenues have reached a limit. I urge you to not close MAC. The band is 50+ members from the local community, and we perform twice a year at the Multnomah Arts Center. We fill the main auditorium to CAPACITY every time and proceeds from our concerts support new musical instruments and equipment for the Ida B Wells High School band program; which then helps the other performing arts programs. If MAC closes it will negatively impact the students in the band program at Ida B Wells High School, individuals who want to explore art, those who desire community, and individuals who walk in to the community center not knowing what they need and walking out with support. If you close the MAC, you are also harming any future chances of children who want to explore art. Don't close MAC!	05/20/25 8:53 PM
555	annie capestany	As an individual		I'd like to join the many groups, like Unite Oregon, who are speaking out for a smaller police budget. Our limited funds should be invested in social services and housing and other programs that are shown to make communities safer. Police do not add safety, they just take money away from other agencies and programs. Do not increase the police budget, shrink it! Use the money instead for supportive housing (which is much better than mere shelter), use it for parks, use it for violence prevention and intervention. Reduce the police budget to make portland a better place and to avoid reducing the budgets of other programs that make us safe and healthy and happy. Reduce police: increase parks' maintenance, increase housing subsidies & supportive housing, increase pothole repairs. Reduce police staff and increase planning department staff. Reduce police funding and support small businesses. Reduce police and uplift BIPOC communities. Reduce police and use more public safety support specialists. Crime is down. We can keep it down without violent, racist police, but we have to invest in the community; invest in the people of portland. Reduce police budgets and keep portland safe.	05/20/25 8:54 PM
556		As an individual		Regarding Portland Permitting and Development (PP&D), focus on Pirtle-Guiney 1 and 2. Stemming the tide of layoffs in this office is prudent, even though difficult. The Pirtle-Guiney amendments make the most sense to at least begin figuring out the best budget amendment on this topic.	05/20/25 8:56 PM
557		As an individual		I live just one block into Washington County but go to the Multnomah Art Center frequently, always patronizing the restaurants and shops in the neighborhood. The Art Center is a magnet for the entire neighborhood. Please don't close it! My husband is a member of the chorus that rehearses and performs there, and my granddaughters both take classes and perform there. Why would the city want to leave this great building empty and useless, when it seems so vibrant now?	05/20/25 8:56 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
558	Jenn Hartmann Luck	On behalf of an organization	Oregon Children's Theatre	Hello. My name is Jenn Hartmann Luck. I am the Producing Artistic Director of Oregon Children's Theatre and I am writing regarding Councilor Novick's motion to close Multnomah Arts Center by September 1, 2025. I represent one of the many nonprofit organizations that benefits from the wonderful community space that is Multnomah Arts Center. For years we've rented two cottages that have allowed us to offer services to thousands of children across the region. Not only has this space allowed us to reach a diverse community at an affordable rate - but it has offered our struggling organization a lifeline. You might have heard that Oregon Children's Theatre is going through a major financial crisis ourselves and will be taking an intentional programmatic pause, while engaging in a \$1 million capital campaign so we might do the strategic planning and remaining work needed to secure the future of our organization. We have served almost 4 million youths in our first 35 years and we want to be around for another 35 more. Our spaces at Multnomah Arts Center are a critical part of that story? Despite having to leave our own admin spaces this spring, we are able to provide a full calendar of spring and summer programs BECAUSE of MAC. If we were to lose these spaces, it would be a critical blow to our future planning. And an unacceptable loss to the youth of Portland. But more importantly, we are only a small part of the magical ecosystem that is Multnomah Arts Center. Yes - the spaces are old and need support. Yes - I've witnessed challenges with leaks and HVAC service. But having community spaces for our youth, in a beautiful, safe, and welcoming place like Multnomah Village - is worth all the character flaws the buildings contain. I write City Council asking that you do NOT support councilor Novick's motion to close MAC and to reconsider how the city can find alternative ways of addressing repairs and aging infrastructure. Especially since the city just spent \$1 million in seismic and capital repairs just last year. Thank you for the consideration. And thank you for saving Multnomah Arts Center.	05/20/25 8:57 PM
559	susan stein	On behalf of an organization	movement event	We need our Community Centers and all that they offer more than ever. We need to find strength and support in gathering with others in the shared learning experiences these centers offer. Especially the Arts and certain classes that keep us healthy. I have been taking Tai Chi for 2 years at the SW Community Center and this class has been food for body and soul.	05/20/25 8:57 PM
560	Ashley Gibson	As an individual		I'm writing to oppose any consideration of trying to shut down the Multnomah Arts Center. It's a vital part of the local community and would be a huge loss which would far outpace any imagined short term savings.	05/20/25 8:57 PM
561	susan stein	On behalf of an organization	movement event	We need our Community Centers and all that they offer more than ever. We need to find strength and support in gathering with others in the shared learning experiences these centers offer. Especially the Arts and certain classes that keep us healthy. I have been taking Tai Chi for 2 years at the SW Community Center and this class has been food for body and soul.	05/20/25 8:57 PM
562	Melissa	As an individual		Please please keep the Multnomah Arts Center up and running! My family and I live down the street in Multnomah Village. The MAC has been a creative staple for us and the community. My 8 year old daughter has attended classes there and we are now looking into renting out a classroom on an ongoing basis for a local nonprofit to meet twice a month. Please keep such a special part of the neighborhood history alive!! Thank you	05/20/25 8:57 PM
563	Derek Boonstra	As an individual		AMMENDMENT #45 - proposes to close the community music center on SE Franklin. Please vote NO CMC is a crucial resource in our community for accessible instrumental instruction, practice rooms, and recital space. The CMC has helped generations connect with music and our community, and has been the stepping stone for many accomplished musicians, and the community needs this tradition to live onward.	05/20/25 8:58 PM
564	Scarlett Hanson	As an individual		I'm Scarlett Hanson, and I'm 10 years old. When I walk into the Multnomah Art Center, I feel so much joy to see people connecting over art, lessons they take, or acting. The MAC taught me how to play the flute, how to be a great actor and to connect with people I've never met. Please make sure you keep the Multnomah Art Center open.	05/20/25 8:58 PM
565	Alce Crouse	As an individual		Please vote no on closing Multnomah Arts Center. It is important to our community offering art vlasses for all age groups.	05/20/25 8:58 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
566		As an individual		YES on Pirtle-Guiney 3, 4, and 5. Though Portland Solutions reflected executive orders by Mayor Wheeler to address real problems, the reliance on one-time funding sources is now a budget challenge. This challenge is exacerbated by Mayor Wilson's campaign promise regarding overnight shelter capacity. I share Welcome Home's concerns that this approach is less effective than others in ending homelessness but at least Mayor Wilson is seeking support for overnight shelters from beyond Portland. But will that support come through, especially from the state with its own budget challenges? And even if those dollars do arrive from non-Portland sources are they just another infusion of one-time funding? These Pirtle-Guiney amendments are critically important because they reflect this background and the need to track these questions.	05/20/25 8:58 PM
567	Anna Ricci	As an individual		Please reconsider closing the MAC. My family has taken numerous classes here and this place has enriched my life in so many ways. I make and sell jewelry at their annual shows for the community every year. My son and husband have both taken music classes and now play the guitar and Ukulele. I love seeing the senior center using the facility as well for seniors to have a place to gather and belong. Please reconsider closing the doors of our wonderful thriving community center that is truly the heart of our village. It would be so heartbreaking and a terrible loss for not only the educators but all who are a part of this wonderful resource.	05/20/25 8:59 PM
568	Natalie Mitchell	As an individual		Multnomah art center has been such an important part of our lives since moving to Portland 10 years ago. It offers such an array of unique opportunities and community. Our creativity-inclined daughter feels so at home there and we have been so grateful for the connections it has allowed with other creative kids...not to mention how affordable these experiences are. It's a beautiful historic space as well. Keep the (good) MAC!!	05/20/25 9:00 PM
569	Matt Fanelli	As an individual		Why on earth are you cutting the hours of Portland Tennis Center? This is a community asset that 1) generates revenue for the city, 2) is used by thousands of people per year, 3) makes our citizens healthier, and 4) is committed to engaging the underprivileged members of our community. Cutting the hours is the kind of short-sighted "cost saving" that ends up making life worse for the people impacted and not doing anything meaningful in return. There are obviously critical issues that face our city, and even a tennis obsessed person like me wouldn't argue a few hours a week at PTC is anywhere in the top 50 items in the budget. But it's also one of the ways that the city provides a positive impact to its citizenry and if it's a cost issue, raise the court fees to cover the time! Capping the court time is a ridiculous solution to a non problem. Please reconsider.	05/20/25 9:00 PM
570	Jessie Myszka	As an individual		The MAC & Community Music Center are not simply buildings. They are hubs of activity for all ages, but particularly youth and safe places for the elderly. If you want young people to be engaged citizens and stay out of trouble, do not close these centers. Places like the MAC and Music Center are also part of what makes Portland an appealing place to live. Their visitors contribute to the economic life of their neighborhoods and to Portland overall. Please reject this amendment and look elsewhere for savings or to add revenue.	05/20/25 9:02 PM
571		As an individual		Don't close the Multnomah arts center. It's a community treasure	05/20/25 9:02 PM
572	Dustin Pattison	As an individual		I support the proposed budget amendment to fund subsidies for tenants in affordable housing units at Everett Station Lofts	05/20/25 9:02 PM
573		As an individual		The MAC is our go to place beside the library. There's always something going on and my kids love the classes that are offered there. There's always something staff is wonderful. Having it close would be like ripping the heart out of our community. Please don't !	05/20/25 9:04 PM
574	Cody Clark	As an individual		In regards to the closing of the Multnomah Arts Center: I believe that this would be a poor course of action. The MAC provides a huge benefit to the community, both by offering classes and programs, but also by providing a space for collaborative gatherings, and a general place of community health. I believe it is in the councils best interest to keep the MAC open	05/20/25 9:04 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
575	Laura Wheatman Hill	As an individual		Do. Not. Close. Multnomah Arts Center. I am writing to express my strong support for the Multnomah Art Center and urge you to consider its immense value to our community. MAC is a vital hub for creativity and artistic expression, offering workshops, exhibitions, and educational programs that enrich the lives of residents and visitors alike. I have personally benefited from the music classes, art gallery shows, and Page to Stage program, and appreciate the many social programs, such as Neighborhood House, the Senior Center, Free First Friday Arts, Arts in the Park, Oregon Children's Theater, and the Community Policing, to name only a few. The closure of Multnomah Arts Center would be a devastating loss, not only for artists but for the entire city. We must work together to ensure that this valuable resource continues to thrive.	05/20/25 9:07 PM
576	Amy Whitworth	As an individual		As a Portland resident and professional landscape designer, I appreciate the value trees provide to our livability and overall health, both physical and mental/emotional. I am very concerned with cuts, proposed by Councilor Zimmerman, to the Urban Forestry Division of Parks. Although I know there has been some bad press of late in Willamette Week, and people like to do what they want with the trees on their properties, in my opinion, Urban Forestry provides critical guidance and oversight to our urban tree canopy, taking the wide view of the resiliency trees provide during the current climate crisis. Our love of trees is a Portland attribute, and we cannot sacrifice trees in our efforts to provide needed middle and low income housing. It is a matter of public health. But protecting trees is only one part of what Urban Forestry does. Planting and maintaining trees, after the contract ended with Friend of Trees, is critical, especially in economically depressed areas of the city and those without or with only few trees. I know we are in a budget shortfall. But this is not the time to drastically reduce, or effectively eliminate Urban Forestry. Years of development have gone into the updated draft version of the Urban Forestry Management Plan, which is almost complete, and would provide guidance on climate resiliency for Portland. This is not the time to pull the plug on Urban Forestry.	05/20/25 9:08 PM
577	Regan Danirls	As an individual		Save the Multnomah Arts Center! The MAC provides affordable and accessible arts and community programming, with a focus on under served members of our community. The MAC is a gem - an example of what makes Portland Portland. I've taken painting classes and writing classes over a number of years, during critical times in my life when I needed a space to leave the stresses of life behind for a little while. The MAC is a safe space for all people to gather and grow through art, music, dance, exercise, cooking, and community. Does Portland deserve to lose that?	05/20/25 9:08 PM
578	Michael Haag	As an individual		As a parent of two children who frequently take advantage of the programs at the Multnomah Art Center, I strongly oppose the proposal to close it.	05/20/25 9:09 PM
579	Barbara Arzt	As an individual		I just heard that the city council is considering closing the Multnomah Arts Center. This news is heartbreaking. I've know hundreds of children and adults, myself included, whose lives have been enriched by their involvement with the center. I was able to become a published poet and a professional calligrapher by taking classes at MAC. I Sang in the 50 person MAC choir for 15 years making many friends and building community that enriched all our lives. Please put this decision on hold as we explore our options. Thank you for your consideration. Barbara Arzt	05/20/25 9:11 PM
580	Amanda Edwards	As an individual		I am writing to express my strong support for the Multnomah Art Center. My family and I urge you to consider its immense value to our community. MAC is a vital hub for creativity and artistic expression, offering workshops, exhibitions, and educational programs that enrich the lives of residents and visitors alike. Classes and offerings range across ages, stages, interests, and programs. From the individual and group classes to the arts sales in spring, during Multnomah Days, and during the winter holidays, the Multnomah Arts Center provides connection between arts and community. I appreciate the many social programs, such as Neighborhood House, the Senior Center, Free First Friday Arts, Arts in the Park, and the Oregon Children's Theater, to name only a few. The closure of Multnomah Arts Center would be a devastating loss, not only for artists but for the entire city. We must work together to ensure that this valuable resource continues to thrive.	05/20/25 9:13 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
581	Laura	As an individual		Dear Councilor Steve Novick, I am deeply concerned about Amendment #45 and the proposed closure of the Multnomah Arts Center (MAC). As someone who moved to Portland in 2007 with little income, the MAC became a vital place for learning and connecting with a supportive community. Every year since, I've taken inspiring classes with passionate instructors. The MAC is more than a place to learn or integrate into the society: it's a welcoming hub for people from all backgrounds to learn, grow, and find purpose, and vital part of the City of Portland society. A city without culture and community spaces is just a collection of houses and stores—a place where people feel lost and vulnerable. The MAC dignifies human life by offering opportunities for happiness and fulfillment. I still mourn the loss of The Museum of Contemporary Craft of Portland, which disappeared due to a lack of political will and mismanagement. Please do not let the MAC suffer the same fate. Keep MAC alive! We need it!	05/20/25 9:13 PM
582	Casey Grabenstein	As an individual		Please don't close the Multnomah Arts Center. Our kids have taken dance classes there, and I have taken adult classes such as dance and ukulele. It's a special place that binds the community. If it needs to adapt, let's do that, but let's make a plan that keeps it open to the public for shared use.	05/20/25 9:13 PM
583	Bethan Shane	As an individual		I urge you not to close the Multnomah Arts Center. My children take classes there and want to continue—there's truly no other place in the city where kids, teen, and adults can explore a wide variety of arts. Kids are already losing access to the arts in schools with budget cuts. Our kids can't lose the MAC too.	05/20/25 9:14 PM
584	Jo Ellen osterlind	As an individual		Consider all the adults and children who benefit from the Multnomah Arts Center year round and please don't close it.	05/20/25 9:15 PM
585	Griffin O'Connor	As an individual		Please do not defund arts programs! They are important and integral to the backbone of a rational society. You are ruining lives.	05/20/25 9:15 PM
586		As an individual		Please vote NO on amendment #45 - Don't close the MAC club! The MAC club provides such right and diverse programming for both adults and youth. I've personally been engaged in their tap dance program for years with a very engaged group of dancers. Places like MAC are so important to the community to foster engagement and celebrate the arts - something Portland is losing too much of already.	05/20/25 9:16 PM
587		On behalf of an organization	SW Portland Community Band	Don't close MAC! As a member of the SW Portland Community Band, a non-profit organization that supports the Ida B Wells High School Band, I urge you to not close MAC. We are 50 members from the local community, and we perform twice a year at the Multnomah Arts Center. We fill the main auditorium to CAPACITY and proceeds from our concerts support new musical instruments and equipment for the Wells High School band program. If MAC closes it will negatively impact the students in the band program at Wells High School. Don't close MAC!	05/20/25 9:17 PM
588	Stephanie Halver	As an individual		We love MAC and participate in classes every session. Please do not close the MAC.	05/20/25 9:17 PM
589	Sydney Newell	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center (AC). It plays a vital role in our community by bringing people together to support the arts.	05/20/25 9:17 PM
590	Elizabeth Barr	As an individual		Closing the doors to Multnomah Arts Center in Multnomah Village is quite literally like ripping the heart out of a community. This is the literal meeting place of the entire Southwest area for "Multnomah Days" where kids can be seen working on outdoor Arts projects, and all of the artisans display their work from throughout the year. This amazing and needed facility provides irreplaceable classes for children, teens, and adults. This place is a sanctuary where all ages meet to express themselves through theater, the Arts, music, dance, and an array of other ways. It is the most inclusive place I have ever gone, all of my community has sent their kids there at different ages for their Arts offerings dance offerings and music offerings through all the ages. The removal of the Multnomah Arts Center would leave a gaping hole in the southwest community that cannot be replaced. I am urging you to reconsider and realize this is the best use of a city's money that exists. SAVE THE MAC!	05/20/25 9:18 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
591	Joanne Sheehy	As an individual		I strongly oppose amendment #45 to the budget and encourage a no vote to close the Multnomah Art Center (as well as the Music Center.) The dollar amount assigned does not even touch the impact of closing of this this vibrant and critical community center. Not only would the closing impact the potential employment of numerous full time and part time staff but will also impact numerous programs and partnerships the community center has aligned and supported through the years. An example- The center has been reducing the stigma of food insecurity in the Portland area by combining meals with the various art programs-such as arts in the park during the summer months - serving well over 4,000 youth. The First Friday event provided at MAC- provides art and meals for over 1,000 people in the past year alone. As food security increases the combined programming is critical. MAC has established relationships with over 15 partners in the wider Portland area - as far out as outer SE Portland with the Rosewood Initiative, to local communities such as at Stephens Crossing , an affordable housing community of Home Forward. MAC is not just a building that offers classes- it has programming that reaches throughout Portland. AS WE HAVE SEEN THE ARTS BEING TARGETED AT THE NATIONAL AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT LEVEL CLOSING TWO SIGNIFICANT CENTERS TO CLOSE A BUDGET GAP IS NOT THE ANSWER. IT WOULD HAVE A LONG LASTING DETRIMENTAL IMPACT TO THE VIBRANCY OF OUR COMMUNITY.	05/20/25 9:19 PM
592		As an individual		The MAC is crucial for Multnomah Village. It offers opportunities for families to access creative classes at reasonable rates. Our children loved dance and music classes when they were little and allowed our family to make meaningful connections with community members. The MAC provides meeting space for local community groups.	05/20/25 9:19 PM
593	Dr. Shannon M. Lieberman	As an individual		I offer my comments in the attached document. Thank you.	05/20/25 9:20 PM
594	JB	As an individual		Multnomah Arts Center is a community center in every sense. It is the center of a community that would otherwise be a bedroom community of Portland workers and students. But because we have such a strong arts center that contributes so much to our community, we are able to feel like our own community and not just an area of housing. Multnomah Arts Center is located in a central area of our community and is easily accessible by walking biking, public transportation and by car. It also brings people from other communities such as SE Portland, NW Portland, Lake Oswego and the West Hills area. This brings business to our community in addition to supporting our community center. As to the function of our center: it is almost better to ask what it doesn't offer rather than what it does offer as there is so much here. The opportunities for youth to study music, theatre, dance, writing, painting, drawing, fencing, pottery, crafts, choir, in addition to camps as well as arts in the park, free art and music events seem to grow every year. Parents scramble to sign their children up for classes and camps as soon as they open each term and know that these greatly add to their children's happiness and education as well as providing some childcare hours while parents work. Arts and movement contribute to children's mental wellbeing, ability to learn and sense of identity. Adults and people with disabilities are similarly benefited from the classes and meetings at the Arts Center and this contributes to our sense of community, our mental wellbeing and success as parents. There is just so much our family and so many others that I have met at the Arts Center have gained and continue to gain from this community hub. It has allowed us to thrive here as well as get to know our neighbors. One of our friends who has taken music lessons there since she was very young has recently won a music scholarship for college and attributes her success to being able to study at the Arts Center with a caring teacher and many opportunities to perform and to be a part of a thriving music scene. Please do not deprive us of our beloved neighborhood center that reaches so many people. Thank you.	05/20/25 9:20 PM
595	russell albertson	As an individual		Keep the Multnomah Arts Center open!!!!!! It's a vital part of the community.	05/20/25 9:21 PM
596	Max Hanson	As an individual		Taking away the art center is a bad idea. I am 12 years old, and I care enough about this piece of the community to write about it. When I was 5, I took a drawing class here. That started my love of art.. Almost once a week, I would come to play on the playground and walk through the art center. As a little kid, I loved the art and murals on the walls. I saw bigger kids laughing and using creativity. I would come back as a ten-year-old and see that it has not changed. My sister started doing drama there. I would look forward to the smile on their face when they got home. i want all the little kids out there to feel the same way about creativity, community, and art.	05/20/25 9:21 PM
597		As an individual		Closing the art center does a disservice to the community as a vibrant part of area that serves under served groups, provides educational programs for adults and children	05/20/25 9:21 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
598	Hannah Rice	On behalf of an organization	Portland Center Stage	I am writing to strongly encourage the passage of Amendments Dunphy 2: Motion to Amend the Budget to Fund Arts Economic Development and Green 6: Motion to Amend the Budget to Provide One-Time Grant to Portland Center Stage. Portland Center Stage (PCS) and the arts & culture sector as a whole are major economic drivers for the city, and especially its downtown core. The impact of PCS' closure would be monumental: hundreds of quality union jobs for arts workers eliminated, a dramatic reduction in theatre education and school day performances for children and teens, and depressed foot traffic to the restaurants, parks, and businesses of the Pearl District. As a lifelong Portlander and theatergoer, PCS inspired me to pursue theatre professionally and I am proud to now serve as its General Manager. I know that the Council is comprised of people who understand the inherent value of the arts, and who recognize what makes Portland an exceptional city. I urge you to live those values and pass these Amendments. Thank you for your consideration.	05/20/25 9:22 PM
599	J Carter	As an individual		Don't close the MAC Center!! It's the hub of creativity and a community draw for SW Portland. Go tackle something else!!	05/20/25 9:23 PM
600	Kathy Samsom	As an individual		Please vote no on amendment 45! We went to keep The MAC in our Neighborhood. It provides lots s of necessary programming.	05/20/25 9:23 PM
601	Corin Wallace	As an individual		Dear City Councilors, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed closure of the Multnomah Arts Center and the Community Music Center. These institutions are not just buildings—they are vital, accessible spaces where Portlanders of all ages and backgrounds come together to create, learn, and connect. They provide affordable arts education, music instruction, and cultural programming that strengthen the social fabric of our city. In a time when community connection and mental well-being are more important than ever, cutting these programs sends the wrong message about our city's priorities. The Multnomah Arts Center and the Community Music Center are unique in their ability to serve everyone from young children to seniors. They are inclusive, welcoming, and irreplaceable. Eliminating them would disproportionately impact low- and middle-income families who rely on these public resources for enrichment, education, and community. Please consider the long-term value these centers bring to Portland. Closing them would be a short-sighted decision with lasting negative consequences. I urge you to find alternative solutions that preserve these essential community assets. Thank you for your service and for listening to the voices of the people you represent. Thank you, Corin Wallace	05/20/25 9:23 PM
602	KK	As an individual		I support the proposed budget amendment to include subsidies for tenants in affordable housing units at Everett Station Lofts. Although subsidies are a band-aid solution to a larger problem that highlights the dysfunction of the system as a whole, they would provide immediate relief to cost burdened tenants. Hundreds of hours and many years of tenant organizing work has resulted in this proposed resolution to offset the high costs the landlords are illegally allowed to charge. Predatory landlords & pricing practices continue to push individuals & families into poverty and homelessness. Supporting this amendment to the budget keeps vulnerable Portlanders houses during an economic and housing crisis.	05/20/25 9:24 PM
603	Christina Wiley	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center. My entire family has taken classes there. As a resident who pays close to 30k in property taxes I am fed up with the amount of funding going to the homeless and those who do not contribute in any way to our community. To be taking away the thing make Portland a vibrant community for those who do pay taxes and contribute to the community in many ways is getting old. I cannot count the amount of friends, neighbors and business partners who have moved or are moving to Vancouver or elsewhere. This proposed closure moves us further toward wanting to flee Portland.	05/20/25 9:25 PM
604	Amie Hiller	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is central to the community offering classes for young children to seniors. I believe changes could be made to increase revenue but to close it down would vr such a loss.	05/20/25 9:25 PM
605	angela morrow	As an individual		Please do not close MAC. I didn't feel I had the extra money to get my masters, but I was able to afford several printmaking classes there which is my primary source of income today. I also learned painting, basketry, book arts, and ceramics. My kids were also able to take several ceramic classes at affordable rates I could not of put them in at other studios around portland. This place is one of the perks of being a Portland resident! Thank you, Angela Morrow	05/20/25 9:25 PM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Larissa Vaughn	As an individual		To the City of Portland, OR: PLEASE DO NOT CLOSE THE MULTNOMAH ARTS CENTER! The Multnomah Arts Center is more than just a facility — it is a cornerstone of the Southwest Portland community. It provides meaningful employment for many instructors and staff, and serves as a vital space for creative learning, growth, and connection. My family visits the community center twice a week for music lessons. The instructors are incredible — passionate, skilled, and deeply committed to their students. We would not be able to afford private music lessons elsewhere, making the programs at MAC not only enriching but essential to our children's access to the arts. In the summer, our children attend the wonderful camps run by the Oregon Children's Theatre at the center. The programs at MAC are instrumental in helping youth build character, confidence, and creativity. The impact the Multnomah Arts Center has on kids in our area cannot be overstated — it nurtures their minds and spirits. Closing the Multnomah Arts Center would be a devastating loss to the community. Please invest in this invaluable resource rather than take it away. Our families, our educators, and especially our children need it now more than ever. Sincerely, LARISSA VAUGHN	05/20/25 9:26 PM
Lucy Sweetland	As an individual		Do not close the MAC.	05/20/25 9:26 PM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Kelli Kerbawy	As an individual		My name is Kelli Kerbawy and I support Mayor Wilson’s public safety budget. I also support funding park maintenance and recreation services at current levels and NOT cutting off access or closing park facilities in order to finance public safety or other city operations. These (public safety and a safe, clean park system) are CORE CITY FUNCTIONS. A city must take care of these FIRST, so to attract and maintain the FAMILIES and BUSINESSES it needs to be a culturally and economically vibrant place to live. Public safety is a CONSTANT source of concern among pretty much everyone I know. From the neighborhood coffee shop to random parents at the park, EVERYONE talks about incidents of feeling unsafe, concern for their children’s sense of safety (and space for innocence) and wonder if/when/how the laws of our city will be enforced. The feeling among everyday Portlanders like myself is that we cannot trust that our laws will be enforced. We DO experience feeling unsafe in our own neighborhoods, sometimes in our own homes! SO MANY of us weigh safety issues when deciding whether to go (to the school event, the park after dark, to walk the dog, to that job interview, since the job lets off after dark). Seriously. HOW MANY businesses have left? Are STILL thinking about leaving. DID YOU SEE the WSJ about Big Pink?!!! WE MUST FUND PUBLIC SAFETY. I’d say, we must EXPAND our systems of public safety, not just fund the base levels we currently have. I’ve never before lived where it feels so broken. Each morning when I drive my 7-year-old son to his school at SE 148th and Division, I wonder what I will pass and what I will need to explain (because he SEES). I make sure my gas tank is full and hope we don’t end up needing to come home late, especially in the summer. I see all these kids walking around trash, tents and sometimes PEOPLE as they try to navigate to and from school. I rarely see any police patrol..... But boy am I happy when I do. I would really like to see traffic laws enforced, especially in that area, as it is busy and so many people are on foot. I also have a 27-year-old son who lives at SW Fifth and Clay. Most days you can see someone (likely on opiates) slumped over in the bus station shelter across from his building... That is the shelter for the bus he takes each morning. A couple months ago his neighbor was robbed in front of the building at knife point in the middle of the day. My son has started to talk about MOVING OUT of Portland. IS THIS WHAT WE WANT?!! Please listen to us– we love our city and we are the constituents you were elected to represent. Poll after poll finds that we support funding the police department at a level commiserate with our needs. We need the police AND other responders, not just the other responders. SAFETY requires LAW ENFORCEMENT. . Please do not cut more money from park maintenance. Just don’t. A city’s parks promote community and mental and physical health. These magical places represent a city’s willingness to invest in itself and its citizens. They are both symbols and	05/20/25 9:29 PM
Joseph Johnson	As an individual		I’m writing with deep concern for two vital institutions that serve low-income communities in our city. I have just two requests: Please do not close the Peninsula Park Community Center. Please do not cut funding for the Community Music Center. Both of these spaces provide more than just services—they provide access, opportunity, and belonging. They offer youth and families safe, welcoming environments to learn, grow, move, and create. For many in our community, they are lifelines to recreation and the arts that would otherwise be out of reach. Closing Peninsula Park Community Center would take away one of the few public spaces and educational programming that residents can rely on, particularly in a neighborhood that serves a diverse range of people and economic statuses. Similarly, cutting funding for the Community Music Center would weaken one of our city’s most affordable arts education hubs—an essential resource that nurtures talent and expression among those who might not be able to afford private instruction. (The city literally was posting just weeks ago about the CMC’s 70th anniversary!) One of my friends is an incredible musician, and attended a prestigious conservatory, and much of their artistry got its start at free lessons at CMC. These institutions are not extras. They are essential to what makes Portland, Portland. Please protect them.	05/20/25 9:34 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
610	Ben Riggsby	As an individual		I was astounded to learn that city councilors have proposed closing the Multnomah Arts Center. As a resident of SW Portland for over 25 years when I think of things of genuinely positive services provided by the city our two community centers are at the top of the list. The MAC provides crucial arts and education to a cohort of residents that I expect will be unlikely to be able to find or afford them otherwise. This should be the last thing on the chopping block. If it is closed, the void will be felt very clearly come next election cycle.	05/20/25 9:34 PM
611	Lisa Rockower	As an individual		I am writing in opposition to Amendment number 45, the proposal to close the Multnomah Arts Center in Multnomah Village and reallocate the funding to parks maintenance. I live in Ward 4 in the Hillsdale neighborhood. I was extremely surprised and disheartened to learn that this amendment is offered by my friend Councilor Novick, a former resident of Multnomah Village. The Multnomah Arts Center is an integral part of our community. It serves families, seniors, children and is a hub, not only of arts and culture, but of community and civic engagement. At a time where we are in great need of connection and community, we should not be pitting community centers against parks. Thank you for your consideration.	05/20/25 9:34 PM
612	Edna Lomeli	As an individual		I urge you to vote 'NO' on Amendment #45 to keep the Community Music Center (CMC) open, for it has been the glue that binds together community, culture, and art! For the past couple of months, the CMC has been a sanctuary for the members of the LatinX Choral Project. It is a sacred space in which we are able to sing our native songs from Puerto Rico to México and beyond. Through the power of music we solidify and share our culture! As members of the LatinX Choral Project, we have performed for many events including Portland's Cinco de Mayo Fiesta and Lincoln High's Latin Night. We are able to contribute to our communities because the CMC gave us the fuel we needed to kickstart this pilot program lead by Lynn Mendoza—Khan. Please let us continue our work in the space that has done so much for us. Please contribute to our space so that we may continue our contributions to this beautiful city.	05/20/25 9:36 PM
613	Gwen Jester	As an individual		I am writing to you about the proposed closing of the Multnomah Arts Center. It is just crazy to me that a center that sells out its programs so frequently would be on the chopping block. We voted on levies for exactly these programs. At least give us the option to vote on raising our levies before cutting these facilities. Further, in a few years, we'd likely end up raising levies to make a new place just like that one anyway to fill the gap. Operational costs from wind-down on this facility, and then the costs to wind-up of a new one, will almost surely net out to more total cost to the tax payers than if we just remained open or partially reduced services for a time instead. The idea that we live in a time as prosperous as this but can't attribute resources to facilities like these is ludicrous.	05/20/25 9:39 PM
614	Susan Inahara	As an individual		The Multnomah Art Center has been a pivotal part of my life. It's helped me through dark times, a place I turned to when I needed community the most. It helped me learn new skills and build trust in others. Without community programs and centers like these, thousands of people all around the community would have almost no other ways to gather, connect, and grow. I cannot emphasize enough just how big of a mistake it would be to close this beautiful art center. The benefits it has reverberates throughout our neighborhoods in ways the people who are trying to close it have clearly never experienced. I find it to be incredibly tone deaf, and out of touch to even suggest such an amendment. Do the right thing! Keep this beautiful space open to help our communities continue to grow and flourish together, especially when things are already so dark in this city, country. We must fight for the things we love, and for the right for others to experience those same things. Without this art center, I most certainly would not be here.	05/20/25 9:40 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
615	Sarah Drescher	On behalf of an organization	Northeast Broadway Business Association	The Northeast Broadway Business Association (NEBBA) asks the Council to approve Councilor Ryan's amendments to the budget to expand the Restore & Repair Grant program, provide funding to small businesses affected by break-ins and vandalism, and launch a storefront vacancy assessment. Small businesses are the heart of Portland's economy. They are central to our tourism industry, providing essential tax revenues to fund public services, creating local jobs and supporting families who live in our community. Small businesses continue to suffer from the impacts of crime, vandalism and livability issues. If the Council does not act quickly to help our small businesses, more locally-owned businesses will pack up and leave the City, as it no longer makes sense to do business here. We must act now to retain our small business community. Vote in favor of Councilor Ryan's budget amendments to support small businesses.	05/20/25 9:40 PM
616	Susan Inahara	As an individual		The Multnomah Art Center has been a pivotal part of my life. It's helped me through dark times, a place I turned to when I needed community the most. It helped me learn new skills and build trust in others. Without community programs and centers like these, thousands of people all around the community would have almost no other ways to gather, connect, and grow. I cannot emphasize enough just how big of a mistake it would be to close this beautiful art center. The benefits it has reverberates throughout our neighborhoods in ways the people who are trying to close it have clearly never experienced. I find it to be incredibly tone deaf, and out of touch to even suggest such an amendment. Do the right thing! Keep this beautiful space open to help our communities continue to grow and flourish together, especially when things are already so dark in this city, country. We must fight for the things we love, and for the right for others to experience those same things. Without this art center, I most certainly would not be here.	05/20/25 9:41 PM
617	Randall Harbour	As an individual		My children have been taking classes at the Multnomah Arts Center for the past four years. It is a GREAT asset for the Southwest Portland community and beyond. It is very important that funding continue to maintain this dynamic and educational facility!	05/20/25 9:42 PM
618	Rocco Jones	As an individual		This would kill a very large community of people that use this space regularly	05/20/25 9:43 PM
619	Marita Ingalsbe	As an individual		I strongly oppose Amendment #45 submitted by Councilor Novick to close the Multnomah Arts Center and the Community Music Center. The Multnomah Arts Center is a focal point for the community and irreplaceable source of arts education and support. The building recently received seismic upgrades and is in good repair. Classes support a wide variety of arts and are always full. If the city needs to raise additional funding to operate the Multnomah Arts Center, please allow the community at least a year to organize an alternate plan. Thank you.	05/20/25 9:44 PM
620	Jeannie Songer	As an individual		Hello, I'm writing to convey my dismay about the possibility of the art center being closed. The Multnomah Arts Center is one of the reasons my family moved to Hillsdale and the southwest neighborhood – it is unparalleled in its offerings for creative art classes, movement, etc. But also, it's one of the only affordable and accessible places in the neighborhood to host event events. I have hosted and attended many children's birthday parties, baby showers, music and dance events and events of other kinds at the MAC. They're one of the only spaces I know of that rents large rooms as low as \$40 an hour or less, the same quality, location, and accessibility of space would be easily quadruple that amount elsewhere. Families come together here, neighbors meet each other here, it truly is a hub of community. Please please please do not do away with a space where people can come together in person to connect. We need this more than ever.	05/20/25 9:44 PM
621	Amanda Piraino	As an individual		Keep the MAC open. Closing the MAC would do a significant disservice to area youth and adults alike. The center has been a major contributor to my daughter's musical and Arts education ! It gives her a safe place to express her talents and share her gifts with our community The center gives back to All the Portland area as it provides enrichment programs that better the lives of all	05/20/25 9:45 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
622	Stephen Weinberg	As an individual		Please, please, please keep the Community Music Center on SE Francis' open. It serves musicians & other artists with a wonderful center to highlight their musical & other artistic offerings. The center, in a way, is what makes Portland, Portland. Please let it remain open for artists to perform & collaborate, which underscores the importance of artistic performance, offering & expression occur. This center is essential to Portland Public Culture.	05/20/25 9:46 PM
623	Jenny Wilder	As an individual		As a resident of Multnomah Village and a participant of MAC programming, I write in opposition of Amendment #45, introduced by Councilor Steve Novick, which proposes the permanent closure of the Multnomah Arts Center (MAC) effective September 1, 2025. The proposal reflects an abandonment of the City's stated commitments to equitable access to the arts, community partnerships, and responsible capital investment. MAC is an anchor in the heart of Multnomah Village housing a network of nonprofit organizations—among them Columbia Basin Basketry Guild, Neighborhood House, Oregon Children's Theatre, Print Arts Northwest, Community Policing, and the Northwest Woodturners—whose work supports diverse communities and furthers the goals of Portland Parks & Recreation. The historic building has received over \$1 million in seismic and ADA upgrades in the last two years. To shutter a recently improved, code-compliant facility—rather than build upon its success—contradicts both fiscal logic and public trust. The closure of MAC would compromise a long-standing community resource that delivers equity-focused programming and stabilizes local nonprofits. It would reduce public access to the arts and dismantle services that have proven impact across demographic and neighborhood boundaries. Amendment #45 would eliminate critical arts access for residents across age, income, and ability levels. It would destabilize nonprofits embedded in the facility whose programming extends citywide. And it would undercut the vitality of Multnomah Village, where MAC serves as a civic and cultural cornerstone. Portland deserves a thoughtful, long-range strategy for community-serving assets—not short-sighted closures with broad, adverse consequences. Reject Amendment #45 and reaffirm the City's obligation to sustain local institutions that reflect our shared values. Portlanders deserve better than this.	05/20/25 9:46 PM
624	Christian Santana	As an individual		The idea of something like taking away a community's access of art & music, for another park touch up, just doesn't make sense. You mean to say we don't need our kids to express themselves creatively just because you all think it's better to use this money for more water fountains or dog poop bag dispensers? You're telling all of us that the accessibility to these sorts expressive arts, which I should point out IS FREE to the general public, is subpart in comparison to the idea of scooting a homeless man away from a public bench every now and then (in other words, "park security"). Yes, I get it. We're Oregon. We're the green state. Let's take a step back from improving something that doesn't need the further improvement/additions and let's focus the funds on creating that availability to something that our future generations can use for their creative freedoms. A place like Community Music Center doesn't come around very often. Please reconsider.	05/20/25 9:47 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
625	Jason Schooler	As an individual		VOTE 'NO' ON AMMENDMENT #45 - DON'T CUT THE COMMUNITY MUSIC CENTER!	05/20/25 9:48 PM
				the Community Music Center: Serves hundreds of families and households in over 50 zip codes throughout Portland, in every Council District, Has programs for all ages from kindergarten to seniors, Makes classes and lessons affordable, with up to 100% discount for low-income participants, Supports programs specifically serving Black & Brown youth, Latinx youth, LGBTQ+ youth, seniors, immigrants, and people with disabilities, Gives dozens of free, drop-in concerts a year, with livestream options for those who can't travel to CMC, Partners with organizations for programs in underserved areas in outer East Portland, Provides alternative to sports for youth afterschool activities, Contributes to the musical and economic vitality of Portland, Relies on City general fund and Parks Levy dollars to operate, with additional significant program support from the non-profit CMC Inc., Administers its programs with only 3 full-time a few part-time staff, Hires over 25 part-time performing artist-instructors from the community to provide about 8,000 hours of classes, lessons, and events per year, Is actively working with PP&R management and community groups to ensure its long-term facility needs.	
626	Marion Van Namen	As an individual		Please keep Multmonah Arts Center and the Music Community Center open. They are the beating heart of our communities!	05/20/25 9:48 PM
627		As an individual		Don't close MAC! As a member of the SW Portland Community Band, a non-profit organization that supports the Ida B Wells High School Band, I urge you to not close MAC. We are 50 members from the local community, and we perform twice a year at the Multnomah Arts Center. We fill the main auditorium to capacity, often with standing-room only, and proceeds from our concerts support new musical instruments and equipment for the Wells High School band program. This is sorely needed assistance that the band would otherwise go without due to lack of funding from the district, and unfortunately even further cuts to arts programs are being proposed at a state and federal level. If MAC closes, it will negatively impact students in the band program at Wells High School, as well as members of the community for whom arts centers are so vital. Don't close MAC!	05/20/25 9:48 PM
628	Jessica Hart	As an individual		The Multnomah County Arts Center is a vital part of our community. It brings people together through accessible art and education, fostering creativity, connection, and lifelong learning. This center serves all ages and backgrounds — offering classes, exhibits, and performances that strengthen our community and enrich lives. I urge the council to continue supporting this important resource. Its impact reaches far beyond the arts; it builds a stronger, more connected Multnomah County. Thank you.	05/20/25 9:48 PM
629	William Boyd	As an individual		I strongly encourage the Mayor and City Council to reconsider the \$8 million increase to the Portland Police Bureau budget. If we want safe communities, we need to create safe communities, not through policing, but through well maintained community spaces like parks, and better services to for community members. Sacrificing park maintenance for cops will not create safety. Thank you.	05/20/25 9:48 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
630	Laura Cox	As an individual		I am writing to ask the council to vote NO on the amendment to close Multnomah Art Center. I have been a student and am now a weekly volunteer for a non profit that rents one of the artists cottage from MAC (Print Arts Northwest). I've spent a lot of time on campus and have often been struck by the depth and breadth of the communities the Center impacts regularly. My classes there made printmaking accessible to a range of adults including those with special needs, educators and fledgling artists like myself. As a weekly volunteer I see families of underserved communities, seniors, children, and adults engaged in a broad array of activities. It's a vibrant and diverse scene that serves a range of community needs. To think of it closing is really hard to imagine. I urge the council to vote NO on closing MAC.	05/20/25 9:48 PM
631		As an individual		Please vote no on closing the Community Music Center. The parks can still survive if they don't get all the attention they need, but the unique access to music lessons to people of all kinds is not replicated in any other place. It just celebrated its 70th year, generations of people have been touched by this community center.	05/20/25 9:49 PM
632	Kathryn Liljeholm	As an individual		The plan to close the Community Music Center, after generations of it providing music education that would othrerwise be fiscally out of reach for countless Portland families, is incredibly short-sighted. Our family cannot afford music lessons for our children without the Community Music Center. Portland Public Schools offers little in the way of music education: the music and arts education my children receive here is a fraction of the hours and depth of instruction I received in Ohio in the 80s and 90s. Community Music Center helps to plug that gap for those of us who truly want and need music-making in our lives. I am shocked that you want, as your own legacy, to destroy that tradition, and the decades of music-making that Community Music Center has offered in the heart of Portland. All too often, I find, government officials want the arts to pay for their poor fiscal and business choices. I am appalled at the depths to which you are willing to stoop, however. Closing the Community Music Center is a new and abject low. We've lost so much of what makes Portland special and livable. Do not take this away, too.	05/20/25 9:49 PM
633	Annie Tonsiengsom	As an individual		As a constituent in District #3, I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed changes to Prosper Portland's budget and funding put forth by Councilors Green and Dunphy. I believe this amendment would significantly hinder Prosper Portland's ability to provide essential services to our communities at a critical time. Specifically, I am concerned about the potential elimination of the Events & Film Office (EFO). This would severely undermine our capacity to attract film and video production to Portland and diminish our city's reputation as a vibrant destination and arts community. Furthermore, the dissolution of the EFO would lead to the loss of vital grant programs that support and amplify the voices of Portlanders, particularly those from BIPOC and other marginalized communities. As a video production agency, small business owner of 15 years and a Portland resident of 20 years, my community and I have directly benefited from the programs and initiatives of the Portland Events & Film Office. Supporting the local ecosystem of artists, technicians, filmmakers, and video creators is crucial for the continued growth and success of our creative storytelling and marketing industry. Therefore, I strongly urge you to vote NO on the proposed amendment. This vote will protect the vitality of our arts industry and preserve our city's commitment to equitable development.	05/20/25 9:49 PM
634	Summie Tam	As an individual		Our family have frequent the Multnomah Arts Center and the Community Music Center for the past 10 years since our children were babies. Both centers provide wonderful and affordable arts and music programs which otherwise would be inaccessible. The centers also create a community gathering point. It would be detrimental to a creative city like Portland to lose these public resources.	05/20/25 9:50 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
635	Natasha von Bartheld	As an individual		As a private music teacher who has worked with students involved at the Community and Multnomah music centers, losing these centers would be a massive loss to local families. They provide access to music education that students would not otherwise get, providing 100% financial support to many students who do not have strings programs at their public schools, and can't afford private lessons. I've seen firsthand how music massively benefits kids in all aspects of their lives. I've seen depressed and bullied children light up and jump for joy in their music lessons. I've had parents tell me that music lessons helped their child do better in school, improving their focus and discipline. I've seen the benefits music lessons provide to neurodivergent students specifically, helping their motor skills, social and emotional skills, anxiety, and self esteem. Portland families have been going to these community music centers for literal generations, and they have brought immeasurable value to their lives. Losing these centers is losing part of what bonds our Portland community together. Please, vote no on amendment 45.	05/20/25 9:50 PM
636	David Shaw	As an individual		I've lived and worked in SW Portland for almost 50 years. MultnomahArts Center has always been one of the community anchors. I've taken classes, exercised, attended Metro planning meetings, and participated in political gatherings. The Center and its many functions is a treasure please keep it!!	05/20/25 9:50 PM
637	George Stevenson	As an individual		"VOTE 'NO' ON AMMENDMENT #45 - DON'T CUT THE COMMUNITY MUSIC CENTER!"	05/20/25 9:51 PM
638	Laura Thode	As an individual		I live in unincorporated Portland (near PCC) and the Multnomah Arts Center has been an important part of my life since I moved here over twenty years ago. It is a vital hub for the Portland Handweavers Guild as well as many others—members drive from all over the Portland Metro area and beyond for meetings at MAC. I have attended classes and sales and other gatherings and enjoyed numerous art shows. MAC is a really special place that provides a variety of invaluable services to many Portlanders of all ages, and epitomizes the kind of community organization that makes Portland a great place to live.	05/20/25 9:51 PM
639		As an individual		I am submitting a written testimony on behalf of Amendment #45. I ask that the Council seriously considers voting NO on Amendment #45. My partner and I recently bought a home in Multnomah Village. The MAC (Multnomah Art Center) is one of the reasons we chose to move to this neighborhood. We plan on making Multnomah Village our forever neighborhood. We hope to retire in the home we're currently in, and the MAC is one of the reasons we are sure we made the right choice when looking for a neighborhood that has ample public parks, resources, and amenities. Not only have we found community in the classes we're both taking separately, but we have both made enormous progress on the harrowing healing journey we both began when my husband's parents died in a horrible tragedy last April. We were both diagnosed with PTSD in January, and I can honestly say that along with our professional therapists and family and friends, the MAC has been one of the most important parts of managing PTSD symptoms for the both of us, and we have both seen significant improvements in just a matter of months. The healing power of art, learning, and making art in a community setting is absolutely vital to the many people suffering mental health issues. It takes a special place for all these healing powers to be at their strongest, and the MAC is that place for many people. Loneliness and a lack of community are highly correlated with mental health problems. The MAC is particularly popular among seniors, not only because of the senior center but because of the comradery and sense of purpose I have already touched on. I have also met people who have found a sense of belonging at the MAC after moving to Portland or while experiencing a stressful life change or transition. I have met people who take classes every term at the MAC for many years, not only because of the special sense of community but also because of the high level of teaching, the culture of the place, and resources provided there. Now, please let me explain another reason why closing the MAC would not only hurt Portlanders across the city, but would also hurt the neighborhood and it's small businesses. Multnomah Village is a neighborhood that many people in Portland haven't even heard, let alone spent time in. I grew up in Beaverton and had never been to Multnomah Village until I was in my late teens! When people do come here, they fall in love with the neighborhood charm - and a big part of that is the small businesses. Although the MAC is a cherished space and resource for people in th neighborhood, literally everyone in my class and my partner's class are coming from another part of the city. Many people even come from suburbs or cross the river because how satisfied they are with what MAC provides in comparison to other art programs. It became clear to us both immediately that the MAC serves many Multnomah Village community members as well as Portlanders from every corner of the city!	05/20/25 9:52 PM
640	Melissa Kelley	As an individual		Please keep the Multnomah art center open! It does so much for the community and beyond.	05/20/25 9:52 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
641	Kai Molimbi	As an individual		I am writing in behalf of my son who has taken piano lessons at the Mac - Multnomah Arts Center for over 3 years. He just turned 10. The classes & summer camps there are vital for our family. My children are ages 3, 10, and 12. They, and myself, have all taken part in enriching programs at the MAC. My son especially started crying when he heard that the MAC could close! Please do not take away this beloved resource for families.	05/20/25 9:53 PM
642	Glenn	As an individual		During Covid, I was a strong advocate for shifting police funding to other city programs. Not too long after that time, when our levels of policing were lower and - frankly - our police were not responsive, I had a driver threaten me with a gun. I called 911, and found myself on hold for 15 minutes. The operator was an absolute gem, yet there was nothing they could do. It was terrifying and shook me to my core. I never spoke to a police officer. Many residents have had similar experiences, and some have not been as fortunate. The violence in our city is down, but I still see drivers going twice the speed limit, response times remain slow, and residents often feel unsafe. My own opinions on policing have changed. We cannot take funding away from public safety at this moment. In fact, we need more funding and I hope the city will find its way to at least maintain current levels.	05/20/25 9:53 PM
643	Kimberly A Jarvis	As an individual		The arts are a significant quality of life issue for the residents of Portland. They are one major reason that drew me to move here and to stay despite its problems. Closing Multnomah Art Center would be huge backwards step for the city so please continue funding this vital asset. I personally take classes there and they've been life enriching. We have a thriving art scent and without MAC we're losing an important part of that. Please look to Detroit, MI where I grew up. Their recent improvements began with artists moving into the city. We must not backslide. Don't kill the arts in Portland.	05/20/25 9:54 PM
644	Katy	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is a thriving community for ages 4 to 104. Please do not close this facility and all it's programs. This is my 8th year of taking art classes since I retired. The classes are always full and I meet new people all the time. The young children's activities are amazing. This is of utmost importance to the health and well being of this community. Please keep the MAC open.	05/20/25 9:54 PM
645	Julianne Bava	As an individual		Please don't close the Multnomah Arts Center! My family has been using MAC since my kids were little, taking dance, pottery, music and art classes. I have taken art, dance, and music classes throughout the years. I am currently a member of the Multnomah Chorus which rehearses and performs there. I don't know of any other community center that has it's own Art gallery which I like to visit after rehearsals. MAC is an important part of Multnomah village and SW Portland. With so much loss of federal government services since the beginning of the year, closing MAC will break my heart. Please spare it. Vote NO on Amendment #45!!!	05/20/25 9:54 PM
646		As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! Vote NO oon amendment 45	05/20/25 9:56 PM
647	Moses Jones	On behalf of an organization	Seize The Vor LLC	I'm a Historical European Martial Arts (HEMA) practitioner, and while I no longer live in Portland, the MAC holds a special place in my heart. I trained there for years, and it's where much of my foundation in HEMA was built. Today, I live in Salem, where I've opened my own HEMA school, but the MAC remains a vital part of our community. The HEMA club that trains out of the MAC, Indes Ferox Gladio (IFG), is a central pillar in the Pacific Northwest HEMA scene. I frequently travel up to Portland to train with them and regularly send my students to compete and cross-train at the MAC. Whenever we travel, we invest in the local economy, grabbing a post-event pizza and beer at the Lucky Lab or fueling up with bagels and coffee from Spielman. And we're not alone. Fencers from all over, including those from Seattle, Eugene, and even from other countries, whom all gather at the MAC regularly. If the MAC were to close, our community wouldn't just be losing a beloved venue, we'd be losing a cornerstone of our shared culture and a critical hub that brings practitioners together from across city, state, and country. Thank you for your consideration.	05/20/25 9:56 PM
648		As an individual		Multnomah Art Center should NOT be closed. It is a vital part of the community. All ages and all types of folks gather there to learn, connect, share and grow community. It would be devastating to so many people if it closed. What is the purpose of closing such a valuable resource? Please keep it open. My family has used this community resource for 25+ years.	05/20/25 9:57 PM
649	Tristan ramin	As an individual		Keep MAC vibrant and thriving. Fund the arts and culture in Portland. Battle ignorance and corporate greed. Tax corporations and support art and cultural activities for children.	05/20/25 9:58 PM
650	Eden Radfarr	As an individual		DON'T CLOSE MULTNOMAH ARTS CENTER! MAC is a worthwhile investment in community safety, well being and vibrance. It is a hub for enrichment and personal growth, a keystone of gathering and resilience in Multnomah Village housing non-profits and other community assets that ripple out into the broader PDX community. Participating in ceramics and theater at MAC was vital to my daughter in finding her passion and her people during her formative pre-teen years. Closing such a valuable community asset would be sheer idiocy and dump years of community investments down the drain. It's like clear cutting a forest. Whoever came up with such a proposal should be ashamed.	05/20/25 10:01 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
651	Charlie Williams	As an individual		I am asking lawmakers to keep the Multnomah Arts Center alive. Please consider that the Multnomah Arts Center is a center of expression, the arts, and culture in Multnomah County and beyond, and our community would never be the same without it. Its theater arts programs, summer camps, music programs, art shows, and more have been an integral part of mine and many in my communities childhood; it has been an invaluable and affordable resource and place of community for so many families.	05/20/25 10:01 PM
652	Morgan Macwhorter	As an individual		I'm urging council to PLEASE vote no on amendment 45 so that our neighborhood and city can continue to relish in what makes Portland so special, its access to art and culture for children and adults alike. I have taken ukulele lessons there, ceramic lessons, participated in multiple community events. This is the centerpiece of Multnomah Village. Please don't give our PDX residents more reason to jump ship by ridding of the very things that define us. No of 45!!!	05/20/25 10:01 PM
653	Carol Nelson	As an individual		Hello. My name is Carol Nelson, and I live in District 4. I'm here today to ask you not to approve Amendment #45, which would close the Multnomah Arts Center. The Multnomah Arts Center is more than just a building — it's a cornerstone of community, creativity, and connection. My 3 1/2 year old daughter has participated in art classes, First Fridays, and several special events there. The ballet classes are so popular we haven't been able to sign up yet. Every time we walk through those doors, I see her light up. It's one of the few places in the city where families like mine can access high-quality, affordable arts programming in a welcoming, neighborhood setting. When I told my daughter the center might close, she looked up at me and said, "Awww. Mom, I don't want it to close." And I don't either. And I know we're not alone. The MAC provides vital early childhood enrichment, intergenerational programming, and support for local artists. It's one of the few places where the arts are made accessible to everyone — regardless of age, income, or background. Losing it would be a deep blow to the cultural and social fabric of our district. Please vote NO on Amendment 45. Keep the Multnomah Arts Center open and funded. Our kids, families, and future deserve it. Thank you.	05/20/25 10:02 PM
654	Vanessa Daniels	As an individual		I'm a retired senior citizen. I started taking group cello lessons at CMC IN 2023. The class is enjoyable and plan on continuing with lessons. CMC sent an email today indicating the city will be voting to close CMC this fall. PLEASE DO NOT VOTE TO CLOSE CMC! They are vital to our city by providing after school music lessons to children and seniors who want to keep active following retirement. PLEASE DO NOT CLOSE CMC!	05/20/25 10:02 PM
655	Mari Van Sickle	As an individual		I'm writing to express my deepest support for keeping the Multnomah Arts Center OPEN! The amount of youth, our parents and our grandparents, that would be negatively impacted would be so significantly devastating. It's a vibrant community that serves our neighbors well and should remain open and accessible to all.	05/20/25 10:02 PM
656	Samantha Finlay	As an individual		As a member of the SW Portland Community Band, a non-profit organization that supports the Ida B Wells High School Band, I urge you to not close MAC. We are 50 members from the local community, and we perform twice a year at the Multnomah Arts Center. We fill the main auditorium to CAPACITY and proceeds from our concerts support new musical instruments and equipment for the Wells High School band program. If MAC closes it will negatively impact the students in the band program at Wells High School. Don't close MAC!	05/20/25 10:03 PM
657	Paul lasner	As an individual		My family has benefited from music programs at Multnomah Arts Center for the last 20 years. It is a treasured resource in our community. If the arts fail to flourish we cannot sustain Portland's vibrant heart.	05/20/25 10:06 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
658	Miriam pike	As an individual		I saw that there is a proposal to permanently shut down the Multnomah arts center. This is the heart of our community and part of why we chose to move where we did. This would be a significant blow to our community and beyond. We play in the playground almost every day with our toddler and infant. Our toddler took some of his first steps in the buildings hallways. We enjoy programming on first Fridays with our children. A group we participate in has been meeting on the basketball court for more than a decade. Please do not cut out the heart and soul of our neighborhood. The arts center is unique. Not many neighborhoods have something like this and more should! We shouldn't be shutting down places that encourage learning and community like this.	05/20/25 10:06 PM
659	Aliah Dolan	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center. It's a vibrant, valuable and beloved part of our community where the arts are made accessible to all!	05/20/25 10:06 PM
660	Mia Ferm	As an individual		Do not close the Community Music Center. It is essential to supporting a vibrant community. It is an accessible place for diverse people of Portland to express themselves and connect through music. If this is something we can't support, Portland should be ashamed. This is an incredible return on investment. Don't you want to invest in people and music and culture and community??!	05/20/25 10:07 PM
661		On behalf of an organization	Community Music Center	Community Music Center funding	05/20/25 10:08 PM
662	Kathy Ewing	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! MAC serves a diverse community with creative arts classes. It's the heart of the community. Every class I take is nearly full and the halls are full of students. This would be a place that's sorely missed by the community. In this time of soulless sameness, please support keeping open a culturally diverse and enriching environment for this community.	05/20/25 10:08 PM
663	Alec Esquivel	As an individual		Please, do NOT close Multnomah Arts Center. There isn't an alternative I can go to. In comparison to the athletic focused community centers, there are several available that provide the same services. Once the Arts Center is closed it would take decades to rebuild, if even possible. Have you seen the loom room? How many ceramic kilns are publicly offered and accessible to folks with low income? Then there is the metal shop, wood shop, print shop. I haven't yet mentioned the dance, musical instrument lessons, and so much more that I don't know all of the classes and events they provide. And this building is one of the few where community members gather from young to old to create and explore the arts. The arts and access to creative expression is extremely important during these times where we are experiencing trauma from the actions of our federal administration. The ability to create reminds us of our access to power. Creating something is one of the most powerful things we can do.	05/20/25 10:09 PM
664	Eliesa Ing	As an individual		Hello, I want to let you know how important the MaC is to our family. We live on the east side, but we tapped with Miss Claire for years with both our girls and we've always found such community in the winter and spring craft sales. I always planned that someday when I wasn't a full time mom and I would do piano lessons, weaving and pottery there. I want to make sure that we keep open such an important resource for those who don't have the resources to do this otherwise... these classes are often the only thing financially possible for middle and lower SES groups. I was the kid who couldn't afford private lessons and very much relied on community programs to enrich my life. Please don't close this. Thank you for your time, Eliesa	05/20/25 10:10 PM
665	Rhonda Garner	As an individual		I am writing in support of Mayor Wilson's budget proposal for 2025-26. I am in full support of increasing funding for our police. I also support continued funding for graffiti removal and PERMANENT removal of RV's, derelict or not, that continue to live along our neighborhood streets leaving garbage, needles and making it unsafe for children and neighbors to freely live in our city. I support cuts where it makes sense; administrative/management bloat first.	05/20/25 10:11 PM
666	Alfonso Ramirez	As an individual		Please vote no on amendment 45. Please don't cut the community music center. This has meant so much to my family in our community here in the Reed area. I currently attend the Latin choral project and it's been such a culturally affirming experience for us. Please don't cut this wonderful.	05/20/25 10:13 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
667	Charles Peterson	As an individual		I am writing to request that the Community Music Center not be closed. My wife and I live in Hillsboro and we drive to the CMC each week to attend classes. Although we are not residents of Portland, we do contribute by paying out-of-district tuition. The CMC offers such unique opportunities to us and the community that we feel it is worth it to drive for an hour each week to attend these classes. I doubt that the offerings at the CMC will find a viable alternative location that is a nice and welcoming a place.	05/20/25 10:13 PM
668	Isaac McLennan	On behalf of an organization	Portland Fire Fighters' Association, IAFF Local 43 (PFFA)	The Portland Fire Fighters' Association, IAFF Local 43 (PFFA) opposes Avalos 3. See attached written testimony.	05/20/25 10:13 PM
669	Sheryl Horwitz	As an individual		Vote No on Amendment #45. I am strongly opposed to closing the Multnomah Arts Center. My children and I have been attending classes there for over 30 years and it is at the heart of the community, not only in Multnomah Village, but in SW Portland and the City as a whole. It would be a tremendous loss if closed and makes no sense after all the recent investments at the center. The Multnomah Arts Center as well as the Eastside Community Music Center are equally as important as all of the other parks that make up Portland Parks and Recreation.	05/20/25 10:16 PM
670	Austin Peterson	As an individual		The city doesn't feel safe by any means. And it's not ok. My company recently moved its headquarters away from Portland because of safety issues downtown. It's embarrassing and we need more public safety infrastructure.	05/20/25 10:16 PM
671	Pablo Olavarrieta	As an individual		I strongly urge the City Council to vote against amendment #45 to the City's budget which would close the Multnomah Arts Center. This issue is very close to my heart - I've seen the positive impact of the MAC throughout my whole life. As a child I learned piano in Jim Blackburn's class. My aunt, Christine Colasurdo, taught calligraphy at the MAC. I got to see a retrospective of her work in the MAC gallery after she passed in 2021. I believe that now more than ever we need spaces for people to come together, express themselves, learn, and create. The MAC does all of those things and more. At a time when our national institutions are under attack please do not destroy a cherished local institution as well.	05/20/25 10:16 PM
672	Thierry ANNE	As an individual		The Multnomah village Art center is an important educational and cultural place for the children and all the people of our community a time where art and education are threaten. and under attack. Closing it will be more than a mistake!	05/20/25 10:17 PM
673		As an individual		The Multnomah Arts center plays a vital role in our community. All the members of my family have benefited from the activities. We would be devastated if it closed. Please vote no on amendment #45	05/20/25 10:18 PM
674		As an individual		The community music center is a beacon of community music education. Funding should absolutely not be cut for subsidized music education.	05/20/25 10:18 PM
675	Sara Gonzalez	As an individual		Portland Parks and Rec's offerings to the community via youth and adult programing has continued to be reduced, and no longer reflects its respective community needs. I urge you not to close the Multnomah Arts Center nor eliminate the Parks & Rec summer camp program. In my opinion this budget does not reflect maintaining or improving the youth programing for our community centers with the elimination of this programing or closing of this facility. DO NOT close the Multnomah Arts Center! We go to the Multnomah Arts Center often twice a week for for programing, community enrichment, or community engagement. The Multnomah Arts Center is an important pillar in the Southwest Community. Thank you for your support and dedication to our local community centers.	05/20/25 10:18 PM
676	Tamara Miller	As an individual		I am writing to urge the city council to oppose the budget amendment that would close the Multnomah Arts Center. It is a huge asset to the city and to Southwest Portland in particular. We need now more than ever to protect places that provide community, connection and access to the arts. The MAC serves children, the disabled and seniors! Do not close the Multnomah Arts Center!	05/20/25 10:19 PM
677	Allison	As an individual		I rely on Multnomah Arts Center as a part of my mental health. I am a disabled single parent who is raising my disabled child without support from their other parent. Between medical appointments, caregiving, and physical limitations I have limited opportunities. Attending classes at MAC has been a lifeline for me. It gives me something to look forward and connects me to community.	05/20/25 10:19 PM
678		As an individual		I am glad you are closing the Multnomah "Arts" Center. I think art and culture are of great importance, but that place was a total embarrassment. Close it down and use the money to save our sinking ship of a city. My great grandparents came here from Europe and I'm ready to leave it and head back to my ancestral homeland. It's filthy and frightening and dangerous and I pay unreal property taxes for this hellhole. Close the MAC! Save my city!	05/20/25 10:20 PM

679
680

Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Nada Maani	As an individual		Do not close the MAC. Portland is a city built on creativity, and the Multnomah Arts Center is where that spirit comes alive. It's more than just a building—it's a place where the city and creativity meet. For many, the MAC is a refuge, a place to learn something new, to express themselves, and to take a break from the pressures of everyday life. It's where Portland's creative souls go to thrive, and where community, art, and heart come together. To lose it would be to lose a vital part of what makes this city special.	05/20/25 10:20 PM
	As an individual		Keep the MAC open.	05/20/25 10:21 PM
MN	As an individual		The MAC is the heart of the village and provides multiple important services the improve quality of life including accessibility to arts programming and even food. In addition to classes, the Multnomah Arts Center: Has fifteen partners throughout Portland, serving Parks' targeted communities at their sites including The Rosewood Initiative, Home Forward, and Y.O.U.th. Houses several nonprofits including: Columbia Basin Basketry Guild, Neighborhood House, Oregon Children's Theatre, Print Arts Northwest, Community Policing, and Northwest Woodturners. Provides discounted space rentals to nonprofits. Makes arts education programming accessible by eliminating financial barriers to access, through the Parks Levy and MACA scholarships. Received roughly \$1,000,000 in seismic and ADA facility upgrades from Parks in the past two years, surely not an indication of imminent building closure. During summer months, MAC runs the Arts in the Parks program, providing free drop-in arts activities at parks (primarily in areas serving our targeted communities). Last year over 4,000 youth were provided activities through this program. Produces Free First Friday Arts for All at MAC, which provides drop-in arts education experiences along with free food for the Portland community. Staff works with Parks management and our partners to address long term facility needs. As economic pressures increase, community centers will be even more vital. I urge you not to close the MAC. BTW, it's curious to me that we only found out about this vote the day before it happened. I would hate to think that this was a tactic to keep our voices unheard.	05/20/25 10:23 PM

681

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
682	Aaron Anderson	As an individual		Dear City Council Members, My name is Aaron Anderson, and I am a Portland resident in District 3 who is writing to testify on how important the Community Music Center and Multnomah Arts Center are to the City of Portland, and to strongly urge the City Council to vote NO on closing these two arts centers. I grew up in Portland. In elementary school I was exposed to classical music, and I became obsessed with wanting to play the violin. My parents enrolled me in music lessons at CMC, and that old firehouse in southeast played perhaps the most formative role of any institution in shaping my childhood. I took lessons there from age 5 until I graduated high school, and was part of various music groups and ensembles. I learned how to play and appreciate music, but also built community through the friendships and relationships I built. Since moving back to Portland recently as an adult, I have been planning on enrolling in music lessons at CMC. The Community Music Center and Multnomah Arts Center provide resources and opportunities to Portland children and adults that simply don't exist anywhere else. When I was a Portland Public Schools student the arts, including music, had been gutted due to budget issues. Students could not practically learn to play music in the schools. CMC and MAC provide Portland residents with affordable opportunities to learn and explore these subjects that have been largely abandoned in other public venues. Please don't close the last spaces in town that are dedicated to bringing arts to the people of the city. Thank you for your consideration and for the work you do for Portland.	05/20/25 10:24 PM
683	Sarah Lundy	As an individual		Keep the MAC open!	05/20/25 10:24 PM
684	Leslie Fisher	As an individual		I received notice that the Multnomah Arts Center could possibly be closed permanently as early as September of the year. I currently live near the MAC and have taken classes there and also send my daughter there to take music lessons. I have two younger children who will also take classes at the MAC when they are old enough. The MAC is vital to the neighborhood and community of SW portland. It is a community center that offers so much to so many people. Please do not close the MAC.	05/20/25 10:25 PM
685	erik Sandgen	On behalf of an organization	Print Arts Northwest	Please VOTE NO on Amendment #45 You must NOT lose for us the community assets and services of Multnomah Arts Center, which in addition to its classes, * Has fifteen partners throughout Portland, serving Parks' targeted communities at their sites including The Rosewood Initiative, Home Forward, and Y.O.U.th. * Houses several nonprofits including: Columbia Basin Basketry Guild, Neighborhood House, Oregon Children's Theatre, Print Arts Northwest, Community Policing, and Northwest Woodturners. * Provides discounted space rentals to nonprofits. * Makes arts education programming accessible by eliminating financial barriers to access, through the Parks Levy and MACA scholarships. * Received roughly \$1,000,000 in seismic and ADA facility upgrades from Parks in the past two years, surely not an indication of imminent building closure. * During summer months, MAC runs the Arts in the Parks program, providing free drop-in arts activities at parks (primarily in areas serving our targeted communities). Last year over 4,000 youth were provided activities through this program. * Produces Free First Friday Arts for All at MAC, which provides drop-in arts education experiences along with free food for the Portland community. * Staff works with Parks management and our partners to address long term facility needs. Shame on a city government that has mismanaged OUR assets to the degree that this particular cut to MAC is even proposed. Do the essential thing now and retain MAC funding. My knowledge of PAN comes from having taught workshop art classes there forty years ago and now am currently involved as a member of Print Arts Northwest. It's influence is extensive and ENDURING. I consider it to be a regional asset and a regionally significant arts venue even as I am a resident of Washington County at 54815 NW Kahneeta Court in Hillsboro. MAC brings me into Portland. Erik Sandgren360-581-1305	05/20/25 10:27 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
686	Shannon Daley	As an individual		The Multnomah Art Center has played a pivotal role in our children's lives. It is the safe and creative place they take piano and guitar lessons, and it has housed affordable and fun summer camps introducing them to diverse avenues of artistic expression. As students in a PPS school with no music program to speak of, it is imperative to their academic success to have access to affordable musical opportunities and the Multnomah Art Center has provided a space for this over the last 7 years for our family. Please don't take this essential community gathering place from a community that truly needs its services. From young to old, Multnomah Art Center serves so many and it would be a significant loss if it were to be shuttered.	05/20/25 10:28 PM
687	Lena	As an individual		As an enthusiastic student and supporter of the Multnomah Arts Center, I urge the council to reconsider the suggestion to close the MAC. Since I became part of this community 3 years ago, I've gone to the Arts Center for music classes and found not only the skills I signed up for, but also a deeper sense of community, new neighbors, and a group of lifelong friends. People are in desperate need of community spaces in which to make connections and the Multnomah Arts Center is an investment in community and culture. Please keep the MAC!	05/20/25 10:29 PM
688	Rachael Ann Ramos	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is a valuable resource for the people of Portland. Please do not close it, it would be a great disservice to the community if you did.	05/20/25 10:30 PM
689	Josh Young	On behalf of an organization	Multnomah Arts Center	Do not vote to close the Multnomah Arts Center! The benefits the center provide in terms of opportunity to engage in the arts in affordable capacity are needed and greatly enrich our community	05/20/25 10:30 PM
690	Jean M Trygstad	As an individual		PLEASE DO NOT close Multnomah Arts Center or the Music Center in SE. The arts are essential to children, adults and seniors. It contribute to making community and being together and coming together are more important now than ever before. Quality of community live would be forever harmed with this action.	05/20/25 10:30 PM
691	Jordan	As an individual		As a constituent of District 3, I was extremely disappointed to see that one of my council members, Steve Novick, submitted amendment 45 to the budget. Multnomah Arts Center (MAC) is an amazing community resource. I've been taking classes there for the last year, and am always exited to see what the community is up to when I drop by the building. This past weekend there was a theater rehearsal, tonight when I walked in to my class I could see kids in dance class, hear a music lesson/class and see folks enjoying the public gallery. I started taking classes at MAC because it is the only affordable place to take weaving classes in the entire city. Weaving has long been considered "women's work" and the production of textiles by hand is a dying art. It is exciting to be able to take classes from experts at Multnomah Arts Center, especially when you consider that the weaving program has been part of Portland Parks and Rec since the 1950s. It is unclear whether passage of amendment 45 would mean that this ~70 year program would cease to exist, if so that would be a travesty. The weaving studio is a fun place to come together with other community members to learn from each other and have fun. Each of my classes have been inter-generational, allowing me to interact with folks that I generally wouldn't come into contact with on a daily basis. Based on my observations this seems to be the case for most classes across the different art disciplines. Right now the city needs more, not fewer, places for people from different walks of life to come together and create community. I hope you reconsider the permanent closure of the Multnomah Arts Center. I've attached some pictures of the objects I've been able to make in class :)	05/20/25 10:31 PM
692	Ange	As an individual		The Multnomah art center is a prize possession of our city one where a child or an adult is able to go and learn and explore different arts and abilities I cannot imagine taking that away from our community they serve the privileged and the underprivileged and our a staple of our community	05/20/25 10:33 PM
693		As an individual		Please don't close the multnomah arts center.	05/20/25 10:36 PM
694		As an individual		Vote NO on amendment 45!	05/20/25 10:38 PM
695		As an individual		My good friend does theater here, you cannot let it close!	05/20/25 10:39 PM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Celeste Vilhauer	As an individual		Hello, I am writing to you today to beg you not to close the Multnomah Arts Center. Even though it is across the river from my district, it is still an extremely important institution to me. I grew up 5 minutes outside of Multnomah Village. Me and my siblings had the opportunity to attend many classes at MAC. I grew up going to programs such as painting, drama, and dance. Having a safe place that fostered my creativity and sense of community was so crucial to my development. This year was a full circle year for me. My four year old daughter started ballet in the same gym where I took ballet classes roughly 30 years ago. Seeing her thrive and meet new people has been such a joy. I am aware there are other opportunities for dance and arts, even closer to our home. But the MAC is special in their unique approach to the arts; it is unlike anywhere else in Portland and to close it would be an injustice to past and future generations. Please do not allow it to be shut down.	05/20/25 10:39 PM
Tatyana	As an individual		I am writing to ask to keep the Community Music Center open. When my family and I arrived in the US from Ukraine in 2022, our two year old was diagnosed with delayed communication and speech. He has attended music classes at both Multnomah Art Center and Community Music Center over the last two years and these have greatly contributed to his progress in developing proper speech and communication. He also grew to love both listening and making music via playing his kazoo, drumming and playing piano. Additionally, CMC hosted the Ukrainian Community choir Lisova Pisnya's rehearsals September 2024 through April 2025 providing a safe and properly equipped place to meet for our singing ensemble which to a great extent consists of Ukrainian refugees like myself. Thanks to us being able to use CMC via a grant from Portland, the choir was able to grow professionally and has since had up to a dozen of various performances. Choir members could also feel safe to explore and learn about our traditional and folk music together, which greatly contributed to the members' mental health.	05/20/25 10:40 PM
Skyler Mason	As an individual		Vote no on amendment 45! Do not close the Multnomah Arts Center!	05/20/25 10:40 PM
Monica Setziol-Phillips	As an individual		I am a working artist. I do not live in Portland so you may well disregard this. BUT DO NOT. For many many years I have been visiting MAC. It is an important meeting place for the arts. I have given talks there and have attended functions there. To be in favor of closing MAC is to be anti art in the community. IF Portland truly is trying to make a come back art for everyone MUST play an important part in that comeback. IF you want people to come into Portland because it supports an arts rich environment you cannot afford to close MAC.	05/20/25 10:42 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
700	Roxanne Seaton	As an individual		Hello, my name is Roxanne Seaton, a multi-racial woman of Yaqui, Mexican American, and Norwegian descent. I am a renter, a small business owner, a dedicated community volunteer, and an artist deeply invested in Old Town Chinatown's cultural fabric. I strongly support the proposed budget amendment to fund subsidies for tenants of affordable housing units at Everett Station Lofts. Until April, I was a tenant at Everett Station Lofts, living in a ground-floor gallery unit, expecting an artist community. Instead, I found out there were no sponsored shows, no shared resources, and no institutional support. In just a few years, my rent rose from \$1,750 to over \$2,500, with arbitrary fee hikes used to justify the increase. The conditions were unsanitary, retaliation against organizers was rampant, and the property manager bragged about exploiting loopholes. But this testimony is not about the failures of management—it is about the tenants themselves and the deep value they bring to the local community. Everett Station Lofts is more than a residence—it is a vital social hub where housed and unhoused neighbors connect. Tenants regularly engage with Portland's homeless and transitional housing residents, providing mentorship, collaboration, and opportunities for stability. These relationships are the foundation of real support—not from institutions but from chosen family and grassroots networks. The artists and organizers at Everett Station Lofts create murals, host public events, and actively weave the social fabric of Old Town Chinatown. This budget amendment isn't just about affordable rent—it is a safeguard against displacement, an investment in people who give back to Portland. It also places essential oversight on another out-of-state landlord extracting profit at the expense of Black, Brown, and low-income tenants. Beyond this immediate relief, I support structural solutions such as a public bank and expanded public housing, ensuring that residents can thrive without financial instability. Lastly, I want to acknowledge the importance of budgetary oversight for Prosper Portland under the city council. It favors developers and interconnects lobbying organizations in housing industry. I also recognize its role in fostering Portland's creative economy. Their investment in Portland Film has opened doors for me and many others post-strike, supporting careers in film and television. Their mural funding has helped small businesses and artists alike, strengthening a growing creative community. I urge you to act—invest in Everett Station Lofts tenants, preserve the identity of Old Town Chinatown, and protect the people who make this city thrive. Stability is not built by distant landlords but by the neighbors who step up for one another. Thank you for your time and consideration.	05/20/25 10:45 PM
701	Karyn O'Bryant	As an individual		We benefit greatly from the Multnomah Arts Center. Our daughter and son take theatre workshops and classes there, and the productions they put on are delightful! I love the rotating art exhibits and fairs, and I often purchase artwork from the students and teachers that practice their craft at the MAC. It is a cornerstone of the community of Multnomah Village (and of Portland). It deserves to stay open to help the art and creative spirit that define Portland, flourish.	05/20/25 10:46 PM
702		As an individual		The Multnomah Arte Center provides space for creatives to grow from a very young age. It adds to the vibrant arts community, engages the nearby neighborhoods, and provides a safe, fun space for kids over the summer. I have taken many classes and watched lots of performances at the MAC. This building and community is vital to the Multnomah Village and beyond.	05/20/25 10:47 PM
703	Carol Weber	As an individual		PLEASE DO NOT CLOSE MAC, my children and now grandchildren love their classes there!!!!	05/20/25 10:51 PM
704	Ted Dreier	As an individual		Dear City Council Members: vote NO on Amendment #45! Do NOT vote to close the Multnomah Arts Center! My wife and two sons have been using the Arts Center since we move here in 1987. It is the essential, vibrant center of village central in Multnomah Village. I have attended many neighborhood birthday parties there and taken man classes. I am thinking about our aged neighbor who has multiple health issues. The only thing that keeps her going is the ceramics class she loves to participate in in at the Arts Center. Her health is really on the edge. I'm not exaggerating when I say this: closing the Arts Center could kill her. Many of us count on the Arts Center in so many ways. Don't close it! Don't close it! Don't close it! Sincerely, Ted Dreier	05/20/25 10:52 PM
705	Mia Matusow	As an individual		Please don't close Multnomah Art Center! My whole family has taken classes at MAC for the last several decades—it is a place that enriches all of Portland by providing creative outlets for all ages.	05/20/25 10:53 PM
706	Henry Mainwaring	As an individual		I strongly disagree with the motion to permanently close Multnomah Arts Center. I grew up in the Multnomah Village neighborhood and hold strong memories of attending after school programs in acting and woodshop held by the center. These programs fostered my passion for creative expression as a young person, a passion I have carried with me as I will soon attain a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts and am currently working as a professional actor. It is shameful that the city council is considering permanently closing an arts institution with such deep local ties and history with its community, especially at a time where arts funding is facing an urgent crisis, both nationally and in Oregon. In my view to defund MAC goes against the values of Portland as a city and Multnomah Village as a community.	05/20/25 10:54 PM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Juan Barraza	On behalf of an organization	Latino Founders	May 20th, 2025 Dear Councilor(s), I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the proposed amendment to Mayor Wilson's FY 2025-26 budget, the amendment would eliminate the \$11 million in ongoing city General Fund dollars currently allocated to Prosper Portland. This amendment would have an immediate and devastating impact on Portland's economic development infrastructure—especially for Latino-owned businesses and other historically underserved communities. Latino Founders is dedicated to fostering the growth and success of Latino entrepreneurs. Our programs—including the Founders Hub, our Accelerator Program, and year-round mentorship and educational support—have been made possible in large part thanks to partnerships and support from Prosper Portland. Without this support, our ability to provide essential programs and services to Latino entrepreneurs in Portland will be severely diminished, at a time when our community is just beginning to regain its economic footing. The proposed reallocation of limited Strategic Investment Funds (SIF) to backfill the General Fund shortfall would not only jeopardize our work but would decimate long-term programs citywide. This amendment would effectively eliminate: The Inclusive Business Resource Network (IBRN), which has been critical for Latino, Black, and other POC-owned businesses. City-wide small business lending and grants. All workforce development programming, which supports both entrepreneurs and job seekers. Efforts to retain, expand, and attract traded-sector employers that are vital for Portland's competitiveness. Essential staff capacity at Prosper Portland that small businesses rely on every day. This proposal represents a sharp reversal of progress toward centering racial equity and balancing urban development with inclusive economic partnerships. The harm will be disproportionately felt by communities that have historically been excluded from Portland's economic systems.	05/20/25 10:55 PM
Sarah Dinger	As an individual		I am writing to ask that the council vote NO on amendment 45 - please DO NOT close the Community Music Center! This community resource makes it possible for families to access high quality music education that would otherwise be out of reach for many Portland families! When I discovered the CMC I couldn't believe that private lessons, group lessons, ensemble classes, and instrument rentals were accessible through parks and rec. Two of my children have participated in various programs here and I would be heartbroken if the CMC closes. Please reject this amendment!!	05/20/25 10:58 PM
Brynna Klamkin-McCarter	As an individual		Please don't close the wonderful Multnomah Arts Center! Multnomah is a vibrant community, and the arts center was one of many neighborhood features that drove my spouse and my decision to move to the neighborhood to raise our young children. We hope to enjoy many years of classes at the arts center together! In a time when community spaces are few and far between, preserving places like the Multnomah Arts Center is more vital than ever to the health and resilience of our neighborhoods and city as a whole.	05/20/25 10:59 PM
Neal McCormick	As an individual		Amendment 45 CANNOT go through because it will close the Multnomah art center. This is a very important community space, we need these spaces more than ever in times like these. The arts center has a printmaking studio where they teach classes. I don't know if you are aware, but Portland has a long and proud history of printmaking. It's a really cool art form that would otherwise be hard to access and learn about without spaces like this. In taking this away you cut off an entire lineage of artists who have had a big part in making this city what it is today. Spaces like this make you proud to be a Portlander. Taking them away makes the future look bleak. Please preserve our community art spaces. I know you are under pressure. But we didn't elect you to destroy the soul of our city. So please vote no.	05/20/25 10:59 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
711	Seth Johnson	As an individual		I'm a homeowner and parent of two young children in Foster-Powell. 1. Portland is around the same size today it was in 2015 but PPB's budget is 124% (inflation adjusted) what it was then. It's not clear what they've done to justify that increase, and we need better fiscal stewardship in public safety. I strongly support any combination of the budget amendments drawing from PPB funding to support parks funding and other community safety initiatives. I also strongly support Councilor Morillo's proposed amendments concerning the use of asset forfeiture funds. 2. Vision Zero is vitally important to people in my neighborhood who currently feel like it's a broken promise. I mostly get around by walking but wouldn't dare walk my young kids on 82nd or Powell. Strong support for Councilor Koyama-Lane's amendments restoring and supporting Vision Zero. 3. We should not be cutting arborist positions when we just paid a large settlement from not having enough arborists managing dead trees. We should treat urban forestry and parks maintenance as critical infrastructure. 4. The council and public need more time and a more participatory process to handle the budget. I've been trying to read through all the amendments in a few hours on a weeknight. Strong support for Councilor Morillo's amendments 3,9,10, and 11 on budget transparency. 5. I'm deeply concerned about the Mayor's plan to expand temporary shelters using what seems like large amounts of one-time funds. We have scant evidence of the efficacy of this approach and strong evidence for the efficacy of housing-first and eviction-prevention. I support the amendments funding affordable housing and eviction prevention, and those adding accountability and backup plans for the shelter proposal. I hope councilors will approve a budget which doesn't create a NEW budget crisis next cycle. 6. I'm concerned about the large cuts to permitting, but unclear on their exact implications. I hope these cuts won't impede filling Portland's housing shortage. Funding temporary shelter programs at the expense of addressing one of the drivers of long-term housing affordability seems questionable.	05/20/25 10:59 PM
712	Akiko F Grimm	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center!! I retired from my job after Covid. I started taking weaving classes at MAC, and now it's my main place to learn new things, enjoy my skills, and communicate with other people. MAC offers a variety of classes to all ages and fosters learning and love for the arts. It has a warm and supportive community where many people keep taking classes to learn and enjoy sharing their passion and appreciation for the arts. There is no other place like MAC to learn the arts and enjoy the arts. Please understand that so many people need MAC. MAC needs to be maintained if Portland wants to sustain itself as a city of people with good hearts.	05/20/25 11:01 PM
713	Anika Becker	On behalf of an organization	IRCO	Diversity and Civic Leadership (DCL) Programming	05/20/25 11:03 PM
714		As an individual		Please do not cut the Community Music Center budget. CMC is an integral community for all of us music lovers. It has served populations for over the past 7 decades providing enormous educational, emotional, mental support for community members through learning and playing music. CMC is a heart of a human community. It needs not just to survive but thrive. Please please do not cut CMC budget.	05/20/25 11:04 PM
715	Claire Suzanne Carder	On behalf of an organization	Maplewood Neighborhood Association	I polled the Maplewood Neighborhood Association Board of Directors and every one of them is against Amendment #45 to the City budget, the amendment that would permanently close the Multnomah Art Center (MAC). Many SW Portland residents choose to live in southwest to attend the wide range of classes offered by the MAC. Portland is a city known for its creative culture. And in these hard times, we especially need ways to generate joy. Remember the Chinese proverb: "If you have two coins, use one to buy bread, the other to buy a flower." Keep the Multnomah Art Center open! Art is the flower that generates hope and joy!	05/20/25 11:04 PM
716	Kimberly Grommes	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is the heart of Southwest Portland that provides an incredible space for local artists to meet and learn and celebrate and educate. Losing it will be significantly detrimental to Multnomah Village and our Southwest Community. Now and into the future. Portland without art isn't Portland. Don't give up this community asset.	05/20/25 11:08 PM
717	Mark Kille	As an individual		I support Councilor Morillo's amendments that transfer new police funding into better ways of reducing crime, such as restoring park maintenance, improving traffic safety infrastructure, doing gun violence outreach/prevention/intervention programming, or exploring evidence-based, place-based environmental interventions. Thank you.	05/20/25 11:08 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
718	Grace Dunbar	As an individual		I am submitting this comment to address city council's vote tomorrow about closing Multnomah Arts Center. I vehemently request that you vote no on permanently closing Multnomah Arts Center. This is one of very few organizations in town that is able to offer affordable, accessible art classes & workshops to undeserved populations. Multnomah Arts Center has such a wide variety of offerings for all ages--music, theatre, visual arts--and taking this resource away from the greater Portland community would be an incredibly devastating loss to so many. I took classes at MAC as a child, and took many throughout 2023 & 2024, and they have greatly enriched my life. MAC makes arts education accessible by eliminating financial barriers to access, through the Parks Levy and MACA scholarships-- taking away this resource would negatively impact so many. MAC also provides free drop-in activities for underserved youth in the summer--4,000 were served last year in this programming. With the recent cuts to the National Endowment for the Arts, now more than ever resources like MAC are absolutely necessary, especially as our federal government is becoming increasingly repressive at an alarming rate. It's deeply disappointing that the City Council would consider cutting such a vital resource for our community. Eliminating affordable art classes for underserved populations is not only shortsighted, it risks further eroding access to creative opportunities in a city already struggling with rising costs and shrinking space for the arts. At a time when music and dance programs have been drastically reduced in schools, removing these offerings from a community-based arts hub would be a significant loss. Such cuts would weaken an already fragile creative economy. Portland has long been recognized for its creativity, innovation, and community engagement — values that are closely tied to its vibrant arts culture. Undermining that culture sends a troubling message about the city's priorities. Participation in the arts is especially important for children. Programs in art, music, and dance help young people develop essential skills such as problem-solving, critical thinking, emotional expression, and social connection. These are key ingredients for innovation and lifelong learning — outcomes that should be central to any city's vision for the future. Now more than ever, we need more opportunities for creative engagement, not fewer.	05/20/25 11:11 PM
719	Mary Doede	As an individual		For over 25 years my daughter and myself have attended innumerable classes at Multnomah Art Center. And I still attend art classes as a senior. This is a priceless addition to the community. There is no place like it and it would be a tragedy to close it.	05/20/25 11:13 PM
720	Phoebe Poehner	As an individual		The Multnomah Art Center is an incredibly important part of the Portland Parks program. It offers classes to the entire community, from toddlers to senior citizens. It is a community building establishment, people take classes and feel connected to community. The public performances of dance and theater classes are a great community event as well. As a parent of a PPS student, despite the art tax that's been going on for over a decade, there is very little art education at her school. She gets 30 min a week of art, no music, etc. The Multnomah Arts center is the place we go for her to receive this type of experience. It's the only place a low income family can afford classes and camps. Other art, music, theater, etc classes are financially out of reach for many families. We have 4 generations of family that go here together to see performances. In addition to the arts, there are Zumba classes they are easily accessible for the community- they gather every Saturday morning, many of them whose children are taking an art class at the same time. It's a great place for the entire family. It's one of the things that makes Portland GREAT! It's such an important place for my family, and many other families I know. Children get to explore so many options here that wouldn't be available at other places in town. Not to mention this is a beautiful building with a history. It's understandable budget cuts need to happen, but taking away such an amazing resource from the community is foolish and short sighted. Please preserve the Multnomah Arts Center.	05/20/25 11:14 PM
721	Mark Fernandez	As an individual		Please vote no on amendment #45 to the City's budget, to PERMANENTLY close the Multnomah Arts Center. I have spent many happy hours at the Multnomah arts center making baskets, and weaving, and admiring the work of other artisans. I have supported other local artisans at sales they have held. I have considered it gathering place for my community and I want it to continue to be so for many years. Please consider it worth continuing to fund and not shut down. It matters to local community members like me.	05/20/25 11:14 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
722	Josie Parker	As an individual		I'm fiercely OPPOSED to the proposal to close the MAC. The MAC is a beloved and needed institution in SW Portland that provides access to art, music, dance, and theater classes to thousands of people in our community from the very young (my kids began taking classes there at the age of 3) to senior citizens. Councilor Novick's proposal to save \$2 million by closing the MAC and CMC is fiscally illogical when the MAC received roughly \$1 million in seismic and ADA facility upgrades from Parks in the past two years; an investment that would be squandered if the building were to be closed now. Meanwhile, the Mayor's proposed budget earmarks \$1.5 million for graffiti removal. While I don't like the graffiti, I'll gladly live with it if it means keeping places like the MAC and CMC open. I want our elected officials to prioritize spending my tax dollars on successful and well run programs like the MAC, which directly and greatly benefit my community. I also expect our elected officials to make thoughtful and judicious decisions on how to allocate funds within the budget and this proposal is neither. VOTE NO on this amendment!	05/20/25 11:15 PM
723	Steven Skolnik	As an individual		Please, do NOT close the Multnomah Arts Center. It serves a tremendously valuable role in our community and creates opportunities for everyone in our city to explore and embrace the arts. It's one of the prides of our community and represents many of the city of Portland's best qualities. To remove it would be a travesty and a criminal act.	05/20/25 11:16 PM
724		As an individual		Please VOTE NO on Amendment #45! The Multnomah Arts Center is the heart of Multnomah Village. It has improved the lives of countless residents through the arts and community-building. I've said many times that the MAC is the main thing I'd miss if we ever left Portland. Please support Portland families, adults, and children: keep MAC open! Vote no on 45!	05/20/25 11:16 PM
725	Michelle Judd	As an individual		My husband and I have lived in the area for over twenty years. During that time, there's rarely a week I don't go to the Multnomah Arts Center for one thing or another. Baring ice, I almost always see people playing on the basketball court. I've attended wedding receptions and a long overdue "birthday prom" for someone who didn't get to attend her high school dance. I've discovered talented artists from the neighborhood. We signed the offer for our Multnomah Village house. I pick up little gifts for friends. That's just me. There are people who names I don't know, but they seem to be there as often as I am. The flexibility of the facility seems to very much suit our community. The fact that it's easily walkable to neighborhood businesses benefits all. The MAC ads a lot to our community. Please don't take it away.	05/20/25 11:20 PM
726	Walter R, Gowell	As an individual		The proposal to close the Multnomah Arts Center is a terrible idea and so inconsistent with my vision for the City of Portland which became my hone in 1972 and where I lived for over ten years. The arts are at the heart and soul of what makes Portland a special city, The joy I see on the faces of the youngsters taking classes at the center is wonderful, Please reject this shortsighted, awful proposal.	05/20/25 11:21 PM
727	Peggy Lickert	As an individual		Plans to close the Multnomah Arts Center are wrong. It is a vibrant part of our community and is used by many Southwest Portland Residents. Just NO! Find funding for parks elsewhere.	05/20/25 11:22 PM
728	Claudia Herrera	As an individual		Hello, I have attached my written statement in efforts to keep the Community Music Center open. Thank you for your time	05/20/25 11:23 PM
729	Scott Shurtleff	As an individual		Please DO NOT close the Multnomah Arts Center (MAC). I attend a music class at MAC every week, but this is not about me. MAC is a vibrant facility providing valuable programming and activities for families, children, as well as us advanced-aged folk. Every week I see families and kids coming and going. I see the art being created there and the skills being developed. Most of all, I see joy and community. Please continue to fund MAC for the vibrant energy it brings to Portland residents.	05/20/25 11:26 PM
730	Jessica Niggemann	As an individual		Vote NO on Amendment #45. Do not cut the Community Music Center! I have been a member of the Community Music Center's Adult Orchestra since 2005 when I moved to Portland. It means so much to me to be able to play my violin with a group that is supportive, accessible, and fun. The CMC provides all of this! Please do not cut the CMC!!! The Community Music Center is important for so many folks, providing music access for all of our community despite their backgrounds. CMC provides many scholarships to allow people the opportunity to learn and practice music who may not other wise be able to access music programs.	05/20/25 11:29 PM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Scott Shurtleff	As an individual		I oppose the budget amendment that would remove Prosper Portland's budget for investing in small businesses. At a time when federal and state funding is being cut, Portland needs to stand firmly in support of our small businesses. I agree with NAYA and the many community leaders that this amendment would be a major step backwards in Portland's efforts towards community-led economic development. Native and other BIPOC communities depend on small businesses to build generational wealth and need public assistance since bank financing is typically denied to them. Please reject this amendment in order to continue the City's investment in small business and BIPOC communities. This investment is vital to achieve the Boom Loop that Mayor Wilson seeks.	05/20/25 11:31 PM
Barbara Shimek	As an individual		Do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! It is a much loved and used center of our community. I have enjoyed taking classes there since I moved to the neighborhood, something I was not able to do in the Pearl district.	05/20/25 11:32 PM
Kronda Adair	As an individual		I'm urging the council to vote no on amendment 45 and keep the Community Music Center open! My wife has been a member of the community orchestra for many years, and I enjoy attending their quarterly concerts. CMC does so much for the community, including: Serves hundreds of families and households in over 50 zip codes throughout Portland, in every Council District, Has programs for all ages from kindergarten to seniors, Makes classes and lessons affordable, with up to 100% discount for low-income participants, Supports programs specifically serving Black & Brown youth, Latinx youth, LGBTQ+ youth, seniors, immigrants, and people with disabilities, Gives dozens of free, drop-in concerts a year, with livestream options for those who can't travel to CMC, Partners with organizations for programs in underserved areas in outer East Portland, Provides alternative to sports for youth afterschool activities, Contributes to the musical and economic vitality of Portland, Relies on City general fund and Parks Levy dollars to operate, with additional significant program support from the non-profit CMC Inc., Administers its programs with only 3 full-time a few part-time staff, Hires over 25 part-time performing artist-instructors from the community to provide about 8,000 hours of classes, lessons, and events per year, Is actively working with PP&R management and community groups to ensure its long-term facility needs. As our democracy crumbles and the U.S. slides towards fascism, we need arts and community more than ever. Please keep the CMC open.	05/20/25 11:39 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
734	Dawn Cohoe	As an individual		My name is Dawn Cohoe, and I am a concerned born and raised Portlander. I have worked in emergency psychiatric services and as a peer support specialist in Portland and in Clackamas County. I am disheartened that elected officials are potentially increasing the police budget amidst possible cuts to vital community programs. I have seen agencies such as Partners for a Hunger-Free Portland and local food banks finding greater need among community members while facing cuts to funding. I am also seeing the Peninsula Community Center be threatened with closing. I grew up in poverty and I was able to take community classes there as a kid that my family otherwise would not have been able to afford. Peninsula Park serves a diverse community with multicultural programming that keeps creative minds and bodies engaged. The families that will lose their local after-school programs and community classes are disproportionately low-income and multi-racial. Especially in midst of so many federal cuts to social programs, Portland needs to be a leader in prioritizing the health of our communities over a bloated police budget. There are so many people needing support that addresses the confluences of poverty, mental health and substance abuse. My own story speaks to this. I grew up in poverty in an abusive and homophobic household. As a teenager in 2005, the Sexual Minority Resource Center, an important recipient of budget funding, was my safe place. Whether I was watching Jinkx Monsoon (who later won RuPaul's Drag Race and is a successful singer and actress) perform drag, reading affirming literature, attending therapy and support groups, getting clothes, or gardening, for the first time in my life I truly felt like I was going to make it, like I could find a way out of my abusive household, like people cared about the real me, and that who I was was something to be celebrated. I went from wanting to end my life and trying to numb my pain with substances to applying to colleges out of state and ended up getting a full ride scholarship. The thought of losing programs that truly support our community while increasing the policing of them brings me great sadness, disappointment, and concern for our youth and the people I have served who are in need of support that police can never provide. I hope you can all have the guts to make the simple decision to say NO to increasing the police budget!	05/20/25 11:45 PM
735	Holly Dhyes	As an individual		I am writing to ask you to vote against the amendment to permanently close the MAC. I can't understand why the city would spend money on seismic renovations if they just planned to close it down. The MAC is home to so many classes that my kids took. They learned to play guitar and watched plays that their friends started in. My mother in law used to come to the MAC to socialize and make friends. I was hoping my daughter could learn the drums there. It's such a unique place offering accessible music and Sat classes and conveys how important these activities are to children. Please, please reconsider. My kids are begging me to write to reverse this proposal. Give us an opportunity to fundraiser if that's a factor. Thanks, Holly	05/20/25 11:48 PM
736	Kristina Moore	As an individual		Do not close the Multnomah arts center! Pass amendment #45. This center is a huge part of Multnomah Village and brings kids and families into the village everyday. My kids go to classes and play in the park all the time. I couldn't imagine the village without the support the MAC offers to the village. They belong together.	05/20/25 11:48 PM
737	Celeste Jackson	As an individual		This budget allocates more than a third of its money to the police...are officers one-third of the people in Portland? No, in fact there are 10x more Portlanders living on the streets than employed by PPB. That cannot be improved with more policing, but subsidies like Everett Station Lofts and compassionate interventions like Portland Street response actually can help. Honestly, the idea of that a progressive (proud sanctuary) city like Portland would increase our police budget at a this specific time in our country and then cut ANYTHING else, let alone housing, transportation, water, parks, sustainability, environmental services AND equity and human rights fills me with shame and disgust. With this new city council we have a unique opportunity to grow a new, thriving, and weird Portland, so please invest in people, not police.	05/20/25 11:53 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
738	Keira Morgan	As an individual		Amendment #45 to the city's budget proposes to permanently close Multnomah Arts Center. The MAC is a vital community resource that is enjoyed by children and adults alike. My children, ages 11 and 14, as well as myself, have participated in many years of theater, dance, music lessons, visual arts, and summer camps. Our community would be at a loss without MAC, as it provides so many opportunities for arts enrichment that have already been cut from our public schools. I have seen so many children grow in confidence as they take the stage for a performance. The MAC also makes art education accessible by eliminating financial barriers through the Parks Levy & MACA scholarships. The MAC is at the center of the Multnomah Village community and brings together families from many neighborhoods within SW Portland and the surrounding areas. I urge you to please let the City Council know that we as a community rely on the MAC for the enrichment of our children and families. Please save the MAC!	05/20/25 11:58 PM
739		As an individual		Proposed budget amendment #45 - Do not close Multnomah Arts Center. It is a multifunctional center serving all ages, not just an art center. The police station is there giving us comfort that they are nearby. Many auxiliary groups use the center to meet on a monthly basis drawing in folks from all over the surrounding areas. It is a hub of daily activity making Multnomah Village vibrant. Without it, the village will become a ghost town where the homeless will start to migrate into. We are already seeing the "tiny village people" camping on the streets, trashing permanent fixtures, and assaulting people walking by. If the police and daily activity ceases, it will be much worse. The children will not have a safe place either. RECONCIDER YOUR BUDGET PROPOSAL. Multnomah Arts Center is too important to the community!	05/20/25 11:58 PM
740	Jason Hutchinson	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is an essential part of the Portland community. It provides a benefit to everyone by giving children a place to learn and grow a love of the arts. My son took classes there and developed a love of pottery and now makes amazing pieces. Please keep it for future children.	05/21/25 12:01 AM
741		As an individual		The Multnomah arts center is a beacon in the community and gives people of all ages a chance to learn and be there for each other.	05/21/25 12:04 AM
742	Christine Simpson	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center. It's a staple in the community. It has provided a space for the arts, community gatherings, classes, senior services and activities for the community.	05/21/25 12:05 AM
743	Kristina Moore	As an individual		Communities (Arts & Culture, Parks, Children's Levy) CommentsDo not close the Multnomah arts center! Update - Do not Pass amendment #45. This center is a huge part of Multnomah Village and brings kids and families into the village everyday. My kids go to classes and play in the park all the time. I couldn't imagine the village without the support the MAC offers to the village. They belong together.	05/21/25 12:14 AM
744	Sarah	As an individual		Please save this community center!	05/21/25 12:15 AM
745		As an individual		VOTE NO on Amendment #45 We love Multnomah Arts Center! They have one of the best pottery studios in town. Great for kids and adults! All are welcome at MAC	05/21/25 12:16 AM
746		As an individual		I am writing in support of keeping Multnomah Arts Center funded & open!! It would leave a tremendous void not to have a neighborhood arts center like the MAC as it offers so much to so many people of ALL ages and abilities in our community. The MAC has been an invaluable resource to our family over the years in terms of being able to access affordable arts programs, such as the music & theater classes, as well as the outstanding summer camps (theater camps)! Please prioritize funding for the MAC so it can continue to provide affordable & accessible highly enriching educational arts programs that inspire our children and promote a sense of well being & foster community engagement.	05/21/25 12:36 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
747	Emiline Riby	As an individual		I'm writing to urge you to vote NO on Amendment #45 and stand against the proposed permanent closure of the Multnomah Arts Center (MAC). For the past two years, I've taken numerous metalsmithing classes at MAC—classes that would have been financially inaccessible to me anywhere else. Thanks to the dedicated instructors and affordable programming, I've developed real skills that may allow me to sell my work in the future, as many others have done before me. The impact of this center on my life has been profound, and I am just one of many whose creativity, confidence, and community ties have been strengthened through its programs. MAC is a vital hub for Portland's creative and cultural life. It offers affordable arts education to people of all ages and backgrounds, fosters economic opportunities through skill-building, and brings community members together in ways that few other places can. Shutting it down would be a grave mistake that would cause lasting harm to our city. The teachers at MAC give so much of themselves—often for less pay than they could earn elsewhere—because they know how important this center is. Their dedication speaks volumes about what's at stake. Please don't let our city lose this essential resource. MAC is an investment in Portland's future—a place where creativity, inclusion, and opportunity come together. Vote NO on Amendment #45. Don't close MAC. Sincerely, Emiline Riby Voter in District 2 1107 NE 9th Ave. Portland, OR 97232	05/21/25 12:36 AM
748	Robert Moore	As an individual		Closing the MAC in Multnomah Village would be a huge loss the community. It's where kids play, learn to ride bikes, play basketball and take classes. It provides both a park and place for recreation. It's a place where a group of neighbors become a community.	05/21/25 12:40 AM
749	emma swanson	As an individual		want to keep the MAC open to the public! means so much to me and those in the community	05/21/25 12:41 AM
750	Eric Marks	As an individual		The community music center is a integral part of the arts education ecosphere in Portland. Without it, many children would not be able to study music at a deeper level than is available in the schools system. Private lessons should not be limited to the children who's parents are well off enough to afford extra curriculars. The community music center gives the community a place for performances and cultural enriching experiences. It would be a huge loss for the performing arts community at large, specifically poor music students, if the funding was pulled from the community music center	05/21/25 12:41 AM
751	Lesley Glasgow	As an individual		Please work to preserve Multnomah Arts Center. This is a critical community suppport for all ages to engage with art, music, dance, etc. A cultural staple is provided at MAC for our community, from childhood through retirement years.	05/21/25 12:46 AM
752	Zak Edey	As an individual		Please find a way to keep the community center open! It has brought so much joy and a sense of community to my friends who take classes there.	05/21/25 12:47 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
753	Henry Hobbs	As an individual		If budget cuts further reduce maintenance to trails, trees, playgrounds and restrooms, our parks will quickly fall into disrepair and become unsafe and unwelcoming to the community. This will be incredibly costly in the long term. I know there are difficult budget decisions ahead for Portland, but basic maintenance of our parks is essential to keep Portland healthy and livable. And ask yourself this, Mother Earth is our true mother. YOUR true mother. Do you want to be the type of person that disgraces her? Or do you want to play a part in protecting her and honoring all she gives to us? Money only matters on this side of the grave. As one approaches closer to death, a person often starts to reflect on what sort of impact they made. Do you want to lay on your deathbed having plundered good things for greed's sake, or do you want go knowing you did your best to make this world a better place? Something to think about indeed. Thank you for your service and your consideration. Sincerely, Henry Hobbs	05/21/25 12:58 AM
754	Meadow Woody	As an individual		Dear Portland City Council Members: I am very disturbed and concerned about the proposal to close the Multnomah Arts Center located in Multnomah Village. I have attended classes there for over 20 years. The classes offered include drawing and painting, theater arts, metals, ceramics, music, literature, textiles, and others. All are in high demand, as I have found out by the difficulty in getting into them. MAC is a vibrant community center, well used and beloved to a large number of groups and organizations, arts guilds, and youth. It is also a central part of Multnomah Village. It's hard to imagine the financial impact such a closure would have on this district. In the May 19 Portland City Council Financial Meeting, Councilor Green stated the desire to make sure "...we're showing this community that we are preserving the things they cherish." MAC is cherished. Please don't close this vital community center. Thank you for your attention. Meadow Woody 503-939-6987	05/21/25 1:16 AM
755	Alix Powell	As an individual		I am writing to urge Portland City Council to continue funding the Community Music Center and the Multnomah Arts Center. These community centers are one of the few accessible resources for people to engage with people in their communities who they otherwise might never cross paths with- and to share with them in the act of creation and self expression, all while learning a new skill or an old tradition. These centers are a beacon of hope and of opportunity. They represent everything that we are supposed to be- a melting pot of creativity and community that produces beautiful things for the rest of the population to enjoy and join in. I understand the necessity of additional funding for park maintenance, but I firmly believe that if that funding is to be reallocated from another place in the budget, it ought to be pulled from the budget for the Portland Police Bureau, which has failed for over a decade to achieve compliance with the settlement agreement between the City of Portland and US Department of Justice, as a result of PPB's pattern of using unlawful force against people in mental health crises. The City has paid out over \$6Million in settlements over police misconduct in the last 5 years. How many lawsuits has the city faced over music and art classes? Please continue funding the programs and organizations that don't get the city sued, and pull back on funding those which do get the city sued.	05/21/25 1:21 AM
756	Jeremy Beausoleil Smith	As an individual		I support the proposed budget amendment to fund subsidies for tenants in affordable housing units at Everett Station Lofts. We need to ensure we're doing everything we can to get and keep every Portlander housed.	05/21/25 1:30 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
757	Diane Shingledecker	As an individual		The MAC should not be closed! It is a vibrant community center bringing children, teens, adults & seniors together to create art, make music, perform, learn new skills and grow intergenerational relationships. It gives so many folks a place to feel they are a part of something & belong. They feel nurtured, seen & are thriving here. It is such a a special place that we desperately need right now!	05/21/25 1:31 AM
758	Mayumi Warkel	As an individual		Please keep Maltnomah Art Center open! It's such a wonderful place to learn different form of arts. This place bring people together. The community needs place like MAC to keep creative energy going. I have been taking many classes there. It's been quite a life changing experience.	05/21/25 2:06 AM
759	Kathy McIntosh	As an individual		I strongly support the Multnomah Art Center. It has been a vital and enriching part of my children's life, mine and my husband's and now my granddaughter's life. Beyond our personal enrichment, the MAC has been the home to so many community activities that we have enjoyed. Theater, music, art fairs and so much more. Our community and greater Portland would lose one of the richest sources of art, music and theater there is in a neighborhood setting. Please consider the negative impact this closing can have on a community brought together by its existence.	05/21/25 2:41 AM
760		As an individual		VOTE NO ON AMENDMENT #45 - DON'T CUT THE COMMUNITY MUSIC CENTER Testimony Attached	05/21/25 2:51 AM
761	Bea Herzberg	As an individual		Do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! This is beneficial for all of Portland. We need this space!	05/21/25 2:51 AM
762	Greg warkel	As an individual		I think that the MAC is a very important part of Portland community. It gives so many people a chance to learn and express themselves through art and helps people have a sense of belonging to a community. There are many ways to cut waste in a budget , but to take away a community center from the very people who pay for it with their taxes is definitely not one that most sensible people would agree with. Please find another way to balance your budget and keep Mac open for the people. Thank you Greg warkel	05/21/25 3:03 AM
763	Susannah Mars	As an individual		Portland Center Stage is a cornerstone of Portland's cultural life. I have worked there, as a freelance actor, for over 30 years. In that time, the theater has served 4 million patrons, engaged more than 150,000 students and educators through its education programs, served more than 100,000 individuals through free community programs, collaborated with over 1000 local nonprofits and community groups, and provided work for thousands of artists, artisans, and technicians. I am one of those artists. PCS provides spaces where great stories can be told through productions that allow artists to dream big, which in turn allows audiences to feel. PCS's presence ensures that artists can have a place to come together, dream big, and make bold theatre for all, and is committed to being a generous partner in the arts ecosystem.	05/21/25 3:12 AM
764	Marc Winter	As an individual		Please vote NO on amendment 45! It's a shame that the creative side of life is one of the first to get gutted in a bunch when its the lifeblood of a community... The Multnomah Arts Center is an invaluable resource for the SW Hills and the closure of which would put great strain on the community as a whole. There are other means that harm less directly that I urge you to consider before removing such a vital institution. Don't close the MAC!	05/21/25 3:16 AM
765		On behalf of an organization	Hillsdale Food Park	Please vote NO on amendment 45! It's a shame that the creative side of life is one of the first to get gutted in a bunch when its the lifeblood of a community... The Multnomah Arts Center is an invaluable resource for the SW Hills and the closure of which would put great strain on the community as a whole. There are other means that harm less directly that I urge you to consider before removing such a vital institution. Don't close the MAC!	05/21/25 3:17 AM

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766		As an individual		Please don't close MAC! Its contribution has been tremendous and it makes SW Portland area more unique. Without MAC, Multnomah Village would just turn to be another shopping street. Don't close MAC!	05/21/25 4:52 AM
767	Desiree Ducharme	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center and Community Music Center are vital to keeping Portland a sustainable, livable city. Space to create with others is the only way humanity continues forward. Please vote to fund and support the Multnomah Arts Center and Community Music Center. Do not close this vital resource for our community.	05/21/25 4:57 AM
768	Kim Davies	As an individual		I am shocked to hear about the possible closure of Multnomah Art Center. I have lived in the neighborhood for over 30 years and have raised my kids doing activities there, and I have taken many classes there including art, theater, and music. Currently I take 2 music classes a week there and it has been instrumental in helping me advance as a musician and helped my mental health. I thought about moving out of Multnomah county, but basically stayed because I wanted to be in district for MAC. The teachers and staff there are dedicated and inspiring. I also attends the art sales. The arts and the community are so important for mental health in today's world of stress and chaos. MAC is a welcome refuge. It also houses the senior program which is an important part of our community. Please reconsider closing MAC. This is NOT the best way to save money.	05/21/25 5:03 AM
769	jim gifford	As an individual		I urge you to increase public safety funding. We are beginning to turn the corner on crime and livability. From 2020-2024, my store Giffords Flowers. 704 SW Jefferson, was broken into 4 times! I also had a person attack and BITE my employee during the day! Many small businesses are one broken window away from bankruptcy. Yet they are the heart and soul of our neighborhoods and what Portlanders love about our city! Our levels of police are way below comparable cities and it shows! No cuts to public safety! Thank you, Jim Gifford, Gifford's Flowers. 4th generation,family owned. In beautiful downtown Portland since 1938	05/21/25 5:13 AM
770	Claire Kelly	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center. I grew up attending classes there and still do. It's a vital resource to our community, giving us access to classes that are not otherwise available.	05/21/25 5:15 AM
771	Sherry Merideth	As an individual		MAC is a super important Community asset. I've used the facility for a campaign kickoff party. The candidate that I was supporting for Portland City Council used it for many events and most recently we used it for his Memorial. It would break all of our hearts if you go if you closed MAC. It's a community asset. It offers enrichment to the community. It offers events space. If you haven't been in the Multnomah Arts Center you should go. They have a space for art. They display handcrafted unique pieces created by local community members. They havecommunity driven events all year round. It is a vital resource for the community and for the enrichment of the community. It would cost Portland more closing it and all of its partner or organizations then it cost to keep it.	05/21/25 5:22 AM
772	J. Wnuk	As an individual		Do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! It is the heart of our neighborhood, bringing neighbors together for common experiences that create the sense of community that makes Multnomah Village such a special place. If this is a monetary concern, please provide us the opportunity to vote on a bond/levy rather than seizing this asset from our community.	05/21/25 5:40 AM
773	Javier Sanchez	As an individual		re's a sharper, more biting version of your message: Portlanders have spoken — they want twice as many cops on the street. Are you listening, or too busy pushing your pet agendas? It's time to stop the nonsense and get back to basics: public safety, clean streets, and functional city services. Enough with the taxpayer-funded vanity projects — bloated DEI departments, the dysfunctional Office of Civic Life, City Laundry's wash-and-fold perk, and endless handouts to unaccountable nonprofits that produce nothing but buzzwords and bureaucracy. You weren't elected to chase ideological fantasies — you were elected to fix a broken city. So do your job	05/21/25 5:42 AM
774		As an individual		Please do not close the MAC. It is a vibrant part of our neighborhood and community . The effects would be devastating to local home owners as well as buisness. Times are so hard out there why would you take this from the community! It would be another abandoned building with memories of what we lost. Please don't close the MAC! Thank you.	05/21/25 5:43 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
775	Amanda C Regan Lighthiser	On behalf of an organization	Portland Center Stage as a Board Member	I urge you to support Councilor Mitch Green's proposed \$450,000 one-time funding for Portland Center Stage. PCS is a vital community organization and it is an incredible downtown hub for arts and community in a time when we really need to be focused on supporting our downtown businesses. As a Portland teacher for many years, I have brought hundred of students to shows at PCS. This was often their first and perhaps only ever exposure to live theater. I have seen moments that change lives as a result of PCS's work with youth in their playwriting program. PCS shows have been the spark for connection and conversations that have enriched our students education and built their empathy. The teaching artists that PCS supports are also incredible mentors and role models for students. As a board member, I am committed to championing PCS, and lifting up the brilliant creative work that enriches Portland in so many ways. I urge you to support this one time funding that is absolutely crucial for continuing PCS's vital work in our community. In addition, as a former resident of Multnomah Village, I also urge you to continue to fund Multnomah Arts Center. My children and I enjoyed countless music, art, and theater classes there that we otherwise would not have been able to afford. Multnomah Arts Center is a wonderful community hub in our village as well, supporting local artists through the art gallery and craft fairs, and providing a meaning third space for fun gatherings on First Fridays. I simply cannot imagine Multnomah Village without it. And once again, as an educator, I believe we would be doing our children a great disservice by taking it away from them. According to the Academy of Arts and Sciences, arts education and exposure: Builds well-rounded individuals; Broadens our understanding and appreciation of other cultures and histories; Supports social and emotional development; Builds empathy, reduces intolerance, and generates acceptance of others; Improves school engagement and culture; Develops valuable life and career skills; and Strengthens community and civic engagement These are things I believe that all of us want for our children. Please continue to fund the arts by supporting PCS, Multnomah Arts Center, and the other vital arts organizations contributing important programming to our neighborhoods and communities. Sincerely, Amanda Regan Lighthiser	05/21/25 5:56 AM
776	Winthrop Gross	As an individual		Please vote NO on Amendment 45. I have visited the Community Music Center many times over the past 15 years—attending and performing at concerts, and practicing on the pianos when my own was unavailable. The CMC is a wonderful, small venue that serves all the people of Portland. Please don't close it!	05/21/25 6:22 AM
777	John Dolan	As an individual		I urge you to vote against closing the Multnomah Arts Center (MAC). The MAC is more than a building—it is the cultural heart of Multnomah Village. It provides inclusive arts programming for all ages, supports vital community nonprofits, and offers creative space for those who might otherwise be shut out of the arts. Without it, our community loses more than classes—we lose the soul of our village. Please protect this invaluable resource that brings life, learning, and connection to our neighborhood. Vote to keep the MAC open.	05/21/25 6:26 AM
778	Stephanie Miller	As an individual		I'm writing with a plea to please not let the Multnomah Arts Center close in September. Ask any parent who lives in Southwest Portland, and they're bound to tell you that their child is enrolled in a program or activity at MAC. This space is not just a historic building woven into the fabric of our community, but it is a place where people of all ages can connect with community and discover new passions. There is no other arts-dedicated building in our neighborhood. My children have participated in dance, theater, ceramics, writing, sports, camps and more. They have done homework in the hallways of MAC. They have developed relationships with their music instructors, participated in their first music recitals here. We are not alone in this. Nearly everyone I know relies on MAC for its varied and meaningful program. To close MAC would greatly impact the wellbeing of our community and take valuable programming away from our children. This is one of the reasons we live in Multnomah Village. WE MUST NOT LET THIS HAPPEN.	05/21/25 6:26 AM
779	Christie Doerr	As an individual		Do not close the multnomah arts center. This is such a gem in the small community of multnomah village. It's a place where community is created.	05/21/25 6:26 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
780	Carley King	As an individual		Do NOT close the Multnomah Arts Center! It's an invaluable asset to our community. For Children and adults alike. Aside from providing access to arts for the community (both exhibitions and spaces to create) they provide space for multiple non-profit organizations in the area. This is Portland. Let's stop pretending we care about the arts and actually do the damn thing.	05/21/25 6:32 AM
781	Kathryn Hogan	As an individual		The Multnomah Art Center is an important and necessary part of my community. Which is one of the reasons that we love Multnomah Village. My children took classes there, I have attended plays and dance classes and celebrations of life there. Do not close this building. All the programs held there help to support the businesses in Multnomah Village as many will shop or dine in the village after their classes. Keep the Multnomah Art Center open.	05/21/25 6:32 AM
782	Joe Hovey	As an individual		My name is Joe Hovey and I live in District 3. I support the Mayor's proposed budget increases for the Police & Fire as well as Portland Street Response. As stated by the Mayor, Police Chief Bob Day and Director of Community Safety, Stephanie Howard, we are seeing some success in various public safety issues. But we are continuing to see response times, human trafficking and property crimes remain at high levels. So I support his efforts to boost these departments and not cut back. But I would like to see us seek more funding for the Parks Maintenance. A few Councilors have raised some ideas that address Parks Maintenance without cutting into funding for Police/Fire & PSR. Also, listening in on the budget work session last week with Council and City Administrator Jordan, I thought Councilor Smith brought up a valid question about our Intergovernmental Agreement with the County in addressing homelessness, We are already committed to the County for \$31.1 million annually. I think we need to be putting more pressure on the County to address the homeless issue, and provide more transparency and accountability to all of us! In closing, all of these are viable options. And I would hope that we can have some serious discussions about them as opposed to taking away from Public Safety. Thank you!	05/21/25 6:34 AM
783	Sue Gritzner	As an individual		To the council, please vote to keep funding for Mac. It is an essential community service to support the arts and creativity in all members of our community. Personally, I have taken Ceramics classes there, which were accessible to me in a time of great need. My children are young, but I plan to bring them there to encourage the value of arts in their lives. Thank you for considering, and for all you do for our city! Sue	05/21/25 6:36 AM
784	Kate Hedrick	As an individual		Multnomah Arts Center is a valuable community resource. I urge you to listen to the will of the people to protect it.	05/21/25 6:40 AM
785		As an individual		Hi! Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center. The arts are important, and right now they are all under attack by conservatives. Multiple theaters in town are desperately trying not to close, including the Children's Theater, which is supported by the Arts Center. Please do not close this community service.	05/21/25 6:41 AM
786	Jean Jaiswal	As an individual		The Multnomah Art Center (MAC) is legendary in Portland, on par with Powell's books for the bookworm. The MAC is very approachable and a good use of a county building that the community paid for in the first place. The offerings are across all age groups and disciplines. It fosters friendships, learning and creates an inviting space for all. Portland would be less without the iconic Arts Center at Multnomah. It is our tax money and this is a good return on investment for the local community. Fostering creativity has never ending pluses. I never would have thought of making a snow elephant and it engaged so many others. As a timid, but hopeful artist, I have benefited immensely from the classes offered. What about a fund raising event to help offset costs?	05/21/25 6:42 AM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Angela A Smith	On behalf of an organization	Baan de Sol	Dear Councilor(s), I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed changes to Prosper Portland's budget and funding, brought forward by Councilors Green and Dunphy. This amendment would severely impact Prosper Portland's capacity to deliver the services that our community urgently needs. As the founder of Baan De Sol, a Latina-owned business, I can personally attest to the transformative support Prosper Portland provides. Through their programs and community partnerships, I've been able to access resources, mentorship, and funding opportunities that have allowed my business to be seen, grow, and thrive. Organizations like Prosper Portland are vital to the health and diversity of our local economy. They invest in people and businesses who have traditionally been underrepresented, and cutting their budget threatens the progress we've made as a city toward equity and inclusion. I urge you to reconsider these proposed amendments and continue investing in the future of Portland's diverse small business community. Thank you, Angela Smith	05/21/25 6:43 AM
Crystal Logan	As an individual		I am writing about my deep concern about the fate of the Mult Art Center.i have been in Portland for 20 plus years paying taxes and advocating for our local government. Closing the Mult Art Center would be devastating to the neighborhood because the center brings together the families, seniors and adults into one safe space. It bring vibrance of the arts to a city that so needs hope and life after a long season of a pandemic. We live in Portland and continue to Liv in Portland because of place like th Mult Cultural Center. PLEASE LOOK at the long term affects of closing something so precious that unites communities. We desperately need peace among our neighbors and this place us a Sanctuary for many in our community .	05/21/25 6:44 AM
Amanda Brohman	As an individual		Please VOTE NO on Amendment #45 DON'T CLOSE MULTNOMAH ARTS CENTER!	05/21/25 6:46 AM
Hanah Riley	As an individual		I am writing in support of the Multnomah Arts Center. Our family has been taking PP&R classes there for years. It's a place used by hundreds of families every day. It is very important to our community. And it's one of only two PP&R kids camps sites in the area. The residents here need the MAC!	05/21/25 6:47 AM

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791	As an individual		The community has made it very clear that it does not wish to any community centers closed. Multnomah Arts Center and Community Music Center are community centers. They provide integral, low-cost music and arts opportunities for diverse groups of community across all ages, races, ethnicities, and -abilities. There are no other programs in Portland that provide equal enrichment opportunity in music and arts that are affordable AND inclusive. These are parks programs, too, that accommodate the fact that no everyone in Portland, due to differences in -ability, may not be able to participate fully in Parks programming. Community centers and parks provide physical, mental and emotional supports to a wide range of community members during very difficult times. It is unclear why the City keeps flipflopping on the closure of community centers, unless it is to keep community members stressed and distressed and pit communities against each other. At first, the intent was to close one community center. Then it became three community centers, all in diverse neighborhoods whose members were poor, working poor or working class. Then it became one community center again. Then, thanks for community outcry, it became no community center closures. Now, at the last minute, Councilor Novick is proposing closing Multnomah Arts Center and Community Music Center, both of which are community centers. This last-minute proposal effectively precludes people from protesting the cuts. Right now, it seems as if City of Portland is not interested in supporting the diverse communities of working poor and working class people who pay the taxes. We're the ones who don't have the wherewithal to just up and leave the County to take our tax dollars elsewhere, while sometimes working "remotely" (of course) in Portland and/or Multnomah County at 6-figure salaries, while skirting having the pay the Metro Supportive Housing Services Bond and County Preschool for All Tax. Nor does the City seem intent on supporting its essential workers who make Portland the City that works by proposing layoffs in Parks & Rec, Transportation and Permitting. ~~Right now, it seems as if the City is interested in contributing to the burgeoning nonprofit homeless industrial complex (with hand-aid~~	05/21/25 6:48 AM
792	Victoria Milne On behalf of an organization	MF Properties	Dear City Council, I am writing to request that you to pass the budget that funds public safety, economic opportunity, and ending unsheltered homelessness. Providing housing is an important goal, but unhoused people burned down a building that my family owns in central Portland, resulting in the loss of two units of housing from the market. Luckily, no one was hurt, but this is only the most dramatic of hundreds of terrible consequences from the decline in public safety that we have managed in our family's property in Goose Hollow. Street safety is a factor that reduces rents, and when taxes are increasing and rents are declining a dis-investment cycle is in place that leads downward to hollowed-out cities very quickly. The City's role in improving the street safety is essential in reversing that downward spiral. Thank you for your service and for your consideration, Victoria Milne MF Properties	05/21/25 6:50 AM
793	Raul Preciado Mendez	As an individual	Testimony is attached	05/21/25 6:50 AM
794	Brenda Bokenyi	As an individual	We need to find funding to keep Multnomah Arts Center open. I have taken courses there as an artist and used them as a resource as a professional artist. They are a vibrant part of our community. It would be devastating to see them close.	05/21/25 6:50 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
795	Dennis Abraham	As an individual		We bought our condo in The Pearl 9 years ago, moving in a year later. Back then, the area was lively with people, new restaurants, art galleries, and growth. Now, restaurants are closing, and there are more homeless tent encampments than galleries. Walking my dog in the early morning and last walk of the day used to be a highlight of my day in 2018. Now, those walks are short, and I am constantly aware of my surroundings. Our condo is worth 20% less than we paid for it. Not that we have any intention of moving, but we do want to feel safe and not see Portland continue to decline. We need jobs and people back in the city and to they and we need to feel safe when we are here!	05/21/25 6:50 AM
796	District 4 resident	As an individual		See PDF	05/21/25 6:51 AM
797	Mandy downing	As an individual		I am asking city council to oppose amendment #45 that would take funding from the multnomah art center and close it. The MAC has been a staple for many people in the community from young children who take classes and learn about the arts to elders that come for a safe place in the community for resources.	05/21/25 6:52 AM
798		As an individual		The MAC is a very beloved community resource by many in SW Portland. All through my kids childhood they were enrolled in art classes, theatre, woodworking, painting, etc. As my kids grew older, it was more for me and taking yoga and dance. It's a special place in our community.	05/21/25 6:53 AM
799	Autumn Dorfman	As an individual		Please do not close MAC! We live super close by and have utilized it for many after school art programs over the last 12 years. It's such a staple in our community and would not feel the same without it.	05/21/25 6:53 AM
800	Norah Newman	As an individual		Hello, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the closure of the Multnomah Arts Center. Since moving to Southwest Portland in 2021, this center has been a home for my children's dance and art classes. It has been a vibrant, accessible, and enriching space that fosters creativity and community. We have cherished the events during Multnomah Village's First Fridays, and we deeply value the classes offered through Portland Parks and Recreation, which remain affordable and inclusive thanks to this facility. The Multnomah Arts Center is not just a building — it is the heart of our neighborhood and a lifeline for families, artists, and residents across all generations. Closing this center is not an option. I urge you to listen to the voices of Southwest Portland and ensure that the Multnomah Arts Center remains open and thriving for years to come. Thank you for your time and commitment to our community. Sincerely, Norah Newman SW Portland Community Member	05/21/25 6:55 AM
801	Amy	As an individual		Have a kid who wants to learn how to play the drums, piano or violin? They can do that at the Multnomah Arts Center. Want to take adult classes on metal smithing, weaving or ceramics? You can do that at Multnomah Arts Center. Need a space to host a meeting or a party? You can do that at Multnomah Arts Center. This is a vibrant arts community center that provides opportunities for students and teaching artists and should not be shut down!!	05/21/25 6:56 AM
802	Heather John	As an individual		SAVE MULTNOMAH ARTS CENTER! MAC is a vibrant community hub for children, adults and seniors. Bringing together arts guilds, such as the Creative Metal Arts Guild, which I am a member of. Offering classes to enrich people's lives. Sharing creativity through performance and visual arts. The arts infrastructure in the greater Portland area has suffered deeply in the past decades. MAC is more than just a building or budget line item. It's a place full of vitality and sharing of ideas, for learning new skills and gathering with community. It is important. It has value beyond words. MAC must be saved!	05/21/25 6:59 AM
803	Patty Carrasco	As an individual		The Multnomah Art Center is a hub of community connections. It serves people of all ages, economic situations, and diversities in the surrounding area and beyond. It built common ground between Neighbors. Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center, its value is incalculable.	05/21/25 6:59 AM
804	Diana	As an individual		I am devastated by the proposal to close MAC. This center is a safe haven for so many members of the community and represents so many of the values that Portland stands for. In a time when the arts are at risk around the country, please let Portland be an example of public funding working FOR the residents, not against it. Closing MAC would be such an egregious violation of this city's commitment to culture, the arts, and living joyously and in community with each other. I cannot overstate the importance of MAC for public health. Bringing people together for a joyous purpose is more important than ever and should receive MORE funding, not less. Do NOT close MAC.	05/21/25 7:00 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
805	Orion Rodriguez	As an individual		I'm writing in support of subsidy payments for the tenants of Everett Station Lofts. As a resident, I see every day how the developer puts profits over providing truly affordable housing. Though the owner charges much higher rates than legally permitted, none of those extra costs are being used to improve the building. Common areas are filthy. Needed repairs go ignored for months. Low income residents are struggling and are not receiving the bare minimum they should be able to expect. Please pass this budget item to help the struggling families and individuals trying to make ends meet at ESL.	05/21/25 7:01 AM
806	Sam Perrin	As an individual		Please do not shut down the multnomah arts center. its been a staple of the community my entire life, and grants access to arts and education for people of all ages and places in life. there are so few community spaces left in this world, to take one out will only increase to the loneliness and isolation so many people suffer from. please do the right thing and leave it functioning.	05/21/25 7:04 AM
807	Georgia Port	As an individual		It is imperative you vote NO on amendment #45. We must keep the MAC and CMC open. The arts are an accessible and crucial way to build community and support the city's health and wellness. These vital spaces are especially crucial during the winter months. When I first moved here, the classes at MAC were what made me feel at home here. It's where I found friends and felt connected to the city. Portland's parks and natures are not the only important part of a healthy city and we must keep supporting creativity and community building through these spaces.	05/21/25 7:06 AM
808	Sara L--Save the MAC	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is critical for the community in all of Portland, and especially in Southwest. The facility houses multiple classes, events, and programs for the community that truly benefit us all. The arts are dying in the rest of the country, please don't let that happen here. Having access to arts is part of a healthy community and as important as parks. As a small business owner, I appreciate that hard decisions need to be made, but cutting arts in the city is not a good answer.	05/21/25 7:08 AM
809		As an individual		Please do not shut down the arts center. This is an important place for community members room thrive.	05/21/25 7:11 AM
810	Jessica Deupree	As an individual		Please don't close the Multnomah arts center, it is vital to the village community. I grew up down the street from MAC, is not just a building, it's a space where people gather to learn, create and educate. It was a space space for neighborhood kids to gather and learn after school, I would not be who I am today without the Multnomah Art Center. So many art forms are dying and this is one of the few remaining spaces to learn. I took classes here as a child in the 80s and 90s and have been so excited to sign my children up for affordable music lessons, dance classes, ceramics workshops now that they are old enough. Please don't close Multnomah Art Center, it is needed in our community.	05/21/25 7:16 AM
811	Vicki Grandy	As an individual		I strongly oppose the closure of the Multnomah Arts Center. It is the heart of the Multnomah Village neighborhood and vital to the art community at large.	05/21/25 7:17 AM
812	Judith Stadler-Lothrop	As an individual		I do not live in the district of the Multnomah Arts Center, but I have 3 grandchildren who do and who have participated in these programs. One is autistic, so the free expression of arts is especially valuable to him. Another is academically gifted, and thus learning to express his artistic side is essential to his whole growth, The third is gifted in drama and the performing arts. There are few outlets for this kind of activity in the public schools, and so she too benefits greatly from the Multnomah Arts Center. Closing the Center will be a loss to all three, and, indeed, to all the children who benefit greatly from its programs.	05/21/25 7:22 AM
813	Deborah Olsen	As an individual		Please do NOT close the Multnomah Arts Center!! I have been singing in the MAC adult chorus for at least a decade and LOVE the facility, the staff, and the people who use he MAC. From art exhibits and craft sales to dancing and music lessons, MAC provides a vibrant center for the community. Although I live outside of the city, I contribute annually to the MAC. Our choir contributed enough money a couple years ago for the center to purchase risers for the stage. During times of stress, the arts are more important than ever. PLEASE don't close a facility that has brought happiness and creativity to so many people!!	05/21/25 7:25 AM
814	Sheryl Funkhouser	As an individual		Please don't close Multnomah Arts Center. Our community needs positive, healthy outlets where people can grow and learn and create and reap the rewards of working on projects to strengthen their sense of self worth and fulfillment along with others. We should encourage positive experiences to help people become their better selves and help people make good choices in their lives.	05/21/25 7:25 AM
815	NM	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! It provides enrichment to our neighborhood and so many surrounding areas. Closing it would mean shutting down a long standing hub for arts, culture and community	05/21/25 7:26 AM
816		As an individual		I am writing with strong disagreement to the idea of closing the Multnomah Arts Center. My son takes classes in the building regularly, and I witness firsthand the value it brings to people of all ages in the community. If anything, money should be added to the budget to retrofit the building, and better leverage it for the community. There is a commercial kitchen in the building that isn't in use, as well as other spaces that are rentable, but not always rented, that could also be used for community engagement and the fostering of businesses (both arts focused and not) that would continue to bolster community and revenue for the city. You should consider ways in which to use the space to better strengthen the community at-large, as well as overall revenue, rather than be short-sided and simply close it. DO NOT CLOSE MAC!	05/21/25 7:26 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
817	Matt Greer	As an individual		Novick's proposal to shut down Multnomah Arts is unconscionable. If there is a budget shortfall why is Portland Parks purchasing new F250 trucks (\$60k plus each) to tow around lawn mowers? The city allowed the Children's Museum to close and fully functional Alpenrose ball fields to be torn down. Our children and community need art and play places, not new trucks for Parks workers.	05/21/25 7:27 AM
818	Barbara Erickson	As an individual		I support Mayor Wilson's budget plan for making Portland safe and family friendly. The pro safety and pro prosperity amendments of Counselors Clark and Zimmerman from my district and Counselors Ryan and Smith are MUST PASS amendments. The vast majority of us want to see a city that attracts new small businesses, makes our streets safe and clean again and uses our very high tax dollars responsibly. Don't let the majority down by catering to special niche interests! We are depending on you.	05/21/25 7:28 AM
819	APRIL L LACOMBE	As an individual		My children benefited greatly from high quality, unique and empowering music and art classes at the MAC and the music center. As a teacher, I never could have afforded private Suzuki violin lessons for my daughters. I can't emphasize enough how special, empowering, and just plain delightful. It was to have such an amazing opportunity in our community. I also took my daughters to MAC where they learned how to use power tools to make things and repair things. Once again, an invaluable experience that serves them well to this day. Please don't diminish the quality of Portland unique for reaching community programs. Keep the MAC ends the music Center open for present and future generations. It's more important now than ever before.	05/21/25 7:33 AM
820		As an individual		I believe the Multnomah arts center should not be closed	05/21/25 7:33 AM
821		As an individual		I understand that one proposal for meeting budget needs is to permanently close the Multnomah Arts Center. This proposal is short sighted and begs analysis, which if there is any, I would appreciate access. To submit such a suggestion at a last minute with no public knowledge does not indicate thoughtfulness to what the MAC represents and provides as a cultural center for not only Southwest Portland, but for Portland with regard to its arts and culture programming available to all and its many partnerships with entities providing arts opportunities and community support for youth, adults, and seniors in the city (Neighborhood House, Arts in the Park). In addition, money has been spent on seismic upgrades. More thoughtfulness and less urgency to meet budgets must be the strategy for this new council system. Please don't let the disappearance of a beloved and used cultural institution be another of Portland's consequences of lack of foresight and visioning. When my husband and I moved here 30 years ago, MAC was a notable part of the Multnomah Village community in its physical presence as well as our understanding of what Portland deemed valuable: community engagement in arts, culture, AND community. I and my children have accessed many courses over the years in photography, metal working, weaving, pottery, exercise, and music. Once per month, I enter the building in to see the fruits of labor of local community members who have created art. I have attended concerts, children's plays, benefits, receptions. Classes are always full - this is attested to by the competition to register. I wonder if the purported \$2 million in savings accounts for revenue and generation of commerce in the Village. Nonprofits partner to pay for the space in the building as well. MAC PROVIDES THE ONLY OPTION IN AFFORDABLE AND ACCESSIBLE ART AND MUSIC CLASSES IN THE CITY! Please keep MAC open for the community of Portland at large, and for the identity of Multnomah Village and the surrounding Southwest Community.	05/21/25 7:33 AM
822	Susan Morell	As an individual		It is my understanding that the Multnomah Art Center located in Multnomah Village is targeted for closure. This center is the heart of the Multnomah Village and Hillsdale communities. The popular classes offered involve a huge number of people. For example sixty to eighty people sing in the choir of which I am a part and that is just one class offered. We need the arts now more than ever as they are under a threat nationally. I am not naive about the reality of maintaining a budget. Please let the community find a way to make the Center more financially viable. I cannot even imagine that building sitting vacant and depriving hundreds of people of all ages an opportunity for artistic expression.	05/21/25 7:34 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
823	D DeCoursey	As an individual		I support the mayor's budget because: it recognizes the foundational importance of public safety, that I and the majority of citizens find essential to livability in Portland. We are lagging in this, and it's critical. I support maintaining parks and focusing on essential services. I also support councilors' proposals (Ryan, Smith, Clark, Zimmerman) for supporting small businesses. We can do nothing if Portland's economy does not thrive. I worry that special interests distort the conversation because they speak loudly and overshadow the less-expressed interests of the majority of average citizens like myself. Please remember there are a lot of us who love Portland but can't get highly involved in all the specific issues, attending meetings, etc. I, as I believe many others, want to live in a safe, economically viable city. With that foundation, we can fulfill other aspects of our vision.	05/21/25 7:36 AM
824	R McCutchen	As an individual		Multnomah Arts Center is an accessible & vibrant source of diversity and education - a unique public access option to the arts - and so many other community supporting organizations - crossing all districts of Portland. It allowed my family to have access to affordable music and art lessons that greatly enriched their lives. I walk by there nearly daily and see children and adults moving in and out of the building throughout the year. These spaces need to become more accessible to even more people that would otherwise not have exposure to the arts. Hubs like this create the foundation of a society that can become better supporters of all people - not just the people they live closet to - or feel they understand the most. Arts broadens understanding. An essential ingredient to solve other societal problems. The yeast in a bread rise.	05/21/25 7:36 AM
825	Rajesh Gopalakrishnan	As an individual		Hi, Multnomah Arts Center has been a beacon of hope for my kids to learn arts and music. It has served our family well for the last 4 years and it will serve us for many more years in the future. Without this center it will be very difficult for my kids to learn arts and music. So on behalf of my family and the community I humbly request and hope Multnomah Arts center will remain open forever. Thanks!	05/21/25 7:36 AM
826	Barbara Martin	As an individual		I am writing in support of the Multnomah arts center and the need to keep this important community asset open! Please save the Multnomah arts center.	05/21/25 7:36 AM
827	Linnea Hoffman	As an individual		Continue to fund CMC, it is an important part of what makes Portland a wonderful city. The music center is a hub for people to participate in creative endeavors that make their lives better and the community stronger. My son has been taking piano lessons for 2 years at CMC and to be able to be out in the community learning music and connecting with teachers, staff, other students and families and to be exposed to the multitude of music activities that occur at CMC has already made our lives in a Portland fuller.	05/21/25 7:39 AM
828	Dagne Hammond	On behalf of an organization	Multnomah Arts Center	I urge you to VOTE NO on Amendment #45, which would permanently close the Multnomah Arts Center (MAC) as of September 1, 2025. I have taken many classes at the MAC, and I can say with confidence: there is nothing quite like it. The MAC offers affordable, high-quality arts education for both adults and children. It is not just a building, it is a thriving community space where creativity, learning, and connection happen every day. Closing the MAC would take away a cherished resource that makes Portland special. Not every city is fortunate enough to have a place like this. A place that welcomes people of all ages and backgrounds to explore the arts, express themselves, and belong. Please do not allow a short-term budget decision to destroy a long-term cultural asset. Vote no on Amendment #45 and keep the Multnomah Arts Center open for future generations.	05/21/25 7:39 AM
829	Diane Jacobs	As an individual		What is happening in Portland!! How can these budgets be cutting funding to the arts???? I am an artist who moved to Portland in 2002. Everyone needs art, music, theatre, access to the splendid outdoors as well as basic survival needs. housing, and medical care. I am totally against the proposed closure of the Community Music Center and the Multnomah Arts Center this is not the direction the city should be going in!! We need hope and creative outlets to get thru these dark days. Please vote no on #45.	05/21/25 7:40 AM
830	Jessica Werbel	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is an important part of our SW community. It provides affordable spaces for gatherings, cultural events, and a variety of classes for families. Our family moved to SW Portland about 2.5 years ago and have found great connection at the MAC. We would be devastated with its closure.	05/21/25 7:40 AM
831	Cristina De La Cruz	As an individual		The idea to cut the budget and close the Community Music Center permanently in September 2025 will be detrimental to the City of Portland. The city is barely bouncing back from a horrible period after Covid. With all of the drug use, homelessness, sex, trafficking, and prostitution, CMC is one of the spaces that promotes positive activities in the community. If we are short in the budget, cut the salaries of all of lawmakers or government officials. As a Portland native, I am sick and tired of seeing good programs and education being cut. It's as if you are trying to make our city. a horrible place to live. Keep the arts and community resources intact.	05/21/25 7:40 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
832		As an individual		Pls don't close Multnomah Arts center. It is a lifeline for many including myself to have affordable art classes and an art community. This will destroy so many people's life if they don't have an outlet like such for their mental health.	05/21/25 7:41 AM
833	Henry Fitts	As an individual		Please DO NOT close the Multnomah Village community center. My wife finally found something she loves and takes classes over there. We have friends, a community, and it is an incredibly important part of the neighborhood. Please don't close it.	05/21/25 7:41 AM
834		As an individual		I am now 35 yrs old (with a learning disability) and have enjoyed so many art and dance classes since I was a very young child. I think MAC is a city treasure because it serves a wide range of peoples' needs and interests to enrich lives immeasurably.	05/21/25 7:43 AM
835	Dave Peticolas	On behalf of an organization	Portland: Neighbors Welcome	Please find our comments attached, thank you.	05/21/25 7:44 AM
836		As an individual		We NEED the Multnomah Arts Center. If you take away this establishment from our community, you are contributing and complicit to the regime in power. You are also directly and negatively impacting the lives of our children and this community.	05/21/25 7:45 AM
837	Storry Norman	As an individual		Please do NOT close the Multnomah Arts Center! It is a vibrant center for the community, especially bringing life offerings and business to the town of Multnomah. Since 1981 I have benefitted from ceramic and painting classes and for the last decade have sung in the dynamic Multnomah Chorus. I would be devastated by the cessation of this choral community as would my fellow choristers. The MAC is a treasure to Portland with its classes, events, and housing of senior center activities. Please don't deprive me and the greater community of the MAC's vital presence of building community, health, education, enjoyment, investment, business, and so much more.	05/21/25 7:46 AM
838		As an individual		Do not shut the Multnomah arts center!!! It's the center of Multnomah village and we need the art space! Find somewhere else to get this money.	05/21/25 7:49 AM
839	chris swanson	As an individual		Please vote "no" on Amendment #45. The Community Music Center and Multnomah Arts Center are what make our community wonderful. There is no substitute for publicly provided arts centers -- private businesses can't offer the same experience for our children. A society that decides to stop nurturing its members is heading toward a cultural desert that will be difficult to fix in the future. The community values these facilities. Please vote "no" on Amendment 45.	05/21/25 7:49 AM
840	Kevin Tudball	As an individual		I am writing out of deep concern as I just learned you will be voting to potentially close the Multnomah Arts Center (MAC). This was shocking news for me as I consider the Multnomah Arts Center a pillar of my community. I live 3 blocks from MAC and I consider it the center of Multnomah Village. The classes MAC offers are on par with PCC, but their focus on the arts are so important. As an artist myself I know that community art is needed, especially in times that economy is struggling. MAC offers a place for people to go when they need an outlet, community or education. MAC also works with nonprofits in the area, which are absolutely needed right now. I have been to a number of events at the Arts Center and they bring people together. My wife has taken classes at the art center and was blown away by the quality. The facility is incredible and needs to be utilized. The answer isn't to close MAC, but to find better ways to utilize it as a tool that can help our community.	05/21/25 7:49 AM
841	Lynnea M. Eagle	As an individual		Please don't close Multnomah Art Center. It is an integral part of our neighborhood and part of what keeps it healthy and vibrant.	05/21/25 7:50 AM
842	Tirtza Rosenthal	As an individual		Arts center	05/21/25 7:50 AM
843	Zoey	As an individual		Reject cuts to City Nature Youth Programs. Reject cut package 23,609: For nearly three decades, our vital programs have been a cornerstone for thousands of Portland families, providing crucial access to nature education and green career pathways. Each year, over 100 youth and young adults find employment through these initiatives, with many participants going on to secure full-time careers with Portland Parks and Recreation and/or in the green sector. These programs are not just about jobs; they offer invaluable nature education, cultivate the next generation of climate advocates, provide essential workforce development opportunities, and deliver much-needed affordable educational summer camps. It's critical to note that our programs are among the ONLY youth programs targeted for elimination in the Mayor's proposed budget, alongside all recreation summer camps. Cutting these programs would be a significant loss for our community and future generations.	05/21/25 7:51 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
844	Matt Nicholson	As an individual		I wanted to reach out to express my opposition to Councilor Zimmerman's budget proposal to cut the permitting and regulation staff of Urban Forestry. I believe these layoffs would be a disastrous and short-sighted decision, and I urge you not support the amendment. While the Tree Code could stand to be improved, cutting its regulatory staff would amount to local version of Elon Musk's disastrous DOGE, using a chainsaw to slash through an issue that requires a scalpel and a steady hand. Now is not the time to paralyze the management of our city's urban forest, as there is an impending ecological disaster looming on the horizon for Portland's urban forest. Several invasive pests, including the Emerald Ash Borer, have recently been discovered in the Northwest, and it's expected that thousands of our street and park trees will be decimated in the coming years. The permitting and regulatory team of Urban Forestry is the logistical hub for managing this impending crisis, both for street trees and city park trees. They will receive reports from the public of Ash Borer sightings, facilitate the inoculation of healthy Ash trees, inspect potentially diseased trees, and issue tree removal permits for dead or dangerous trees. Portland's Tree Code makes our city safer, healthier, and more enjoyable. Its inconveniences are outweighed by the benefits it provides to us all. The permitting and regulation team is the command center responsible for managing the great public asset that is our urban forest. Taking an axe to this team will not lead to any solutions, it will only exacerbate existing problems and make us unprepared for the challenges that lie ahead.	05/21/25 7:52 AM
845	Corina Overman	As an individual		The Multnomah arts center is an important educational and community asset and shouldn't be closed!	05/21/25 7:53 AM
846	Chris	As an individual		I fully support the Mayor's proposed budget increases for the Police, Fire and the Portland Street Response. In listening at various times to the Mayor, the Police Chief and the Director of Community Safety, Stephanie Howard, we are gaining momentum and finding success in various public safety issues, e.g. the CeaseFire Program. So NOW is NOT the time to be cutting back on any element of Public Safety. We need to be building on this momentum! Also, we are continuing to see response times, human trafficking and property crimes remain at high levels. Therefore, I support the Mayor's efforts to boost these departments and not cut back. Yes, I do believe we need to fund Parks Maintenance but not at the expense of Public Safety. A few Councilors have raised ideas that will address Parks maintenance ... without cutting into funding for either Police, Fire and Portland Street Response. I also think Councilor Smith brought up a valid question the other day about our Intergovernmental Agreement with the County in addressing homelessness, We are already committed to the County for \$31.1 million annually. Why are we not putting more pressure on the County to step up ... and push them in providing Accountability and Transparency? Thank you.	05/21/25 7:54 AM
847	Lauren Hestand	As an individual		The Multnomah Art Center is a pillar of the Portland community. The loss of OCAC and many other smaller schools/center has left MAC as the last bastion of what makes Portland so lovely. I can see the center from the small jewelry store my mom and I run. She learned metals from MAC. We hear everyday about how the center has changed Portlanders lives. While at the same time hearing that the classes fill up so fast that they will have to wait until next round, which is a rare commitment in our world of chasing fleeting satisfaction. If it's becoming a cost burden, expand the class offerings. The demand is present! Please please don't let the arts education centers wither, the ramification's throughout society are sure to be felt.	05/21/25 7:58 AM
848	Zoey	As an individual		Do we truly need to spend a staggering \$160,000 on turnstile upgrades? While their age is a factor, this price tag is too much. We must explore more fiscally responsible alternatives. Is there a compelling reason this specific, high-cost upgrade is the only option? Are we truly maximizing taxpayer dollars, or is this an unnecessary luxury when more affordable, functional solutions surely exist?	05/21/25 8:00 AM
849	Lynne Phillips-Werbel	As an individual		We have raised our family in the Garden Home/Multnomah area for 40 years and now live in John's Landing. The Multnomah Art Center has been the heart of Multnomah Village and closing it will devastate the community. We have taken our children and now grandchild there for classes, art shows and birthday parties. Please don't close this incredible institution- it will devastate our community!	05/21/25 8:05 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
850	Zoey	As an individual		I strongly oppose the decision to reduce daily park cleaning. Our parks are cherished because they're clean, well-maintained, and beautiful spaces for everyone. This isn't just about aesthetics; it's about usability. If we let our parks become dirty and neglected, people simply won't use them. Cutting back on essential bathroom and litter cleaning is a direct path to discouraging park visitors and undermining the very purpose of these vital community assets. This is a false economy that will ultimately cost us more in lost enjoyment and potential restoration efforts.	05/21/25 8:05 AM
851	Bruce Schafer	As an individual		Please continue to fund the Multnomah Arts Center. It provides valuable educational opportunities for residents of all ages from young children to senior citizens.	05/21/25 8:08 AM
852	David Studhalter	On behalf of an organization	Community Music Workshop (informal organization)	Proposal to close Portland's wonderful Community Music Center	05/21/25 8:10 AM
853	Joe Rosenthal	As an individual		DONT CLOSE MAC ! MAC is an important part of our life in Southwest Portland. We and our grandchildren take classes there. It is one of the things that makes life in Portland liveable and delightful It also enhances the businesses in Multnomah Village	05/21/25 8:10 AM
854	Nathan Goodman	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts center is an amazing resource beloved by the community. By teaching art, dance, etc, it enhances the lives and livelihoods of the entire community. Please make sure it stays open.	05/21/25 8:11 AM
855	Lee Richmond	As an individual		I am writing to support keeping the Multnomah Arts Center open. It is one of the main reasons that we bought our house here in the Multnomah village area. We are paying historically high taxes to live here and I can't believe that keeping open the arts center is the main reason that the city of Portland has the huge deficit it has.	05/21/25 8:11 AM
856	Zoey	As an individual		I adamantly reject the proposal to increase golf fees for the sole purpose of propping up the general fund. While I do support fee adjustments to directly maintain and enhance our golf programs, diverting these critical revenues to a black hole of undefined "general fund" spending is unacceptable. Where is the accountability? Where is the transparency? Without a clear, ironclad guarantee and detailed oversight mechanism for exactly how these additional golf revenues will be spent within the general fund, we cannot simply trust that they will be used appropriately. We demand a precise breakdown, a public commitment, and a robust auditing process to ensure these funds serve the community's best interests, not simply disappear into a bureaucratic void. Anything less is an insult to responsible fiscal management and the public's trust.	05/21/25 8:14 AM
857	Jan Drury	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center provides year round, no matter what the weather, art , music, dance activities for all ages. The oldest member of our choral group was 92, much older than the tiny dancers who also are in the building on Wednesday evenings. Medical and educational research has shown the value and importance of arts, not only for increased mental well being but also for sustaining and enhancing intellectual thought. This has been proven across the age spectrum. With schools cutting fine arts programs and not all families able to afford a more private setting, with adults, particularly seniors grappling with the ever increasing high cost of living and unsettled political times, why cut this type of programming now? Why is this being done so quickly? Many of us who have used this facility and donated money to this facility for years, just found out about today's hearing yesterday giving us little opportunity to act as a community to save one of the pillars of Multnomah Village. Thank you, Jan Drury	05/21/25 8:16 AM
858	Alayna Neher	As an individual		As a born-and-raised Portlander, I spent countless hours of my childhood at the Community Music Center. From the ages of 5 to 18, I took viola and violin lessons, music theory classes, choir, and orchestra, and even returned to volunteer while attending college. I do not exaggerate when I say - The Community Music Center has shaped me into the musician I am today. With its affordable classes, the Community Music Center serves a unique mission in our community. The Community Music Center must stay open to continue to uplift our community.	05/21/25 8:16 AM
859	JD Williams	As an individual		Opposition to closing Multnomah Arts and Community Music Centers. Please see attached letter for supporting details.	05/21/25 8:18 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
860	Theresa Koon	As an individual		I hear that the Community Music Center, the Multnomah arts Center, and some other community centers will be closed if the new city budget is accepted. Music and the arts are what keep our families, and especially our children, feeling vital, alive, and hopeful in these challenging times. They provide solace and inspiration, they stimulate creativity, they connect people across social and cultural divides, they stimulate engagement, and provide relief when other efforts fail. These two institutions alone have brought so much joy to thousands of families and children over many decades. Surely there are ways to keep them open, to keep disenchanting youth off the streets, and to keep humanitarian arts thriving in Portland. I urge you to vote no on Steve Novick's budget proposal, and to work together to find better solutions. Thank you for your dedication to our community.	05/21/25 8:19 AM
861		On behalf of an organization	Oregon Contemporary	Steve Novick submitted an amendment to the City's budget, to close the Multnomah Arts Center PERMANENTLY as of September 1, 2025. At Oregon Contemporary, we see this as a further act of aggression towards the arts and equity in this city. The M.A.C. serves a really broad cross section of the arts from youth to seniors and people of all abilities. Please don't strip the arts from a healing city, especially those arts orgs that serve us all and particularly the historically marginalized. There is no version of a great city with a declining artist population.	05/21/25 8:20 AM
862		As an individual		Keep the multnomah arts center ! This is a space that I was raised in. I had my first jobs here. My mom depends on the place for her livelihood as an arts teacher. There are so many people around the state who benefit from this place people who travel from far just to learn from the artists who come. This is a staple in our city!	05/21/25 8:23 AM
863	Robert J Long	As an individual		Please continue funding the Multnomah Arts Center. It's an important resource to the area community and one that cannot be regained once lost.	05/21/25 8:25 AM
864		As an individual		I write in opposition to the amendment to close the Community Music Center and Multnomah Arts Center. They are both treasures in Portland. The Community Music Center has been a place where my child with disabilities can learn an instrument with lessons that are inclusive to her. I also got a great musical education there as a child. Unlike most children's musical learning opportunities, CMC is accessible for those with disabilities, affordable to lower income families and is also within a close range (and on the transit line) for those on the East side. Multnomah Arts Center is also reaching East Portland through a popular satellite program in Hazelwood that has brought music and art classes into our local area. These opportunities are priceless for the children in our community. I know from experience that music for children offers life long benefits. Thank you.	05/21/25 8:26 AM
865	Brittany Ashline	As an individual		Please vote no for closing the MAC. The arts center is a community arts resource that had a positive impact on the community. Im planning on taking classes there myself, and I wouldn't be able to if it closed.	05/21/25 8:28 AM
866	Lois Eaton	On behalf of an organization	P'nai Or of Portland	Please do not close the Multnomah Arts center. Our congregation is looking to rent space there for our monthly West side Shabbat services.	05/21/25 8:29 AM
867	Susan Wilcox	As an individual		Please do not close MAC and Community Music Center. I am 65 and live in SW Portland. I vote for every bond measure proposed. I take music lessons at Community Music Center. I take art classes at MAC. I would not be able to afford these activities otherwise. Arts and culture should be a part of the "keeping Portlanders healthy" that the Parks Department encourages.	05/21/25 8:30 AM
868	Jessica Klein	As an individual		I am reaching out to express my support for the Multnomah art center remaining open. It is an important resource for our community, for neighbors young and old. We Use this as a valuable resource and it would be an incredibly difficult loss for the community were it to shut down. Please Keep them all on the Multnomah art center open!!!!	05/21/25 8:31 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
869	Jennifer Meurer	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center (MAC) has been the center of our community my entire life. I am 46 years old and have lived my entire life in the Multnomah neighborhood (with the exception of the 4 years I was away at college). I have grown up only knowing the MAC as a place for community, learning & enrichment, and, fortunately, I have been able to raise my children knowing the same. Between our 2 generations, we have taken classes, attended camps, participated in events and enjoyed the center as the hub of Multnomah days every summer. To permanently close this center would be a travesty for our community. As a taxpayer and small business owner in this community, I find myself more and more disappointed with the decisions this city is making. It is hard not to become more disillusioned with each passing year. It breaks my heart because I love Portland and want to live here for the rest of my life, but the city isn't providing many reasons to stay. Closing the MAC would add to the growing list of reasons NOT to live here. PLEASE do NOT close the MAC!	05/21/25 8:32 AM
870	Shelbi Gerritsen	As an individual		I was incredibly disheartened to hear about the amendment to close the MAC and reallocate funding. The MAC is a staple of our community. It's a big reason why I've chosen this corner of Portland as my home. You can find us there every First Friday for community art. My 3 year old took her first ballet class there and I dream about all the classes she'll take as she grows. We need the MAC. Every community deserves a MAC.	05/21/25 8:33 AM
871	Charlene Van Ness	As an individual		The closing of the Multnomah Art Center would be a travesty. Please do not do this, especially during these challenging dark times. We need the arts more than ever and the Multnomah Art Center is a popular place to take classes for children and adults of all ages. Please do not take away this outstanding cultural venue.	05/21/25 8:36 AM
872	Marla Resnick	As an individual		The Multnomah Art Center is the backbone of the community. Everyone in tri-country area has utilized the MAC. MAC is a cultural and architectural gem. It must MUST remain in the budget to foster and support community and the arts.	05/21/25 8:36 AM
873	Matt Wickstrom	As an individual		Please vote yes on the request to raise Land Use Services Division fees and please consider providing general fund dollars to the division in order to avoid detrimental cuts in staffing. I am a Senior Planner for the Land Use Services division. City planners are an initial point of contact when developers are considering development projects in Portland. We answer questions about zoning, land use and state regulations, helping with the initial conceptualization and review of development projects. The Portland Zoning Code is very complicated, so much so that even the savviest of developers cannot navigate it on their own. Eliminating positions in the Land Use Services Division, which is already at Great Recession staffing levels, would sacrifice our ability to provide up-front early assistance that can help attract development projects to Portland. The Land Use Services Division's is also responsible for a disproportionate share of free services because not only do developers need help understanding zoning, land use and state regulations, homeowners, neighbors, public agencies looking to build shelters, institutions looking to expand in Portland and property owners facing code compliance issues, need assistance as well. We staff a zoning hotline and 15-minute virtual appointments, returning over 400 phone calls a month on the zoning hotline alone. Recently we've learned that while other jurisdictions in the Metro region, like Portland, require their development agencies to recuperate expenses through fees, most of those agencies receive general fund dollars for the free public-benefit services they provide such as staffing their zoning hotlines, serving as a point of contact for shelter projects and working with state agencies to help improve regulations related to day cares. Land Use Services has already made massive and recent cuts to staffing. This occurred in 2019, 2020 and 2023; however, our workload is not down, large development projects, the ones that bring in the most fees, just aren't currently occurring. Once those projects materialize again, such as through the newly passed Portland Public Schools Bond or through a waiver of System Development Charges for new apartments, an adequate number of trained city planners who already know zoning regulations and the ins and outs of development in Portland will be critical. It takes a great deal of time to train new city planners and when large scale development begins to occur again, Portland will be well-served to have an adequate number of city planners to assist with those projects. Thank you for your time and again, please vote yes on the request to raise Land Use Services and please allocate general fund dollars to help the division continue to provide our public-benefit services.	05/21/25 8:36 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
874	Robin Roberts	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is a beloved and invaluable community resource that serves a wide swath of members, young to old, with a vast array of programs year-round. It is the heart of Multnomah Village. Closing it would leave a gaping wound in the community. We are all raising our voices in protest and passion to insist that you do the right thing and KEEP THE MULTNOMAH ARTS CENTER OPEN. Thank you.	05/21/25 8:37 AM
875		As an individual		I just joined the Portland Handweavers guild last summer after discovering the Multnomah Arts Center as a great space to find creative people. It is becoming harder over the decades to find friends, and now that I have finally settled into a nice group, I hear that the city is closing it all down???? Please, for my mental health, for the mental health of our vibrant community, don't so this. There are so few places for community crafters, please dont take this away.	05/21/25 8:37 AM
876	Brian Foulkes	As an individual		Please keep the Multnomah Arts Center open. It's a community builder; I take classes there myself and have neighbors who depend on it for their social connections and general activities. I see young folk there also and it would truly be a shame and a loss if the MAC closed.	05/21/25 8:38 AM
877	Maria Kelley	As an individual		We want the Multnomah Arts Center to remain open. This is a place for our children to take classes, play at the playground, and have a safe space to go. This community center is an integral part of Multnomah Village and plays a major supportive role in our neighborhood.	05/21/25 8:38 AM
878	Taylor	As an individual		Hello, I was just informed that the city council is voting on a proposal to close the Multnomah Arts Center and the Community Music Center. I urge you not to close these important pillars of our community. Both myself and my partner have taken classes at the MAC and are so grateful for the services they provide. My goddaughters first birthday party was held at the MAC and so many of my neighbors have fond memories of experiences that would not be accessible without the MAC. Please do not remove this incredible center from our community.	05/21/25 8:39 AM
879	Ryn Nootenboom	On behalf of an organization	The Community Music Center	The Community Music Center is a vital and deeply necessary fixture in the culture of SE Portland and its funding should not be cut. My partner is a professional violinists and her career was only accessible to her because of the subsidized lessons she was able to take as a kid. The CMC has a constant waitlist of kids looking for lessons who could not normally afford them. Keep the CMC open and don't cut arts funding when the PPB budget is far too large.	05/21/25 8:40 AM
880	Erica Press	As an individual		Do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! The MAC provides so much to the community that cannot be replaced by any other public institution. From community meetings, local art guilds, to children's programming (ceramics! Dance! Theater!) to adult arts education, the MAC is INVALUABLE to the SW neighborhood.	05/21/25 8:41 AM
881	Nick Caldwell	As an individual		My name is Nick Caldwell, Band Director at Ida B. Wells High School and Musical Director and Conductor of the Southwest Portland Community Band. The SWPCB has two clear missions. One, to provide an outlet for creating music for our members, some of who are returning to their instrument after 20 plus years of a hiatus from performing music. Two, to provide much needed monetary support to the Ida B. Wells High School band department. High School arts departments get ZERO dollars from the district to procure new sheet music written by modern and diverse composers. We get ZERO dollars for the daily needs that a comprehensive music department needs to operate. We get ZERO dollars from the district to replace aging instruments that our students have to try to make sound as good as they can. Some of these instruments came with our building when it was built in 1957. The SWPCB has raised over \$10,000 for the Wells program because of the concerts we hold at the MAC. Just last year we were able to purchase a brand new set of tubular chimes for my students. We are a couple of thousand of dollars away from purchasing a new full sized marimba. The MAC is an integral part of these incredible fundraising opportunities. It took us over a year to find a venue that can accommodate the community bands needs and the MAC has been a perfect place for our community to come together, give our members a space to share their love of music and to raise money for a school band that is too often left behind by the district. Please save this integral part of our community and keep the MAC. Nick Caldwell	05/21/25 8:42 AM
882	Eddie Ziegler	As an individual		Please reconsider the budget amendment that will close our Community Music Center. To you it may just be a budget line-item to cross off but to our community it is a vital resource, a vibrant group of teachers enriching the lives of students that would otherwise not have that opportunity. As a foster parent my kids have benefited tremendously from the services provided, which we would not be able to afford anywhere else. Thank you	05/21/25 8:42 AM
883	Aimee Erickson	As an individual		Keep the Multnomah Arts Center open. Our community benefits from it so much.	05/21/25 8:43 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
884	Cecily Paige Patterson	As an individual		I strongly object to the proposed closure of Multnomah Arts Center. MAC is a crucial part of the Portland community and provides equity and access to arts education for people of all ages, from small toddlers to seniors. It enriches our community immeasurably. My children took classes there thirty years ago, from age 3-17, and their lives were changed by the classes they took there. My daughter is currently taking metal smith classes, and it has changed her life for the better after the strains and challenges brought on by COVID-19, particularly in our city. Recently, as a senior citizen, I started to take classes there. I have met so many people from different walks of life whose lives are also enriched and changed by the programs MAC offers. We need the Multnomah Art Center now, more than ever. It helps make Portland a vibrant, liveable community, one that will continue to draw people here. It is such a positive part of Portland.	05/21/25 8:43 AM
885		As an individual		SAVE MAC- Multnomah Arts Center! PDX can't be a all about creative capital WITHOUT CAPITAL TO CREATE! 0 OCAC 0 MARYLHURST WOW NOW MAC!!!! NO WAY!!!!	05/21/25 8:45 AM
886	Robin Esterkin	As an individual		Please vote NO on Amendment #45. Multnomah Arts Center is a resource of extraordinary value for all generations to explore all the arts, in a community of warm supportive people. There is no way to quantify just how important this resource is for the community. It must remain open.	05/21/25 8:48 AM
887	Wendy Johnson	As an individual		Please support keeping MAC open!! Both my nieces took art, music and science classes here that helped develop their sense of self worth, at a price that my sister could afford. This is an invaluable addition to our community!	05/21/25 8:50 AM
888	lee thomas	As an individual		Don't shutter the Multnomah Arts Center!! It is an essential community lifeforce, resource hub, cultural facility, and homebase for many creative minds of all ages, backgrounds, and experiences. Refuse councilor Novick's senseless amendment to close down this facility. If budgeting is an issue, we can all easily direct you to the overbloated Portland Police Bureau budgeting that spends millions on useless overtime, unsuccessful rehabilitation, and other failed outcomes better solved by community spaces like the Multnomah Arts Center, or resources like the Rapid Response Team. To close down such an all-in-one community location is destructive to your citizens, narrowing opportunities for community building and growth in our neighborhoods across generations. DO NOT CLOSE MAC!!	05/21/25 8:50 AM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Maya Cansdale	As an individual		Hello, My name is Maya Cansdale, in District 1 of Portland. I wanted to reach out to express how significant of an impact CMC has had (and continues to have) on my life, and why it should stay open. Me and my two siblings first started going to CMC as a young child to participate in early music lessons (baby and toddler age). We learned things such rhythm, counting, minor and major keys, etc. As I got a bit older, I then started taking Suzuki violin lessons. The Suzuki method and philosophy emphasizes learning by imitation to play by ear before reading music and approaches it like learning a native language. Looking back, music really is first language to me alongside English. Shortly after, I took up group piano lessons at CMC. I remember being too short to see through the window of the classroom, but standing on my tip toes to peek in anyways. From playing on electric keyboards in a group, I then continued to study and play classical piano for the next 17 years. Now as an adult, I'm continuing my music education with cello. Despite not having played violin since I was 3 or 4 years old, my ear for music is ingrained in me. As an introvert who learns best hands-on and sometimes struggles with speech, I use music to communicate. It not only allows me to express a side of me that words cannot, but also brings me joy. I express my emotions through music, I dance to music, I make playlists— music is my life and CMC is a large part of my story. My mom is a speech pathologist and uses music to help nonverbal kids with autism (ages 0-3) to help them learn to talk. Her community uses music in different areas of life like people in hospice care or people with neurological progressive disorders, improving their quality of life. Music should be accessible to everyone and CMC provides that. Without CMC I would not be able to afford this incredible music education or have such a wonderful music community. I urge you to vote NO on Amendment #45. Regards, Maya Cansdale	05/21/25 8:50 AM
Marissa Wolf	On behalf of an organization	Portland Center Stage	Dear Councilors and Mayor Wilson, I am writing in support of Green 6: Motion to Amend the Budget to Provide One-Time Grant to Portland Center Stage. PCS is a cornerstone of downtown Portland's vibrant cultural life, bringing 100,000 people to the Pearl District every year. We are inside an emergency campaign to keep the theater - the second largest theater in Oregon and a major economic driver in downtown Portland - from closing. As we engage our top donors in this campaign, they ask us, "what's the city doing?" We know our individual and corporate campaign leads need an answer to this question before they step up; critical funding from the City at this time will inspire major matching gifts, and keep PCS open. We support Dunphy 2: Motion to Amend the Budget to Fund Arts Economic Development. Please increase funding to the City Arts and Culture Office. This fund is critical for arts organizations and individual artists across the metro who make Portland, Portland. As a portion of the City's budget, the dollar value of its investment in arts and culture is low, but the impact is huge, and catalyzes the \$642 million that the arts & culture sector pumps back into the Portland economy every year. Additionally, closure to two art-spaces would be devastating to the arts ecosystem that supports tens of thousands of multi-generational families in Portland. Please do not cut funding to Multnomah art spaces to give to the Parks Department. As our Council Members focus on downtown safety, I'll add that cultural arts institutions across the city, including PCS, are intrinsic drivers of public safety, as we bring foot traffic to our neighborhood, and support surrounding businesses so that everyone's lights can stay on and draw people to downtown Portland. Thank you for your consideration. All Best, Marissa Wolf	05/21/25 8:51 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
891	Shawn Knight	As an individual		Hi All, Writing to let you know how lucky our family feels to be able to access wonderful courses in various mediums of art at The Beloved Multnomah Art Center. For eleven years our almost 14 year old son has been taking tap dance, was in acting has taken piano and hip hop dance and even preschool long ago and now takes Guitar from an amazing teacher Chuck Cheesman who has helped foster our sons love for music. Our 8 year old currently is taking pottery, tap dance and has weekly piano lessons with a wonderful and talented teacher Jessica Bartlett. Our son has ADHD and she just really connects with him in a way that helps him to have confidence in his piano practice. He's been at that for two years now and is going strong. In December of 2024 my one year younger brother died at 49 years old and I wanted to do something to honor him and his life. I realized just how short life can be and began taking jewelry/metalsmithing myself. I had taken a year of it in high school 35 years ago and always wanted to do it. When I started leaving the three hour class every Friday last spring I felt high as a kite! My good friend said Shawn that's JOY. I hadn't felt that in years. I have been so grateful to have found the Metals program and the community. We have met so many families through the years of going to Multnomah Art Center who are enjoying and thriving due to all of the thoughtful and generous variety of programming the center offers. We hope to continue to go to this wonderful place in our community for many years to come. As so much art has been taken out of our public schools it's so nice to know there is a place for families to go in the community where art can continue to grow in our young minds and even some of us older moms who stumble upon the healing that art can be! Please help keep this Art Center going. Much Love, Mama Shawn	05/21/25 8:51 AM
892	Raina Morris	As an individual		I grew up taking classes at MAC and continue to visit regularly to this day. I have plans to take more classes there in the near future. It is a staple in the community and an important landmark!! Arts education should be accessible for our neighbors. Please don't close multnomah arts center!	05/21/25 8:53 AM
893	Diane Evelyn Selden	As an individual		City Budget Hearing Testimony - I heard the proposal that the Multnomah Arts Center be cut and closed in the current budget. I am appalled and aghast that this is seen as an answer to our budget shortfall. The MAC is truly a marvel of community, arts, teaching. The arts classes alone are priceless. The building (recently upgraded) is beautiful and houses non-profits, a gallery, all the classrooms, wood shop, clay studio, performance spaces and more. Gorgeous murals painted over the years. I have taken classes, took my toddler to classes, had an art show there, rented the space for dances and memorials, hired instructors for birthday parties onsite. Thousands of citizens of all ages have found their creativity there. It's a city icon, a success story rare and amazing. I live in NE and have gone there for nearly 40 years, since it's inception. My friends also travel from all areas of the city for events, classes, the gallery art, the caring staff. Please keep this utter GEM. Especially now in these times when arts are being squashed in DC. and we need all the creative thinkers possible to sustain a just society. Please do not close this marvel of Community ingenuity. I think there are city council members who may not have been there. Please go see for yourselves before even thinking about cutting such excellence. It's something Portland can boast about, and serves everyone, from all corners of the city, all income levels, all constituencies. Thank you.	05/21/25 8:54 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
894	Alexis Mahler	As an individual		Please vote NO on Amendment 45 and keep the CMC alive! What makes Portland special (and the reason I moved here) is it's appreciation for art and nature. What an incredible resource for students to explore art through the Parks and Rec department in an ethical, accessible, safe environment for ANYBODY. I am a violin teacher, and my first job when I moved here was with the CMC. Not only did this opportunity validate my decision to stay in Portland, but it also introduced me to a supportive community of teachers and artists I continue to work alongside all over town. I have seen first-hand what the CMC brings particularly to kids in need: Affordable, QUALITY lessons for families who might not otherwise have a way to study music. Some of my brightest, most talented students were receiving some form of assistance either through tuition scholarships or instrument rentals. Without the support from the CMC, these students would not have a realistic alternative. Teachers know our jobs are so much more than teaching. It is a privilege to be a mentor, to provide connection and motivation, to show kids what's possible. The ripple effect of music education, and its personal effects far beyond music itself, is undeniable. Those scholarship students I mentioned are now graduating college at the top of their class, collecting academic awards, and taking their first steps in building their careers. The Community Music Center is exactly that: centered around building community through music, something I believe to be a core value of this town. Why would you take that away? A mentor of mine, renowned music educator Leila Ramagopal Pertl, taught me this: Music is a birthright. As the world hardens and the future darkens, we witness more and more barriers denying access to the things that make us human. Now more than ever, we need to see Portland hold onto these values. Portland is supposed to pride itself on its progressive artist community, how can that continue if we take away the foundation for so many? Vote NO.	05/21/25 8:54 AM
895	Sonya Brookins	As an individual		Community arts programs are a vital part of our city's cultural and personal well-being. As a 62 year-old adult, I had the opportunity to learn the cello—something I never imagined possible—thanks to the group music classes at CMC. Without this resource, that door would have remained closed to me. Please reconsider the decision to cut funding; these programs bring joy, healing, and enrichment to countless lives, including my own.	05/21/25 8:57 AM
896	Stacey MArk	As an individual		I strongly oppose the closure of the MAC facility in Multnomah. We need the MAC now more than ever. MAC provides essential training in the applied arts (metalsmithing, ceramics, textiles, etc) that is unavailable anywhere else in or accessible from Portland. Their resources are exceptional and affordable. They serve students of all ages, with many opportunities for children and teens in summer programs that they can't get in school. For many of the classes MAC offers, there are no other options, not even in local colleges. I have been taking art classes in Portland since I moved here in 1977 and have watched the applied arts teaching facilities close one by one. MAC is the last one standing. Please do not deny our city of the only resource available for an education in the applied arts.	05/21/25 8:59 AM
897	Isaac Lamb	As an individual		I'm writing to oppose the motion for closing the Multnomah Arts Center and the CMC. At a time when the arts and arts funding are under attack from the federal government, access to meaningful creative opportunities for all is of paramount importance. These two centers increase access to art and art making for so many Portlanders, especially those of limited economic means. The arts are essential to the health of our citizenry and our economy. As a member of the performing arts community who makes his living on the stages of Portland, I urge you not to be shortsighted in this regard. Keep these two important arts centers open and serving the community. The arts are what give our lives meaning and make our city and neighborhoods livable.	05/21/25 9:00 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
898	Stephanie Ziegler	As an individual		Please fund the Community Music Center and the Multnomah Arts Center this fiscal year. These are highly valued community assets, we depend on them for our children to have access to the arts (also being whittled down in schools). Please give us a solution that isn't cutting funding for these invaluable services. Equity is also championed here; no matter your means, you have access to these services. The weakening middle class is not immune to these cuts in addition to those of lesser means who we leave out by not funding these services, i.e. most all of us. The fact that the CMC is nestled in our neighborhood, makes it walkable and efficient and keeps our children in our communities. Weigh heavily our desire for livable communities for our children and families when making this decision. Thank you.	05/21/25 9:01 AM
899	Johanna Shrout	As an individual		Please vote NO on Amendment #45 to permanently close the Multnomah Arts Center. This vibrant and diverse center is an important and needed COMMUNITY center. MAC not only added value to those taking classes but offers needed meeting and event space for the entire community. I have been taking classes at MAC on and off for more than 20 years. In addition to taking classes, that also means I shop in the Village. Closing MAC will not only impact those enriched by the rich programs and events but it will also have an economic impact on the business community. Please do vote NO on #45 and save this much needed COMMUNITY Center.	05/21/25 9:03 AM
900	Rachel Lozeau	As an individual		I am writing today to express my disapproval of the potential closure of the Multnomah Arts Center due to budget cuts. I urge the reconsideration of this closure. The Multnomah Arts Center is a vital and beloved institution in Multnomah Village and offers a sense of vibrancy, community, and access to the arts for all ages. If closed, it would be felt deeply by the community.	05/21/25 9:04 AM
901	Robin Gettleson	As an individual		I am writing to urge you to oppose amendment 45. Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center. This treasured community institution is vital to Portlanders of all ages, providing affordable arts classes and camps and adding incalculable value to the community. I sent my kids to many classes, camps, and even preschool there back in the day, and they got so much out of the programming. It would leave an immense gap in the city's programming to cut the wonderful opportunities offered at the MAC.	05/21/25 9:07 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
902	Michelle Blake	As an individual		Dear Councilor Novick and Budget Committee, I am writing to express my deep concern and opposition to the proposed budget cuts that would result in the closure of the Multnomah Arts Center (MAC). As a member of this community and a parent, I urge you to reconsider this decision and protect a vital institution that has long served as a cultural and educational cornerstone for families like mine. The Multnomah Arts Center is more than just a building—it is a place of connection, creativity, and community. In an era where arts education is increasingly underfunded in our public schools, MAC has filled a crucial gap. Its programs have allowed our children—and so many others—to explore visual and performing arts, build confidence, and grow in ways that traditional academic settings cannot always offer. This center does not just serve Multnomah Village. I've met people from all over the city and beyond who travel to MAC for its unique offerings. It is a regional asset, one that draws people together through shared creativity and purpose. To take this away would be a significant loss, especially for families on the west side of Portland, where resources like this are already scarce. We don't need more development or new buildings—we need community spaces that support wellness, learning, and inclusion. MAC is one of the few places that does all of this, and its absence would leave a painful void. Please think of the kids who eagerly await their next art class, the adults who find solace and expression in metalsmithing or ceramics, and the families who gather there for recitals, camps, and events. The Multnomah Arts Center is a place where lives are enriched and futures shaped. It deserves to be protected—not sacrificed. I respectfully ask you and your fellow council members to prioritize community well-being over budgetary convenience. Do not close the doors on a center that has given so much to so many. Sincerely, Michelle Blake	05/21/25 9:09 AM
903		On behalf of an organization	Hayes Consulting and Coaching	We respectfully urge the Council to continue allocating general funds to support Prosper Portland's Economic Development initiatives. Additionally, we request that the City actively partner with Prosper Portland and community stakeholders in the upcoming fiscal year to identify sustainable and inclusive strategies for supporting grassroots and community-led initiatives throughout Portland.	05/21/25 9:09 AM
904	Margot Pullen	As an individual		Esteemed Councilors, One of today's proposed budget amendments, "Novick 4," would close the Multnomah Arts Center to pay for park maintenance. I ask that you vote No on this amendment. The Multnomah Arts Center (MAC) is a community anchor that provides arts programming for Portlanders of all ages, and houses the Neighborhood House Senior Center. The low-cost music lessons I received at the MAC supported my passion for music and encouraged me to continue playing in college. Music and art are a core part of my life, and it saddens me to think that future generations of kids in SW Portland might not have the same opportunities. The loss of this institution would remove access to safe, enriching summer and after-school programs for kids, and high-quality arts education for adults wanting to stay connected to their creativity and community. I understand that budget cuts are an unfortunate necessity, but I hope the Multnomah Arts Center can be spared. Sincerely, Margot Pullen	05/21/25 9:09 AM
905	Jackie Lerner	As an individual		Don't close Multnomah Art Center!	05/21/25 9:10 AM
906	Meytal Tarrab-Pollock	As an individual		Do not close Multnomah Art Center!!!! This city is really trying to do all it can to make it unbearable to live here. Invest in what's important first - your functioning residents who pay taxes, not people who gave up on life and chose drugs and refuse help. WHERE ARE YOUR PRIORITIES?! Invest in education, culture and community.	05/21/25 9:10 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
907	Chris Jackson	As an individual		Please do not vote to close the Multnomah Arts Center in Multnomah Village. This center is an important part of our community and is used by many. It contributes greatly to our community and offered many valuable classes and events.	05/21/25 9:10 AM
908	Annika Hopp	As an individual		As a 17 year old, I would like to urge you to not shut down the Multnomah Arts Center, as it fosters connection and a greater sense of community, especially in youth. When I was in eighth grade, right after the pandemic, joining the Multnomah Arts Center programs gave me a sense of community I would not have otherwise found, in school or otherwise, especially one that i felt accepted in as a queer neurodivergent person. I know this is not just the case for me, as the friends I have made have their own stories similar to mine. If you shut down the Multnomah Arts Center you rob a community the chance to discover new skills, make connections, and engage with the world in a creative way.	05/21/25 9:10 AM
909	yuliya phillips	As an individual		In regards to voting on the closure of MAC: I have been a resident of Hillsdale for the past 18 years and our daughter was born and have lived in this neighborhood for the past 17 years. As she was growing up we have made countless joyful walking trips to the MAC looking forward to so many summer camps and classes full of creativity, education and community fun that she and I took part in. This place has enriched our lives tremendously. To think that so many families and their children will be denied this neighborhood treasure, a true respite from stressful jobs and burden of daily chores and caretaking at the time when we need neighborhood connection and art more than ever is truly devastating.	05/21/25 9:11 AM
910	Lindsay & Nathan Kadish	As an individual		Dear Council Members- Lindsay & Nathan Kadish are submitting written testimony in response to agenda item 16, specifically amendment 45: closing the Community Music Center and Multnomah Arts Center. We have long been supporters of Councilor Novick and respect his views and ideas regarding our city, so when we heard the outcry from our community yesterday evening about MAC being an item on the budget chopping block, we were skeptical about sending in testimony against it since it was proposed by Steve Novick. In response, I read all 60 proposed amendments and was surprised by the pithy statement in support of closing a community center in a neighborhood that he doesn't represent (I cannot speak to the Community Music Center, but I suspect it is a similar institution). MAC may not be financially viable for the City to maintain in light of the budget, however, this is a discussion that must involve our community and not just be line 45 of 60. I do not envy the position you all are in, but cutting MAC and the Community Music Center is not the answer for today.	05/21/25 9:11 AM
911	Mark Kille	As an individual		I support Councilors Green and Dunphy's amendment to reclaim \$13 million from Prosper Portland's General Fund allocation and return it to the city's budget. This ensures resources go toward more critical and accountable programs and services: social housing, participatory budgeting, etc. Prosper Portland has a \$50 million reserve. Reserves are for rainy days. Everyone agrees this year's budget is experiencing a downpour. They should use their reserve. Thank you.	05/21/25 9:11 AM
912	Becky Dewey	As an individual		I am writing to urge the City not to cut the funding for the Community Music Center! It meant a lot to my daughter to be able to attend music classes there when she was small! She met her best friend there and has a deep love of music to this day at almost 12 years old! It would be a disservice to the public to discontinue the funding for such a wonderful community treasure that is CMC!	05/21/25 9:11 AM
913	Shara Anslow	As an individual		Respectfully, continue to fund the Multnomah Arts Center.	05/21/25 9:12 AM
914	Sarah Holbrook	As an individual		Regarding "Novick 4: Motion to Amend the Budget to Close the Community Music Center and Multnomah Arts Center to prioritize parks maintenance" The Community Music Center is a vital part of our community and should not be shut down. Twelve years ago I was thrilled to learn about this non-profit option to expose my preschooler to music education. Now that preschooler is 16, and we've walked or biked together to CMC nearly every week of every school year. CMC provides a valuable "third place" in our community. Music is all about connection, and the pandemic highlighted these strong ties. When CMC resumed in-person activities, starting with outdoor lessons at the nearby park, I felt an immense sense of gratitude for both the organization and the individual teachers. CMC is a place where you see each other's children grow up, where there is a touchstone of making music together regardless of what is going on in someone's personal live or the world. CMC has always felt like a place where it is truly there to serve community. It stretches every dollar to maximize its accessibility. The idea of shutting down CMC is disgraceful.	05/21/25 9:13 AM
915	Emily Volk	As an individual		Don't close the MAC, it is a staple of our community and arts.	05/21/25 9:13 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
916	Saren Snyder	As an individual		I am baffled that the city is even considering cutting funding for the Multnomah Arts Center and Community Music Center. The ratio of spending to value for the community cannot be overstated. I personally take ceramics and weaving classes at the MAC. These classes are vibrant, thriving communities which always have a wait list. They are often one of the few things I have to look forward to during the week. We live in an increasingly distressing time where expenses are rising, community is shrinking, and joy can be nearly impossible to find. The MAC and CMC vastly improve the lives of the county residents who participate. Nowhere else have I found the encouragement, support and joy that I do at MAC. The value of the center far outweighs the cost I pay to participate. Please, please, PLEASE do not take away the joy of community built at the Multnomah Arts Center!	05/21/25 9:14 AM
917	Brittany Brock	As an individual		Hello, and thank you for taking the time to listen to and review public comments on the proposed budget. Like many of my neighbors, I am deeply concerned about the continued overfunding of the Portland Police Bureau at the expense of more effective and community-centered safety initiatives. I urge you to prioritize alternative public safety strategies such as Portland Street Response, which are proven to de-escalate crises and support our most vulnerable residents with care and dignity. The PPB does not need additional funding—many in our community feel more threatened than protected by their presence. Instead, I strongly encourage investment in services that truly enhance the well-being of our city, including the arts, parks, mental health support, and housing stability. These are the foundations of a safe, thriving, and equitable Portland. Thank you for your commitment to listening to community voices.	05/21/25 9:15 AM
918	Judy Teufel	As an individual		Please do not close Multnomah Art Center. It has offered adults and children many ways to learn and grow confident in their abilities. There is no other center in Portland that is a match for this place. What are our city councilors thinking about?	05/21/25 9:18 AM
919	Monica Brooks	As an individual		I just dropped off my twins at Rieke Elementary and another mom asked if I had heard about the proposal to permanently close the Multnomah Arts Center. I was shocked that this pillar of our community could disappear within a matter of months. My children have attended classes here since they were two years old and I just signed them up for several more this summer. My husband and I both built successful careers on our passion for art, and we personally know the value of art education beginning at an early age. My intelligent, creative son struggles daily with ADHD and art is such an important outlet for him and for so many other children and adults. There is no other facility that comes anywhere close to offering the services, space, and equipment provided by the MAC. Closing this building would have adverse effects on hundreds of families who depend on it, not only for arts education but for the many other vital services housed within its walls. Vote NO on Amendment #45 to protect the future of the arts in one of the most creative cities in the world.	05/21/25 9:19 AM
920	William Crawford	As an individual		Please do not close the Community Music Center as it is essential to the health and wellbeing of constituents not just in District 3, but also all over the City. The CMC serves hundreds of families and households in over 50 zip codes with programs for seniors to toddlers. To cut this community center cuts at the heart of Portland's arts community and harms our most vulnerable. Why not first freeze the pay raises of higher management like Mr. Jordan himself? The CMC is simply too dear an institution to erase. Please vote no on the amendment to shut the CMC. Thank you. --William Crawford 97202	05/21/25 9:21 AM
921	Steve Cheseborough	As an individual		In a city where people keep getting run down by motorists, "public safety" means fewer cars and more and better sidewalks, bikeways and public transit -- not more cops. Buy more cameras to catch speeders and red-light violators. Don't expand freeways. Make streets safer. Don't increase the police budget. Eliminate "Prosper Portland." Thank you.	05/21/25 9:21 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
922	Brock Hulse	As an individual		I am submitting this testimony in support of the Multnomah Arts Center and in opposition of budget Amendment proposed by councilor Novick to close the Multnomah Arts Center. The MAC is a central part of the community in SW Portland. It helps to eliminate the financial barriers to arts education for those of all ages. When choosing whether to settle down in one of the suburban neighborhoods or in Portland proper, the MAC was one of the reasons we chose to live in SW Portland. Having taken classes there as an adult, and seeing the impact it can have on the children in the community, I consider it a staple in the community. With the size of the MACs community partners and influence it can have when encouraging people to move to and settle in Portland, I would expect it to be shown off as an aspect of the vibrant community, ultimately helping grow the tax base of Portland, rather than be something on the chopping block in an attempt to alleviate some of the budget's shortfalls.	05/21/25 9:23 AM
923	Charley Adams	As an individual		I'm writing today to voice strong opposition to Amendment 45, specifically because of the devastating impact it implies for Multnomah Arts Center. The community, education, artistic, and yes, economic benefits that MAC has provided for years and continues to provide are incalculable. The prospective closure of such a unique and valuable resource is short sighted and would have immediate negative impacts on the lives and livelihoods of the 15 non profits, dozens of staff, and countless community members who have come to rely on MAC to fulfill their missions and deepen their connections. I urge anyone with the opportunity to do so to vote no on Amendment 45! Sincerely, Charley Adams	05/21/25 9:25 AM
924	Nancy Scheps	As an individual		We can't lose the MAC. It is a pillar of our community providing services to so many children and adults in the area with much needed classes, support systems, and programming . My children benefited greatly from classes and the community we met through the MAC programs. I worry for our neighborhood if it were shut down.	05/21/25 9:26 AM
925	Jen Nichols	As an individual		Please don't close the MAC! It's such an important place for the SW Portland community. My wife and I just had our wedding vows there, and it was so lovely. I have friends who take classes there and whose kids play on the playground. The MAC is a cornerstone of the Multnomah Village community and it would be such a shame to close it.	05/21/25 9:28 AM
926	Tony Staser	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center. It has been a staple in the community for many years and provides opportunities to people to creatively express themselves. With limited art options in the city, removing this would only create more of a gap.	05/21/25 9:28 AM
927	Gabrielle	As an individual		Hi Councilors, I live in district #2 and have attended classes at Multnomah Arts Center for over a year. I'm currently enrolled in my fourth metalsmithing class and loving every minute! Without MAC, a class like this would be financially inaccessible to me. MAC offers excellent courses, with kind and knowledgeable teachers for people of all ages, fostering a multigenerational community and enriching the creative lives of Portlanders. It would be a huge mistake to close MAC, and I sincerely ask that you do not. Thank you very much! Gabrielle	05/21/25 9:28 AM
928	Gaye Schafer	As an individual		Do not close Multnomah Arts Center. Our children and myself have taken classes there for thirty plus years. They have not just learned ceramics, woodworking, tap dancing, and photography they have learned the value of community. It serves as a hub where kids and adults of all socioeconomic groups can learn together. The MAC provides a space for civic inclusion. Please do not close it.	05/21/25 9:28 AM
929	Askir Dahl	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is a fixture of the Multnomah Village community- it's one of the only public covered basketball courts in the area, their pottery programs bring families into the Village and their art shows give local artists the chance to grow their own businesses. Closing the MAC shows a disregard to the welfare of the community, to children and to local businesses.and entrepreneurs.	05/21/25 9:29 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
930	Susan Ferguson	As an individual		Please support Mayor Wilson’s budget. His priorities are the priorities of the majority of Portlanders. We need to keep all 3 balls in the air—ending unsheltered homelessness this year, supporting the hiring and deployment of more police officers (in conjunction with Portland Street Response) and supporting existing businesses (small, medium and large) and welcoming new businesses to Portland. Businesses pay property taxes, income taxes and a myriad of other taxes and fees. They employ Portlanders who, in turn, pay income taxes and property taxes and a myriad of other taxes and fees. Each business that leaves, each individual or family that leaves, takes those tax dollars with them. We must value our existing businesses and welcome new businesses if we are to dig ourselves out of the ever increasing hole we find ourselves in. Be part of the solution and approve Mayor Wilson’s budget! Thank you.	05/21/25 9:32 AM
931	Keith Jones	As an individual		This is regarding Amendment #45, closing the Multnomah Arts Center. I strongly oppose the closing. I am a mature person who moved to Portland 11 years ago because I needed to take care of family in the PNW. Knowing nobody in Portland, MAC was one of the few places I found where I was able to find real community and human contact. In this online age of disconnection and isolation, when there is a growing nationwide loneliness epidemic, we need more place like MAC, not fewer. MAC has been a huge benefit to my life by giving me an avenue to plug into the community around me. It will be a major loss if it goes away, and I know I am not alone in feeling this way. Thank you.	05/21/25 9:35 AM
932	Allison	As an individual		Please do not close the arts center!! The arts center gives joy, skills, and purpose to so many people. Please! We need the arts center, it is for all people to enjoy!!	05/21/25 9:35 AM
933	Ariana Collins	As an individual		As a Portland native, I have seen the demise of many a public space. Closing of the MAC (Multnomah Arts Center) would be a travesty. There are so few places left in our city that are accessible and affordable to the community and provide enrichment across socio-economic classes. Closing the MAC would be a sign the City Council values capitalism over community. I am particularly disappointed that MY city councilor, Steve Novick, who I voted for, is spearheading such a community crushing amendment. Portland is special b/c of it's culture and community, and we cannot continue to be a city people want to live and thrive in without community centers like the Multnomah Arts Center.	05/21/25 9:36 AM
934	Ms. Leigh J. Coffey	As an individual		Please vote NO on Amendment 45; don't close Multnomah Arts Center! The MAC offers contact and programs for people of all ages in our community: activities for children, a senior center, arts and fitness classes for people of varying abilities and other ways for neighbors to be with neighbors--please don't take this away from us!	05/21/25 9:36 AM
935	Stephanie Tauber	As an individual		Dear Council Members - I live in Multnomah Village and with two young children. The programming that Multnomah Arts Center is valuable enrichment for me and my kids. Please don't close MAC! - Sincerely, Stephanie Tauber	05/21/25 9:38 AM
936	Cheryl Schur	On behalf of an organization	Housecall Providers	Please don't close the MAC. It is an important part of the community serving many families but what is more important to me is that Housecall Providers uses the building quarterly to host our All-Staff Meetings. The MAC is centrally located for our 150+ employees to gather in person for these meetings.	05/21/25 9:38 AM
937	Cheryl Millard-Nutt	As an individual		You can’t close MAC- this place is a part of my mental and physical health. It’s a critical part of the community and beyond. This is an insane thought!!! STOP the craziness.	05/21/25 9:39 AM
938	EJ Marcus	As an individual		When my family moved to SW Portland after losing our home, we were shellshocked and vulnerable. The Multnomah Arts Center provided such solace for us. A place to play, resources to rely on, and a reassurance that there was genuine community care in our new neighborhood. These spaces are becoming fewer and fewer, and this one is so precious. Please please, let's not lose it!	05/21/25 9:40 AM
939	Miles Landin	As an individual		The Arts Center is Multnomah Village is a safe place for people of all ages to experience community and express creativity. Arts centers are important community building third spaces and our community doesn’t want to see it become an empty lot.	05/21/25 9:44 AM
940	Maruti Gupta Hyde	As an individual		Please do not close the MAC. It’s an institutional treasure in SW Portland, but serves the wider Portland area too. I have taken art classes there and my children take classes there every summer (lately it’s been harder because they get booked up so fast! We need more of them) that are not found anywhere else nearby like pottery making, oil painting, metal smithing etc.They look forward to their summer art classes there, but have also gotten music lessons in piano and guitar. We use the Multnomah Arts Center and need it to stay.	05/21/25 9:45 AM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
DARLENE URBAN GARRETT	As an individual		These are my professional opinions and should not be construed to represent the District 4 Coalition where I serve as the Executive Director. 1. Please pass the Zimmerman amendment to restore full funding to the District Coalitions and the neighborhood associations. 2. Please restore insurance costs for neighborhood associations 3. Is there a strategic revitalization plan that the public can engage with for our Central Core. Please consider utilizing the coalition to engage with development throughout downtown, the Pearl, and Old Town. The coalition is prepared to make an urgent call out to all economists and economic development professionals in District 4 to get a plan together so neighborhood associations in these areas can be strategically activated to serve in the economic revitalization of our core city. 4. Do not underestimate the power of your well educated population that lives in our neighborhoods. 5. The coalitions could be very helpful in finding shelter sites for the Mayor. His shelter program is a good strategy to move people from our streets. We must provide a data base system that provides the information necessary to prioritize how we serve our houseless. We need the by-name list across the county. Please utilize your truly genius experts on the City's Technology Advisory Committee to serve this need. These volunteers will serve you well. 6. Please fully fund the police. They are key to our recovery. 7. Please review the costs related to your upper management personnel, their salaries are out of line with salary standards for like positions across the country. 8. Please hire a well educated, well experienced City Manager through the International City Manager's Association (ICMA) and a nationwide search. Portland deserves the best. 9. Please review the overtime costs of our public safety employees. 10. Please prioritize the work necessitated through PBOT. There are many transportation plans that exist and not all are equally relevant. I will add, something must be done to provide Safe Routes to School in our southwest neighborhoods. 10. These are my professional personal thoughts and should not be construed as the opinions of the entire District Four Coalition.	05/21/25 9:45 AM
Emily	As an individual		Portlanders do not need to give any more money to the police. More money should be spent on things that ACTUALLY make our people safe, like parks and recreation, transit, mental health services, and keeping people housed. Do not increase the police budget. Invest in PEOPLE.	05/21/25 9:45 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
943	Jennifer Boyle	As an individual		I am dismayed by Novick's amendment #45 to shut down the MAC, which brings so much good into our community. It provides access to programs that benefit people of all ages: from young children exploring the arts for the first time, to adults trying to get a little "me time," and seniors who are kept engaged and active by its programs. Arts education and creativity are not a luxury line item. The arts are an integral part of a healthy, full life and they build a vibrant community. In a world where in-person social connection can be hard to find, access to arts education is increasingly scarce, and the loneliness epidemic continues to spread, MAC has been a hub for community members to gather, learn, and share their interests. MAC improves the lives of individuals and the community as a whole. The loss of MAC will leave a deep rift. And who benefits from shutting it down? What will happen to the empty MAC building and the land it occupies? Steve Novick doesn't even represent this side of town, so perhaps he doesn't care, or he has connections that will benefit from the closure of MAC. This is an unacceptable amendment, brought at the last minute, leaving the community less than a day to spread the word and weigh in on this proposal that will do real harm to our community. MAC not only provides classes and community connection, it also serves areas beyond Multnomah Village. Please reject this amendment. • MAC has fifteen partners throughout Portland, serving Parks' targeted communities at their sites including The Rosewood Initiative, Home Forward, and Y.O.U.th. • Houses several nonprofits including: Columbia Basin Basketry Guild, Neighborhood House, Oregon Children's Theatre, Print Arts Northwest, Community Policing, and Northwest Woodturners. •Provides discounted space rentals to nonprofits. •Makes arts education programming accessible by eliminating financial barriers to access, through the Parks Levy and MACA scholarships. •Received roughly \$1,000,000 in seismic and ADA facility upgrades from Parks in the past two years, surely not an indication of imminent building closure. •During summer months, MAC runs the Arts in the Parks program, providing free drop-in arts activities at parks (primarily in areas serving our targeted communities). Last year over 4,000 youth were provided activities through this program. •Produces Free First Friday Arts for All at MAC, which provides drop-in arts education experiences along with free food for the Portland community. •Staff works with Parks management and our partners to address long term facility needs.	05/21/25 9:46 AM
944	Isabel Dammann	As an individual		I took private subsidized violin lessons at the Community Music Center every week for 14 years, which allowed me to secure a scholarship to a music conservatory, and go on to perform professionally as a musician and to teach music students of my own. I owe my entire career and musical upbringing to the CMC. My family would not have been able to afford music lessons without the scholarships provided by CMC. Please keep Community Music Center alive so that students from low income families like myself can continue to learn music for generations to come.	05/21/25 9:46 AM
945	Marianne Dickinson	As an individual		Do not close Multnomah Art Center. It is a valuable resource for families, children, and adults of all ages.Closing MAC would be a huge loss for SW Portland and it would decrease our quality of life living in Portland.	05/21/25 9:47 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
946	Emily Nackley	As an individual		My name is Emily Nackley. And I'm asking you to vote no on amendment number 45. Please keep the Multnomah art center in Southwest Portland open for the foreseeable future. The Multnomah art center is a fixture in our community. We refer to things in the neighborhood in reference to where it is close to the Multnomah art center. My kids use it as a safe zone when they're in the neighborhood because they know they can use the bathroom or stop in to attend events. I even found a hack and I now stop in to buy new earring sets and necklaces made by people at the arts center. The pricing for the jewelry is so reasonable. It seems that every month, I'm attending an event there. This past year Jackson middle school hosted their Bernstein fundraiser for the arts at Multnomah art center. This fundraiser is held every year at the Multnomah arts center. Neighborhood house, that provides food and groceries to our community, holds their annual empty bowls fundraiser at the arts center in the spring. This past month, my 11-year-old son attended a children's play with about 10 of his classmates. This was an opportunity for them to see their classmate in the play. some of the parents met after the play for dinner across the street. My eldest son, who is 14 now, has taken piano classes at the Multnomah arts center. And I myself have taken piano classes at the arts center. I'm not sure we would've signed up for piano if it hadn't been something we could walk in our neighborhood. And when Moses Ross, who lead Multnomah village neighborhood association, died suddenly this past month of an acute asthma attack, we were able to hold his celebration of life at the Multnomah art center. The list goes on of ways that just our family alone uses the multnomah art center. When my mother-in-law moved to the neighborhood and didn't know anyone, she used the art center as a way to meet new people by joining bridge posted on Mondays and Fridays at the Multnomah art center. I have friends that are learning how to make jewelry at Multnomah arts center. And other friends who are signing up for tap dance classes there. There is always someone talking to me about what they're doing at the Multnomah arts center. I think that often decisions are made to close centers like Multnomah arts center because there's a thought that people can meet at other places. But the truth is, as I've seen committees at our elementary school and in our church, try to find locations for events. Often times it is very cost prohibitive to find locations where we can hold fundraisers or hold celebratory events. And there aren't that many locations for people to gather in small and large groups. It's hard to imagine that Multnomah village would feel as lively as it does without the Multnomah arts center. As visionaries and business owners and restaurateurs, consider Multnomah village as a possible business option. The closing of the multnomah art center would convey a sense of neglect in our shopping district. I've spent time in neighborhoods where a major community center is no longer open. Often times what comes with that is garbage.	05/21/25 9:49 AM
947	Miriam Weiser	As an individual		My name is Miriam Weiser. I live in Multnomah Village, and I am testifying today in opposition to Representative Steve Novick's budget proposal to close the Multnomah Arts Center. I am begging you all to please save the MAC. The Multnomah Arts Center is a cornerstone of our community. It provides classes for people of all ages, a safe place for teens to play hoops and stay off the streets, social connection for seniors, many of whom are on food stamps or have disabilities, and it employs artists and teachers from all over Portland. It directly supports our local businesses, as parents shop or eat in our restaurants while their kids are in class or summer camp there. I personally have taken classes in painting and ceramics there, and I sing in the Multnomah Chorus, a community choir with members of all ages and demographics which has been gathering at the MAC for going on 15 years. Closing the Multnomah Arts Center would be devastating to our community and to me personally. Please, vote no on this proposal. Save the MAC!	05/21/25 9:49 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
948	Kicki Masthem	As an individual		Don't close MAC!!! If you'd like to live, thrive and benefit from a community look no further than MAC. Not only can you find enriching programs there, but also connect with other members of the community that may come from different backgrounds, age groups and income brackets. As an active artist living in Multnomah and a teacher at MAC for 16 years I can attest to having made so many friendships. I also tried to learn play the cello and took various visual art classes there myself. Always learning, always expanding - meeting seniors in the hallway, participating in art openings, student art shows and feeling at home at MAC. No- please do not close Multnomah Arts Center - we need the place to connect!! ps. I am now a retired art teacher, living on disability in SW WA and the memories of being there still makes me grateful. I miss it so.	05/21/25 9:49 AM
949	Teri Kohnstamm	As an individual		This is in regards to Amendment #45. I live in and own a home in SW Portland and frequent the Multnomah Arts Center with my family. This building and the services it offers are vital to our community and I am in strong opposition to it being closed. Please don't close MAC. There are so many young families in this neighborhood that use this facility and it would be devastating to have it close and waste away. There is so much history with this building.	05/21/25 9:49 AM
950	Ruth Adkins	As an individual		Closing the Multnomah Arts Center after investing over \$1million in seismic and other upgrades makes no sense. This center is the heart of our neighborhood and provides so many vital services, enrichment opportunities, and partnerships. Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center. Thank you for your hard work to address the city's budget challenges.	05/21/25 9:51 AM
951		As an individual		Keep the Multnomah Arts Center open! If we truly want "vibrant communities" the council cannot sacrifice this pillar of education, entrepreneurship, and community service.	05/21/25 9:52 AM
952	Greg Manning	As an individual		Dear City Councilors, Please vote no on budget amendment #45 and keep SW Portland's Multnomah Arts Center open as a vibrant and important resource for Portland's families and seniors. The Center's activities have been a focal point for my family through our kids' school years and into adulthood, and it provides an important historic anchor for the neighborhood and for SW Portland. Thank you for your consideration.	05/21/25 9:52 AM
953	Jack f Hollis	As an individual		The MAC is a corner-stone of Multnomah, a significant draw for our local businesses, and a vibrant social, musical, and arts hub for the Portland community. Closing this institution would be a devastating blow to what makes Portland the special place it is.	05/21/25 9:53 AM
954	Caelan Murray	As an individual		Recently I have been taking metal smithing classes at the MAC. These classes aren't only a hobby but also a community for me. Going to class and connecting with other artists there and at the art center in general is a huge part of my happiness. As someone with a lot of anxiety around driving it is incredibly helpful that this arts center is actually in my community and walkable. Closing the multnomah arts center would not only be devastating to me but to the whole community. I have also been attending classes at the MAC off and on since I was young, I took tap dancing and trumpet lessons there as a child and teen. These classes were super important to me then and also formative in my appreciation of art and its importance in communities. There are so many who rely on the classes there and the MAC is a huge source of joy in our community. Please don't close the multnomah arts center!	05/21/25 9:53 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
955	Sara Salazar	As an individual		I am writing to urge you not to close the Multnomah Arts Center. This center is a vital part of our community and an irreplaceable resource for our children. In an era when public schools are increasingly unable to provide robust arts education, the Multnomah Arts Center fills that critical gap—offering not just classes, but a sense of belonging, creativity, and healing. My children have been deeply affected by the possibility of its closure. They've lost sleep worrying about what it would mean to lose a place where they feel safe, inspired, and connected. Like many in their generation, they've already missed out on so much—growing up during a pandemic, isolated from experiences that are essential for emotional and social development. Please don't take away another essential part of their lives. The Multnomah Arts Center builds community in a way few institutions can. It's not just a building; it's a lifeline for children, families, and artists. There is no replacement for what it offers. I hope you will consider the lasting impact your decision will have on this young generation—and choose to invest in their futures by keeping the Multnomah Arts Center open. Sara Salazar	05/21/25 9:54 AM
956	Jacob Jackson	As an individual		Closing of the Multnomah Arts Center is now a proposed item on the budget. This is unacceptable. These types of facilities (arts centers, community centers, etc) throughout the city provide the public service needed to grow our city in the years to come. They help foster growth in kids and build community bonds. Do not just be reactionary with the problems in our city. Be proactive. Keeping community centers open is a proactive, longer term solution to solving problems in our city, and if it is closed, that will be remembered when it comes time to vote again.	05/21/25 9:55 AM
957	Chelsea Burton	As an individual		We are a family who lives in SW Portland near the Multnomah Arts Center. We have attended plays at the MAC, attended classes at the MAC, and have seen the MAC show up for so many community events. Closing the MAC would be a devastating blow for SW Portland.	05/21/25 9:57 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
958	Laura Sciortino	As an individual		It has come to my attention that Councilor Steve Novick submitted an amendment (#45) to the City's budget, to PERMANENTLY close the Multnomah Arts Center as of September 1, 2025. NOTHING about this makes any sense to me. Do not close the MAC. If you do, you will be rightfully reviled by this entire quadrant, and it is not just this quadrant of the city that uses this facility. People come from far and wide to benefit from this outstanding resource. This is a beloved, beautiful, thriving center that serves the entire Portland community. This is hands-down one of the best parts of all of Portland Parks. This is a TERRIBLE idea. The list of services that the MAC offers, in addition to an extensive arts program for children and adults include: Has fifteen partners throughout Portland, serving Parks' targeted communities at their sites including The Rosewood Initiative, Home Forward, and Y.O.U.th. Houses several nonprofits including: Columbia Basin Basketry Guild, Neighborhood House, Oregon Children's Theatre, Print Arts Northwest, Community Policing, and Northwest Woodturners. Provides discounted space rentals to nonprofits. Makes arts education programming accessible by eliminating financial barriers to access, through the Parks Levy and MACA scholarships. Received roughly \$1,000,000 in seismic and ADA facility upgrades from Parks in the past two years, surely not an indication of imminent building closure. During summer months, MAC runs the Arts in the Parks program, providing free drop-in arts activities at parks (primarily in areas serving our targeted communities). Last year over 4,000 youth were provided activities through this program. Produces Free First Friday Arts for All at MAC, which provides drop-in arts education experiences along with free food for the Portland community. Staff works with Parks management and our partners to address long term facility needs. P.S. If you need to reduce the budget for the MAC, so be it, but do NOT shut down the MAC.	05/21/25 9:58 AM
959	Rebecca Boysen	As an individual		Hello, as a resident of District 4, I'd like to record my opposition to Amendment #45 to the city budget today, which would permanently close the Multnomah Arts Center. The MAC is an invaluable resource that opens up art education to everyone, regardless of economic status. It not only enriches people's lives but creates community; it gives everyone a chance to engage and be creative. It was one of the first places I found when looking for art classes on a budget in the city. They also have a wide reach, people who might not even know the MAC by name have come out to their great Arts in the Parks events. It's a thoroughly worthwhile part of the city and I'd be truly crushed to hear it was wiped out in one budgetary amendment. Please vote no on Amendment #45 and keep the MAC's doors open. Thank you.	05/21/25 9:59 AM
960	Peggy seaman	As an individual		I live in the area near the Multnomah arts center and have retail shop in the village. I can't tell you how many times a week I hear from people that use the art center in our area and from all over the city! The caliber of instructors is always great and their following is huge. It makes me so proud to know that the center is there and serves so many of our community and throughout the city. You can't cut funding !! It is a vibrant and crucial part of our neighborhood and community. We have to do a better job of managing our treasured facilities.	05/21/25 10:00 AM
961	Nicollette Sanchez	As an individual		I am writing to express the importance of the Community Music Center and what it means to me as a community member. This music center has helped me find an amazing community of POC and LGBTQIA people. I am in the Latinx choir and we have our choir practice at the music center every week. This community has supported me and uplifted me when I was struggling. This has been a safe and comforting place for me. My community choir would be at risk if the Community Music Center is taken away. This is a resource I rely on weekly. This center also serves hundreds of families in over 50 zip codes. This community center helps many underserved communities by making classes affordable, provides alternative for after school programs, and supports programs like the Latinx Choral Project. Please do not close down the Community Music Center.	05/21/25 10:00 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
962	Rachel Roberts	As an individual		I am writing in support of MOST OF the Mayor's proposed budget for FY 2025-26. I support an increase in funding for: Portland Police Bureau Portland Street Response I support continued funding for: Filling potholes Removing graffiti and derelict RVs / vehicles I am concerned about reduction in funding for: Park maintenance, particularly cleaning bathrooms and removing trash I support cuts for: Staffing where it makes sense, like bloated Communications staffing numbers Management-heavy departments Administrative staffing bloat I would support Councilor Zimmerman and/or Councilor Green's proposals to fund parks maintenance. I do NOT support those councilors who want to cut the police budget to do this, nor do I support Council having this kind of control over a bureau, a power we voted to remove in our new form of government.	05/21/25 10:01 AM
963	Pat Shuff	As an individual		Closing the Multnomah Arts center would be detrimental to the community. The arts center is a gathering place for the community and permanently closing it would break down access to senior services, art classes, and community events. We need a stronger sense of community, not another empty building in the middle of a neighborhood	05/21/25 10:02 AM
964	david reines	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center. It is a vibrant community center and a senior center as well. Closing it will change the character of our neighborhood for the worse. Please make better choices with the budget cuts. Shift the surplus the metro taxes are bringing in to keep the MAC open. Stop handing out tents. Make a choice that does not ruin what is a good neighborhood.	05/21/25 10:02 AM
965	John Wallace	As an individual		I just learned of Steve Novick's proposal to close the Multnomah Arts Center (MAC) as part of today's budget decision meeting. Please do not close the MAC! It is an extremely important institution for my family and for the SW Portland community at large. Every day the building is full of students across all ages and background taking classes across a wide variety of enriching activities; there is no substitute for this. I pay the highest income tax rate in the country, my property taxes are nearly \$20,000 dollars a year, and the streets in my neighborhood are unpaved and the police did nothing when my wife and children were attacked by a homeless person because according to them it "happens all the time". Frankly, other than water/sewer, the parks and arts centers are the last service that the city of Portland actually provides well to voters. Please do not take them away (and the polling of voters agrees).	05/21/25 10:03 AM
966	Zach garcia	As an individual		Please don't close the MAC, many Portlanders and Portland area residents use the MAC to foster their creative sides and grow communities. In doing so they expand the beauty and culture of this city. By taking away the MAC and similar institutions you do great harm to the city of Portland and its people. The MAC and CMC are draws to Portland for many and bring them in from surrounding communities and even incentivize people to move to Portland. Please don't close these institutions.	05/21/25 10:05 AM
967	Elayna Caron	As an individual		The MAC has been a foundational part of who I have become today, as an artist, as a healer, as a person. I spent my life coming here and taking classes, and now as an adult my mother in her old age has been finding a new life taking classes there. It would be an absolute detriment to the community to take this down.	05/21/25 10:05 AM
968	Tish (Lois A.) Johnson	As an individual		Keep MAC open!	05/21/25 10:07 AM
969	Kiana Howell	As an individual		I frequently take the train into Portland and want to share the importance to me of the Multnomah Arts Center and places like it. Arts centers are extremely important for the morale of community, especially in these hard times. Art is a major reason to keep living and closing the center would not create meaningful benefits.	05/21/25 10:10 AM
970	Sarah Instenes	As an individual		PLEASE DO NOT CLOSE THE MULTNOMAH ARTS CENTER!!!!!!!! It is a vital and beloved part of our community. A giant empty building would also be a magnet for crime.	05/21/25 10:10 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
971	Margaret Sherraden	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center. It is one of the relatively few community services in SW. MAC provides access to many families who cannot afford fancy private lessons and music and arts experiences, especially in this era of diminished arts curriculum on the schools.	05/21/25 10:11 AM
972	Patricia L Oldham	As an individual		Once again the arts and music are on the chopping block. It's shameful that our City would even think about providing people with places to use their bodies at the expense of places to exercise their creative abilities. Do not close either the MAC or the CMC.	05/21/25 10:12 AM
973	Catherine Sherraden	As an individual		Please do not close the MAC. My family relies on the MAC for high quality arts programming, and it is what makes the Multnomah Village area a vibrant place. I vote for Portland Parks funding BECAUSE our city supports neighborhood institutions like the MAC. Multiple members of my family attend classes at the MAC--AND WE CAN (AND DO) WALK TO THE MAC EVERY TIME. There is economic diversity across SW Portland, and the MAC serves us all. DO NOT CLOSE THE MAC	05/21/25 10:12 AM
974	Pinn Crawford	As an individual		Amendment #45 is a slap in the face of SE Portlanders! DON'T CUT CMC!!! As a resident of District 3, I was appalled to learn that the CMC (Community Music Center) is being considered for any cuts at all. The idea that you would shutter this hallowed institution while allowing Michael Jordan to take yet another undeserved raise is disgusting and runs counter to everything this city and this district, in particular, stand for. I understand that money is tight! We have had money cut from our schools. Summer school for my autistic kiddo is cancelled this year due to lack of funding. Chances are there will be no special education spending in the future. We are told to use the resources of our community to fill in these gaps. We have always used Portland Parks in all its forms to round out our children's education and well-being. From the swings of Piccolo Park to the deep end of Mount Scott pool. But not all kids want to swim, play soccer, baseball, or any sport. Nurturing musicians and artists is as important to our City Vibrancy as nurturing strikers and pitchers. The CMC is a critical part of the non-sport services that are (and should) be offered to Portlanders. From birth, both of my children attended music lessons at the CMC. Both were profoundly impacted by these lessons. One is now a talented musician while the other is pursuing musical theater. They, and so many, many other kids of all ages and backgrounds, got their starts at CMC. Right now, my husband is juggling the daunting tasks of guiding his elderly mother through the last phases of life while our kids are growing up quickly around us. Being able to take one evening a week to go and sing his heart out at the CMC adult singing group balances him and allows him to continue to bring superhuman levels of love and care to our whole family. CMC helps keep our family happy and well. All Portlanders are welcome at CMC, and programming is offered for all ages and all income levels. Closing this facility would leave a huge hole in our community. The sight of the fire tower, as we crest the hill at 33rd on Francis, has always brought joy to our family. It has always meant the best of this city to me; reusing and saving a beautiful building to bring an intangible, yet critical service to all Portlanders, not just those of great means. It represents all that is best about public services and all that I want my kids to think of when I talk of the City. CMC is the epitome of all that is great about Parks. CMC is a physical and emotional gem of Southeast Portland. Please do not allow short-term budget crises (not created by the CMC) to allow this treasure of a building and institution to be taken away from us.	05/21/25 10:13 AM
975		As an individual		DO NOT CLOSE THE MULTNOMAH ARTS CENTER.	05/21/25 10:13 AM
976	Eren Kalfaoglu	As an individual		It is a critical infrastructure well used by the community of all age groups. Please keep the Multnomah Arts Center open! The value the community gets out of the arts center is multiplicative compared to the dollars invested. Its programs are immensely valuable and impactful - giving youths and adults access to the arts.	05/21/25 10:14 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
977	Jennifer Merkel	As an individual		Don't close the Multnomah Arts Center! I am connected to the SW Portland Community Band, a non-profit organization that supports the Ida B Wells High School Band, and my 3 children all played in PPS bands. We've attended many classes and performances there over the past 20 years. My mom lives across from the MAC because she can walk to its classes and programs. I strongly urge you to not close MAC. The community band are 50+ members from the local community who perform twice a year at the Multnomah Arts Center. We fill the main auditorium to CAPACITY and proceeds from concerts support new musical instruments and equipment for the Wells High School band program. If MAC closes it will negatively impact the students in the band program at Wells High School, and severely hurt local SW families whose children rely on MAC camps and classes. Dial something back if you have to, but please...Don't close MAC!	05/21/25 10:14 AM
978	Kimberly Stafford	As an individual		DON'T CLOSE MAC! The Multnomah Arts Center is an integral part of the creative vibrancy of Portland. I have taken guitar classes there, and as a local jeweler, i have referred many clients interested in learning this trade, to take the incredible jewelry classes there. Arts education in our public high schools has already been slashed to the bare minimum and we need to have affordable educational programming in the arts available to our community members.	05/21/25 10:15 AM
979	C.N.E. Corbin	As an individual		Dear City Council, I am writing to express my concerns on the Proposed City Budget for FY 2025-26. I am a Portland resident, community member, political ecologist, and environmental justice scholar. I study the relationships between race, class, housing, and access to green space, with a specific focus on park use and access. I also served on the City of Oakland Park and Recreation Advisory Commission from 2015-2020 and was Chair from 2019-2020. I am a faculty member at the Toulon School at Portland State University and the current Chair of the Portland Parks & Recreation Board. I am writing you as a researcher and from personal experience. Based on the Mayor's proposed budget, in confluence with the Governor's support of suspending System Development Charges (SDC) fees with an estimated \$26.7 million loss for Parks over three years, and a growing \$600+ million deferred maintenance backlog. Also, the Park Levy is not a guaranteed source of revenue and if renewed will not close the funding gap. These fiscal policy decisions will actively defund Portland's highly renowned and recognized parks and recreation system. The proposed budget introduces alarming cuts to staff and maintenance, which include: the elimination of one whole maintenance crew, reduction in cleaning and trash removal, reduction in bathroom cleaning, reduction in turf renovations, and reduction in landscaping and plant care. This will irreparably change how communities experience Portland's parks and natural areas. When the proposed budget takes effect, Portlanders will start to avoid sections of their parks or avoid their parks altogether as trash collects, bathrooms become unusable, and their favorite green spaces become unsafe places to play, recreate, and commune. Equity will be severely compromised for our most vulnerable community members, who will acutely experience the loss of access to healthy green environments and the strides made by the Healthy Parks Healthy Portland Initiative. Warning signs, barriers, and fences will be erected to caution communities of the looming dangers. Volunteers will not have the capacity or the expertise to stave off the environmental degradation. Businesses within the vicinity of parks will see a reduction in foot traffic, customers will become scarce, and businesses will suffer financial losses. Park philanthropy will dwindle as donors start to reduce support. Philanthropic partnerships will be strained as concerns are raised that their donations will not be stewarded or matched by City efforts. Eventually, park funders will refuse to invest in a losing cause. Citywide tree management and care will become disastrous and life-threatening immediately and over time. We will see more damaged property, lag times in clearing and cleanup of felled trees after severe weather events. Expect an increase in the heat	05/21/25 10:16 AM
980	David Tauber	As an individual		Sweet community stage, and underused auditorium. With a small amount of support, this venue could be more than profitable, just serving the community!	05/21/25 10:17 AM
981	Margo Latka	As an individual		Closing the Multnomah Arts Center would be devastating for this community.	05/21/25 10:17 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
982	Diane Gibbs	On behalf of an organization	Community Music Center	Dear Portland City Council, I am writing to express my strong opposition to amendment #45, which proposes cutting funding for the Community Music Center (CMC). I urge you to vote NO on this amendment and consider the invaluable contributions the CMC has made to the community and to countless individuals, including myself. My personal journey with music began at the tender age of 4 at the CMC. The education and experiences I gained there have profoundly shaped my life, providing me with opportunities I would never have had otherwise. The CMC was not just a place for music lessons; it was a foundation for not only my growth, both as a musician and as a person but hundreds and hundreds of others. One of the most transformative experiences I had as a result of the CMC was playing and traveling with the Portland Youth Philharmonic. This opportunity allowed me to hone my skills, perform in prestigious venues, and collaborate with talented peers. The dedication and discipline required to be part of such an ensemble instilled in me a strong work ethic and a sense of responsibility that has stayed with me throughout my life. In high school, I participated in swing choirs, where I developed my vocal abilities and learned the importance of teamwork and synchronization - again all as a result of solfege classes at the CMC. The joy of performing with a group, creating harmonies, and entertaining audiences was an experience that enriched my high school years and built lasting memories. My musical journey continued as I joined the choir and played with the Walla Walla Symphony. These experiences further broadened my horizons, connecting me with a diverse group of musicians and exposing me to a wide range of musical genres and styles. The skills and knowledge I acquired at the CMC laid the groundwork for these accomplishments, enabling me to pursue my passion for music at a higher level. However, the CMC's impact extends beyond music education. It is a place where students learn valuable life skills such as structure, organization, and time management. The discipline required to practice and master an instrument translates to other areas of life, helping students excel academically and professionally. The friendships formed at the CMC are often lifelong, providing a sense of community and belonging that is essential for personal development. Cutting funding for the CMC would be a disservice to the many students who rely on it for their musical education and personal growth. It would deprive future generations of the opportunities and experiences that have been so pivotal in shaping the lives of countless individuals, including myself. The CMC is not just a music center; it is a cornerstone of our community that fosters creativity, discipline, and camaraderie. It supports so many diverse programs for all ages, races and interests. They work so hard to ensure that classes are affordable so ALL can grow and learn, providing dozens of free drop-in concerts a year! I implore you to consider the long-term consequences of this amendment and to recognize the immense value the CMC brings to our	05/21/25 10:18 AM
983	Leo George Franz	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center offers the most diverse array of arts opportunities that I have seen from one program in any city: Painting, drawing, theater, weaving and textiles, print making, ceramics, sculpture, music in all forms, performance training and performances, galleries, and specialty classes; these are available from pre-school to adult. Compared to most other venues the cost at MAC are more affordable. I have been to arts conferences in Chicago, New York, Boston. Phoenix, Pittsburg and Atlanta; and exposed to what is provided in those cities. MAC stands out as a marvelous resource.	05/21/25 10:18 AM
984	Mia Ellers	As an individual		Keep our community centers open! Our communities are struggling with drugs prevalent. Community centers provide health for our community of all income abilities. It is a place where we come together! CMC offers music lessons, choirs and orchestra and my kids have attended since preschool. Now one is in college,. I cannot think of a better quality program in music than CMC. We have been driving from SW to SE weekly to CMC. MAC is just in our neighborhood, they have a variety of arts programs from basket weaving to drama, High quality programs! Keep them open! They keep our community healthy!!	05/21/25 10:19 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
985	Kallan Dana	As an individual		To whom it may concern, I am a playwright who grew up in Multnomah Village. My work has been written about and reviewed in The New York Times, New York Magazine, and The New Yorker, among other publications. I grew up taking classes at Multnomah Arts Center—it was a central part of my upbringing and is deeply important to me, to my family, friends, to the Multnomah Village neighborhood, and to Portland’s artistic and community life at large. I am devastated to hear that Multnomah Arts Center is in danger of closing. The loss of Multnomah Arts Center would have severe consequences to the community—it is a space for education and artistic practice that we desperately need in Southwest Portland. If it had not existed when I was a child, I would not have grown up to be the artist I am today. In addition, Multnomah Arts Center provided a refuge during difficult times in my childhood and adolescence. Its facilities and classes are profoundly useful and the community will suffer without them. Best, Kallan Dana 503-502-9653 kallanrdana@gmail.com	05/21/25 10:19 AM
986	Jim Fitzpatrick	As an individual		Please do not cut Propser Portland funding or shut down the Multnomah Arts Center. These are critical pieces of our community and ability for Portland to revive our downtown scene. Both of these proposed cuts are short sighted and not what I voted for in District 4 councilors.	05/21/25 10:21 AM
987	Rose	As an individual		I am writing re: Mr. Novick's proposal to PERMANENTLY shutter Multnomah Arts Center and the Community Music Center for a ONE-TIME SAVINGS of under \$2 million to shore up the maintenance budget. This move would be short-sighted and damaging to our community. I understand hard choices need to be made; this is not the way to do it. MAC has served the Portland community for decades as one of few sites for accessible, high quality arts education and recreation in the city. The permanent loss to the community in terms of arts access, and a community hub for seniors, children and nonprofits, should MAC close, is incalculable. Furthermore, Parks recently funded facilities upgrades in the neighborhood of \$1 million at MAC; scrapping that investment to free up a similar amount is wasteful and irresponsible. The arts are not "extra"; this is where community happens for Portlanders of all ages and income levels, and we will not stand by while you gut this programming for a one-time savings.	05/21/25 10:22 AM
988	Susan Barnes	As an individual		The MAC center and the Community Music Center have changed my life. Of course there have been the classes (pastels, oil painting, knitting, guitar, piano, dance) and concerts for my family, but in a more fundamental way, they have given me a sense of community, connection and face to face relationships in a time where we are losing these essential threads that nurture us. We live in a time when it is easy to become overwhelmed, by the increasing digitalization of our world, the isolation that that entails, as well as the dismantling of institutions on the federal level. I ask that these two centers for the arts are preserved, because it is through community and spirit that we will be sustained. Their value reaches far beyond a simple dollar figure, to enrich and sustain us all in hard times. The MAC center is a community hub, from housing non profits, to Free First Friday Arts for All to affordable arts education. We need the arts, we need community, we need common ground, especially now.	05/21/25 10:22 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
989	Taylor Noah	As an individual		Multnomah Art Center is too important to cut it's budget. There are so few ways in this city to get together with a community and this place is one of those few vestiges. It brings people together, building our community, and brings joy to so many people. It's the only place for me so far that I've found that actually has me feeling connected to other people in my community. I've been lucky to be able to take classes there and meet other people who have similar interests and we get to learn and share what we are working on together. I can't really name another place where I've had this amazing experience. I can't tell you enough how important the Multnomah Arts Center is to me and the community. Please do not de-fund it. There are so few places in Portland that offer a place to build community as richly as this does.	05/21/25 10:24 AM
990	Heidi McNamee	As an individual		I live in District 3 and I care about the MAC (Multnomah Arts Center). Please don't shutter this facility. It may not be located in my district, but it serves the whole city! They have programs for kids, for seniors and for everyone in between. They house a variety of non-profits and support access to arts education for those with financial barriers. They made it through COVID and the city has invested in upgrading their facilities. MAC programming and support for the whole community runs both wide and deep. It's not just Multnomah Village that would suffer if this facility closes; it's all of us! On a personal note, my kids and I have taken classes at the MAC (those kids are now adults) and I have attended many events in their rentable space. My woodworking guild regularly partners with the MAC on projects and programming. I find them to be efficient stewards of community resources.	05/21/25 10:25 AM
991	Ian Whitlock	As an individual		I strongly oppose the idea of closing the Multnomah Arts Center. I have lived in the neighborhood for over 30 years, and throughout this time I (and my children) have been privileged to take classes at MAC and enjoy many gallery exhibitions and other community programs. Please do not kill this vibrant and successful institution. MAC needs support, not closure. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.	05/21/25 10:28 AM
992	Heather Barnwell	As an individual		Please do not calls the MAC! This is a vibrant community hub where people of all ages and socioeconomic backgrounds come to express themselves through art. Scholarships allow access and the variety of classes offer an incredible breadth of artistic exploration. Art is essential in keeping our communities healthy, happy, dynamic and strong. I have been attending MAC on and off for 39 years (starting with ceramics at age 5) and I hope with all my heart that I can commune, learn and give back to MAC for another 40 or more. Please keep MAC open!	05/21/25 10:28 AM
993	ANGELINA VASILE	As an individual		I am pleased that our new mayor has pledged a commitment to housing folks and making our cities safer. However, as someone who has worked in homeless services in both San Francisco and Portland, since 1999, I'm dismayed that so much attention and money is being put towards shelters instead of the ACTUAL housing and services that get people off the streets and into community care as needed. Shelters are a bandaid, and for many people, especially women, femmes and trans people they are unsafe and not even an option. Let's put money where the data AND the stories of lived experience point to actually being effective!! Take half of the 80 million dollars and put it towards rent assistance, eviction prevention, substance use services and mental health services and we may see healthier results. I look to the cities Denver, Colorado and Milwaukie, Wisconsin for guidance. Why isn't the city of Portland, Oregon?	05/21/25 10:28 AM
994	Kathleen Brenneman	As an individual		What an embarrassment to know that Steve Novick lived for years in the home I now own which is blocks away from the Multnomah Arts Center. To be this close and to know the importance and value it brings to the community on a daily basis and to be willing to shut it down. Here's a text thread of 8 (EIGHT) parents in the neighborhood all of which use the facilities in one capacity or another.	05/21/25 10:29 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
995	Lauren Fairshter	As an individual		I am a constituent in District 2. I am writing to share my perspective in regard to the proposed changes to Prosper Portland's budget and funding brought forward by Councilors Green and Dunphy. This amendment would severely impact Prosper Portland's capacity to deliver the services that our communities urgently need right now. Portland lives and dies by our small businesses and is part of what makes this city so great. They provide community, services, respite and so much more and Prosper Portland fills the gap to make business ownership more equitable for all. Whether it's helping businesses repair windows, providing mentorship or helping fill a funding gap so our small businesses that are already operating on razor thin margins and just got hit hard with Trump tariffs can survive and thrive. At a time when federal funding is being slashed for so many services and nonprofits, it is imperative that we stand by our community and provide what support we can. Prosper Portland allows our city to have such a diverse and welcoming business community that supports one another and supports Portlanders ourselves. We wouldn't be Portland without Prosper Portland. I am also truly shocked that Councilor Green would propose this change while his district is in the middle of a giant revitalization effort of the Broadway corridor by Prosper Portland. I used to live in the Pearl and that project will fundamentally change that area of Portland for the better. The Pearl has seen drastic changes in the last 5 years and businesses and diverse and younger populations are leaving in droves. The Pearl is a shell of its former glory and this is a stab in the back to the efforts to revive that area. In addition, I currently live in the Boise neighborhood near one of the city's bright stars, Mississippi Ave, and have gotten to know many business owners here. This would absolutely gut businesses in this neighborhood, in an already historically gentrified and marginalized area of Portland. Moving forward with slashing the budget of Prosper Portland would be appallingly awful and cause many of these businesses to close. I urge you to retain Prosper Portland's funding through a General Fund allocation so that they can continue to do this valuable work that benefits our business community. Ensuring that these programs are funded on an ongoing basis, and not quietly dismantled via a short-term, unsustainable political maneuver, is paramount to delivering on our city's inclusive economic development goals.	05/21/25 10:29 AM
996	Shannon Bartow	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center as part of the budget considerations. It is a priceless and irreplaceable cultural asset for Portland. It is also a cornerstone of the Multnomah Village and surrounding community.	05/21/25 10:30 AM
997	Shawna Rose Baskin	As an individual		My name is Shawna Baskin. I live in multnomah village and I want to address the proposal by Steve Novick to close the Mutnomah Arts center. This is personal. My whole family takes classes there — painting, ceramics, music. We've grown as artists and as people. I've bought beautiful works from local artists. Closing the Multnomah Arts Center isn't just a budget line—it's erasing a place where community thrives. Let's be honest—Portland already struggles to adequately fund the arts. Slashing it further sends the wrong message about who we are and what we value as a city. If we close this center, we're raising a generation of kids who may never get to try a paintbrush, step on stage, or play an instrument. We are cutting off access to imagination, confidence, and culture—things every child deserves. Ask yourself what is going to fill that gap in a child's upbringing? And it's not just about the kids. The Multnomah Arts Center is a vital space for adults and older adults. For many, it's a lifeline. At a time when mental health challenges are rising, why would we remove such a therapeutic outlet? We know tough decisions need to be made. But cutting from Parks and Rec—especially a cornerstone like the Multnomah Arts Center—is not the answer. Let's find other places in the budget to trim. Let's not balance the books at the expense of art, wellness, and community. Please, keep the Multnomah Arts Center open. It matters more than you know.	05/21/25 10:30 AM
998	Carrie Carlson	As an individual		Don't close the Multnomah community center! It's a vital community resource and we love it! Our kids take classes there, I take classes there. Please don't close it!	05/21/25 10:30 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
999	Edie	As an individual		Closure of Multnomah arts center. This facility is of historical value and provides vital services to seniors and ongoing education to the community. It is a treasured venue in my neighborhood. There are no other spaces quite like it for public and private events.	05/21/25 10:32 AM
1000	Laif Kvarsten	As an individual		I am writing to oppose the closure of the Multnomah Arts Center. As a lifelong Portlander who grew up in SW Portland and is now in college, I have experienced firsthand the value of the MAC as a place where community members can access a plethora of low cost arts programs. It is a place where kids can take part in fun and valuable programs right in their own neighborhood. If the goal of this budget really is making Portland a safer place, beginning with the kids and giving them a strong foundation, social connections, and activities they enjoy will do so much more to keep them from committing crimes further down the line than a couple extra police officers. Portland is a place that both supports and depends on the arts. Many of my peers have not just taken classes at MAC as kids, but have gone on to work there. This community connection will be completely lost if the MAC is shuttered. If programs must be reduced, that is one thing. But shutting down the building completely is essentially a vote against ever opening it back up again, because the city's budget issues aren't going to get better anytime soon. Services like the MAC are why families continue to choose S.W. Portland over westside suburbs. We need to preserve it.	05/21/25 10:34 AM
1001	Susan	As an individual		Art is crucial to a community. MAC is the fiber to Multnomah Village. It helps mental health and recovery. It keeps people grounded. Everyone needs a hobby. Without an outlet that enriches and stimulates, you are prone to boredom. A bored society isn't good for humanity. It becomes prone to vandalism, graffiti, theft, and other crimes. Portland desperately needs to keep the good stuff going. Art creates hope and love of community. I don't see anything good about closing MAC. Please keep it open.	05/21/25 10:34 AM
1002	Amiel Chanowitz	As an individual		The MAC is a pivotal part of our community and helps bring so many people together. In such difficult times filled with fear and isolation, it's important to support safe spaces for us to gather and connect with one another	05/21/25 10:34 AM
1003	Susan Elisabeth Reese	As an individual		I am extremely concerned and disappointed with the possibility that the Multnomah Arts Center may be closed to ensure more money goes to public parks. The Multnomah Arts Center is a vibrant, all-inclusive, multigenerational resource for Portland. From children to senior citizens, the MAC is an integral part of SW Portland. In an "post-covid" era in which we have all recognized the value of "community" to combat the mental health side effects of isolation, the MAC provides essential and much needed resources for all. It is not a "weather dependent" or "mobility dependent" resource as a "park" is. Rain or shine, the MAC provides a place for all to gather, interact and greatly enhance the mental and physical health of our city. From music to art to exercise classes, the MAC provides opportunities for all ages. If this council is really concerned with "bringing Portland Back", the MAC is a huge part of what makes our city livable, what draws people to our city and provides the important enrichment the city planners so often "tout" is needed for Portland's "rebirth" as a place people want to live. I strongly insist that the MAC in Multnomah Village receives the funding it needs to stay open. It rains a lot in Portland, the Multnomah Arts Center is always open despite the weather. A "park" is not used when it is pouring rain.	05/21/25 10:35 AM
1004		As an individual		We support councilor Kanal's amendments. We support public safety as top priority. Thank you	05/21/25 10:35 AM
1005	Patrick	As an individual		I understand an amendment #45 to the city budget has been proposed and would close the Multnomah Arts Center. I strongly oppose this action. My family has made our home in this community and values the center as a vital component of Multnomah Village, for the engagement of my child and our neighbors. I'm interested to know more about why this amendment is being proposed and what vision it would achieve, but please know that outright closing the facility would come across as incredibly short-sighted and an ineffective way to go about meeting budgetary needs across our city. Hard decisions certainly must be made. But actions as detrimental to the vibrancy of a community should be more carefully considered, or I'll carefully consider taking my tax dollars and economic activity elsewhere.	05/21/25 10:36 AM
1006	Kimberly Switzer	As an individual		Multnomah Arts Center is a crucial community gathering space. The arts enrich all aspects of life as does community space, and we need to keep this place.	05/21/25 10:41 AM
1007	Craig D Bryant	As an individual		Please vote no on amendment 45. MAC is a very important public resource, and should not be closed. Also, where is any public comment period about this closure proposal? Such a significant event should not be taken without input from the public!	05/21/25 10:41 AM
1008	Doreen Crail	As an individual		The Multnomah Art Center is a great community resource and heavily used - by the park system and by all type of individuals. It supports neighborhood livability through arts and music. Please keep the center open. Thank yiy	05/21/25 10:42 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1009	Jen Maxwell-Muir	As an individual		You already closed our neighborhood community center - don't close Multnomah Arts Center! It's an amazing community gem with arts education, kid's summer camp programming, and home to several nonprofits. As Robert Putnman wrote in Better Together, Portland is special because of the strength of its neighborhood and community services. Don't end the very things that make us great.	05/21/25 10:43 AM
1010	Nora Sluzas	As an individual		VOTE NO on Amendment #45! My name is Nora Sluzas and I live in Maplewood. I'm writing today to urge District 4 Councilors' strong opposition to Councilor Novick's amendment #45, which I understand is up for a vote at 11:30am today. As you are surely aware, this shocking amendment would permanently close the Multnomah Arts Center (MAC), which is a beloved pillar of our community. We can't imagine Multnomah Village -- or SW Portland -- without it. We know that the Center is vital to a host of local nonprofits and thousands of youth, local families, and Portlanders in need. It is unconscionable that the City would shut down this critical community center through a rushed vote, largely out of public view, and with no justification. The whole thing makes me think of President Trump's way of government and is wholly out of line with the values of our city. Please VOTE NO and save Multnomah Arts Center.	05/21/25 10:43 AM
1011	Thomas Karwaki	On behalf of an organization	University Park Neighborhood Association Board of Directors	The Board of Directors of the University Park Neighborhood Association, a North Portland neighborhood in District 2, supports the following amendments: Zimmerman #8 Budget to Restore Neighborhood Associations and District Coalition Office operations and grant funding. Zimmerman # 10 Increase the funding for PEMO to conduct Neighborhood Enhancement and Basic Service pilots Kanal #4 D - Restore Parks & Recreation funding for Community Centers, Aquatics, the Portland Tennis Center hours, and Alternative Community Service. Pirtle-Guiney #11Add a Budget Note for Summer Free For All Funding Plan Ryan #1, 2, 3 Amendments to the Budget to Support Our Storefronts Clark - #1 & 2 CEI Hub Clark #3 &# 4 Community Partnership Support Framework UPNA board Opposes Clark #9 - Recommends amendment - Increasing D4 DCO funding for newsletter communication. Each District Coalition Organization has similar funding needs for communication. Equity requires that all four of the DCOs should receive similar funding opportunities. (perhaps amending Clark #9 to make funds available to each District Coalition Office). Thomas Karwaki Chair of University Park Neighborhood Association	05/21/25 10:46 AM
1012	Peter D Madden	As an individual		Please do not close Multnomah Art Center. It's a vital resource to all ages of people. We need these classes to challenge our brains and bodies.	05/21/25 10:47 AM
1013		As an individual		I support the proposed budget amendment to fund subsidies for tenants in affordable housing units at Everett Station Lofts. Housing is a human right and everyone deserves somewhere safe to call their own. By including this proposed budget amendment, the city council will be actively working to combat the houselessness epidemic rampant in Portland. With the seemingly endless cuts to federal funding, it is essential to fund local measures that will support working people. Portland is known for homegrown ingredients, forward thinking, and having a wonderful community. This measure will help strengthen that image and increase Portlands positive reputation.	05/21/25 10:48 AM
1014		As an individual		Please vote no on amendment 45. Do not close Multnomah Arts Center. It has been a safe, affordable, and joyous community hub for myself and so many close to me. Many of those who utilize the space are seniors who get most or all of their socialization through programs at MAC. The loss of this space would be devastating.	05/21/25 10:48 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1015		As an individual		I want this program to go on. It helps our community.	05/21/25 10:48 AM
1016	Holly Krass-Bell	As an individual		Please keep open the multnomah art center. It is a vital resource for our community. It has programming that is so valuable to our students, adults and seniors. Thank you!!	05/21/25 10:49 AM
	Carisse Nash	As an individual		Please reconsider shutting down the MAC. It is my favorite place as a postpartum, financially vulnerable mom of 2. Before the arrival of my 2nd child, we took my 5 year old to all kinds of activities trying to foster a happy childhood and a sense of adventure and love for community, play, and creativity. After my husband lost his job and we welcomed the birth of our 2nd child at the same time, I felt so much worry for our 5 year old. Would we have enough time and money to give her space and opportunities to grow and experience? Having to focus on my newborn, and now having to go back to work full time as a nurse 12 hour shifts while my husband looks for work, it is even more important for me that my older daughter's development and activities stay healthy. The parks levy, and specifically the activities at the MAC, have been incredible for our family. My daughter has been able to remain engaged in activities that keep her feeling prioritized and keep her outlook on this community and in our home in Portland positive. I see other families facing similar challenges from all over and I know that MAC is an absolute gift for them as well. My husband, who has been struggling with depression through unemployment and new parenthood all over again, found a source of passion and meaningful outlet for his creativity in the family clay Saturday ceramic classes there. I see his face light up. We would have never known how much he would love pottery and clay art if it hadn't been for those classes since we have to prioritize our children first, and wouldn't have been able to justify the expense of ceramics classes elsewhere for our children, much less for our family together. We treasure afternoons at MAC, and my daughter is so incredibly excited about week camps there in the summer. We rent currently as we are not able to afford purchasing a home. I specifically chose this neighborhood to rent for the last 4 years because of the MAC and SWCC and the wholesome family experiences we are able to have together there no matter what is going on in our financial lives, no matter the weather. Please, please reconsider. It is an idyllic part of my older daughter's childhood and I want it to be there as my baby grows up.	05/21/25 10:49 AM
1017		On behalf of an organization	Sarah J. Handmade	As both an individual supporter of the arts and the owner of a locally run shop, I urge you not to close the Multnomah Arts Center. Its presence is not only vital to the cultural fabric of our community—it also plays a direct role in the success of nearby small businesses like ours. Many of our customers visit while waiting for their children to finish a class at the Center, or after attending a class themselves. The Arts Center brings people into the neighborhood who dine, shop, and support local merchants. Losing it would be a serious blow to our community and to our livelihood. Please keep the Multnomah Arts Center open.	05/21/25 10:50 AM
1018	Elizabeth Soule	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center. My family has been attending classes there every semester for multiple years. It offers classes and opportunities at an affordable price that I can't find elsewhere in Portland. The community events are ones that enjoy attending with neighbors to celebrate our neighborhood. A loss of the Arts Center would be detrimental to Multnomah Village and the families that it serves.	05/21/25 10:50 AM
1019	Sunny Sassaman	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center. It is a hub of the community that provides access to all across the county to engage in creative and community events. This would be a tremendous loss to Portland. It is unique and inclusive. From young children to our seniors. It is a place where individuals have access to resources that they otherwise would not have. It would be a devastating loss. Instead, look at creative ways to increase revenues to sustain the MAC. For example, parking fees are now collected at an adjacent lot. Maybe this can be increased for overnight hours to the entire parking lot. This is also where community police have an office. Where would you relocate them? Find the funding and do not cut the program. Work with your community to address how the MAC can be more sustainable instead. Thank you.	05/21/25 10:51 AM
1020					

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1021	Heather Rockwell	As an individual		I URGE you to reject the motion to close the Multnomah Arts Center. Literally thousands of families rely on the Multnomah Arts Center to learn, grow, connect, take classes — I take classes every season like so many of my neighbors, and there is absolutely no just cause to take away this community space and divert the funding to other places. Please find park funding in an ethical way — not by stripping our community of its arts and culture and community space. Outdoor activities are wonderful, but for Portlanders, outdoor parks are not an option nearly two-thirds of the year. We rely on indoor activities to keep our physical and mental health alive during the rainy winter months, by taking dance classes and painting and pottery at the MAC. PLEASE keep these services alive in the budget. Countless of your constituents are relying on you to make the right decision. Show us that we did not put the wrong people on our council. Vote to keep the MAC alive!	05/21/25 10:53 AM
1022	Jennifer O'Connor	As an individual		I'm writing to request that Council votes no on Amendment #45, the budget proposal to close the Multnomah Art Center in District 4. The Multnomah Art Center (MAC) houses non-profits which serve our communities in notable ways: The Neighborhood House and Community Policing support specific health and safety needs. Other non-profits offer affordable art classes to young - seniors. When I first moved to Portland in 2000, Mac was the first place I went to for an art class. People at the Center welcomed me and made me feel at home. MAC serves as a structural component in our community health and safety, as well as serving our needs as artists. To remove this from our community would be a tremendous loss to us. Please vote NO on amendment 45. Thank you, Jennifer O'Connor, District 4	05/21/25 10:53 AM
1023	Ren Elias Britton	As an individual		As the City Council takes the next step in budget development, I urge you minimize the Mayor's budget cuts to outdoor parks maintenance. Portland's parks are a vital part of our city's livability and health. To allow parks to further deteriorate puts our city's people and economy at risk. Our parks already barely receive adequate maintenance. At my go-to birdwatching site, Whitaker Ponds, there are always empty alcohol containers and other trash, and the restroom is rarely in good shape. I am typically at Whitaker at least once a week--it's important to me. If budget cuts further reduce maintenance to trails, trees, playgrounds and restrooms, our parks will quickly fall into disrepair and become unsafe and unwelcoming to the community. This be incredibly costly in the long term. I know there are difficult budget decisions ahead for Portland, but basic maintenance of our parks is essential to keep Portland healthy and livable. Thank you for your service and your consideration.	05/21/25 10:55 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1024		As an individual		DO NOT CLOSE THE MAC! Vital resource for hundreds in our community, especially for providing affordable quality education and cultural enrichment in our community. Need to save money? CUT THE POLICE BUDGET!	05/21/25 10:55 AM
1025	Linda Armentrout	As an individual		I have been going to MAC for many many years. The classes they offer have not only been fun and informative, but have given me, and so many others)a chance to learn new things, and meet new friends. I would hate for it to close. Linda Armentrout	05/21/25 10:56 AM
1026	Wendoly Zamora	As an individual		VOTE 'NO' ON AMMENDMENT #45 - DON'T CUT THE COMMUNITY MUSIC CENTER! I am 23 years old, and I grew up coming here. This center helped me learn how to play the violin, piano, and how to sing. I come from a low income family, and without the help and support this center gave me I would not have been able to grow my talents and become a musician. This place isn't just a center, it's a place I can call my home. Other children similar to me deserve to learn about music and explore their passions. The teachers here care about their students beyond the music and it's a valuable space that offers community, fellowship, and support for students and families. VOTE 'NO' ON AMMENDMENT #45 - DON'T CUT THE COMMUNITY MUSIC CENTER!"	05/21/25 10:58 AM
1027		As an individual		Please reject Councilor Novick's amendment #4 and keep the Multnomah Arts Center open! The MAC is a critical community resource and it would be devastating for so many community groups for it to close. Over the years, I've been to the MAC for everything from arts classes to a baby shower to a 100-year-old birthday party to many public meetings. I understand that the budget cuts require tough compromises, but sacrificing the MAC just to boost a vague pot of money for "parks maintenance" is a near-sighted mistake. Please find that money somewhere else or make do with a tighter parks maintenance budget. Keep the MAC open!	05/21/25 10:58 AM
1028	Sophie Braccini	As an individual		Do not close Multnomah Art Center: it's a bad financial decision. The only person who will rejoice in the closing of the center is the Mayor of Lake Oswego. More shopping there, better reputation for caring for families, more attractiveness. 1\$ invested in the arts is \$7 invested in public health Economic vitality of Multnomah village Cost of demolition of the center	05/21/25 10:59 AM
1029	Meghan Cavanaugh	As an individual		Dear Councilmember - Please vote no on Amendment #45 or any amendment that would close or reduce capacity for the Community Music Center which is part of Portland Parks and Recreation. The Community Music Center is vital for the instruction of music to Portland's youth and is accessible to many in the city because they offer financial assistance to those in need. Early music education has shown to stimulate brain development, foster creativity, enhance language skills, and improve attention. CMC makes music education accessible because they are part of PP&R. Please maintain this valuable asset to the city of Portland and to Portland's youth, thank you!	05/21/25 11:00 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1030	Mathew Tobey	As an individual		I am urging the city council to VOTE NO on Amendment #45 - relating to permanently closing the Multnomah Arts Center. The center is a vital community resource serving not only Portland city proper, but the surrounding areas. Multnomah Arts Center provides affordable access to art programs and classes that are not readily available anywhere else in the city and to a broad range of age groups from children to seniors. Having access to these are vital to fostering creativity and developing a thriving city. The Multnomah Arts Center is a shining example of what makes our city stand out above so many. Th center is needed now more than ever, especially when many avenues to encourage our communities and inspire creativity are under attack or shuddering their doors. We cannot afford the damage that closing this center and its programs will cause. I have been an active participant in art programs offered at the center. I can directly attest to the quality, positive, and mental impacts the classes provided and continue to provide long after there were completed. . Our community desperately needs this center to stay open. Please vote NO on amendment 45. A concerned artist in the community,	05/21/25 11:01 AM
1031	Seth Ruden	As an individual		I'm concerned about the proposed closure of Multnomah Arts Center, I pay my Multnomah arts tax and recognize the importance of the center as a community hub, one that makes my neighborhood vibrant and is an anchor for the village. Closing this would be a mistake	05/21/25 11:03 AM
1032	Stephanie Wolanski	As an individual		The MAC, as it is affectionately called, is an integral part of Portland's parks department and our city's arts community. It is used by thousands of Portland residents (from all districts), throughout the year, for arts classes that include painting, drawing, weaving, basketry, ceramics, metalwork, woodworking, etc. etc. It is home to summer camp, senior center activities, art exhibits, and music instruction. It also houses six nonprofit organizations that serve all of Portland, including Neighborhood House, which offers extensive services to families and individuals in need. Just today, on a rainy Tuesday afternoon, an impromptu visit (see photos attached) found young adults and seniors in a weaving class, and members of the Portland Children's Theatre practicing for their next performance. There were also after-school music classes for guitar and piano, ceramics class underway, and a hip hop class starting. Plus, students and parents were seated in all areas of the building, utilizing wifi, completing homework assignments and visiting the art gallery. The tools and equipment in each lab for the specific art are extensive and carefully maintained. The building's historical value to Portland is immense. It is hard to imagine anyone wanting to shut down the center if they have been inside the building and seen the incredible artwork inside. You could easily add this building to a tour of Portland's historic and artistic sites. In 2009, murals were lovingly painted by hundreds of MAC supporters and community volunteers. Again, see the attached photos. Closing the Multnomah Arts Center would be a terrible loss for our city. As a National Historic Site, there are funds and grants available that could help preserve the building. Please vote no on Amendment 45. Sincerely, Stephanie Wolanski Hayhurst resident	05/21/25 11:07 AM
1033	Chloe Nelson	As an individual		As a resident of Portland for more than 18 years, I think that the Multnomah Arts Center is important to many programs and young adults and should not be closed. I support the center and believe it should stay open.	05/21/25 11:08 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1034	Vanessa Anthony	As an individual		Dear Councilor(s), I'm writing to express my concerns about the potential closing of the Community Music Center as brought forward by Councilor Novick. This is an action that will deeply impact the community at large, and significantly impact the lives of low-income children and community members. The Community Music Center (CMC) not only contributes to Portland's thriving arts scene and cultural landscape providing a local gathering place to learn, perform, appreciate, connect, discuss and grow in the musical arts, but the CMC also provides affordable music education and opportunities for our community including free and low-cost concerts and workshops, low-cost instrument rentals, and meeting spaces for music clubs as well as providing other resources for the public (including a sheet music library). With over 350 students currently enrolled in lessons, not to mention those who source their school instruments here, CMC makes music accessible to all ages, abilities, and incomes. Most especially, the CMC supports underserved communities through partnerships and scholarships, helping to ensure equity and inclusivity in the arts in our city. It's a mission that the Portland community believes in and it's one that the CMC teaching faculty are so committed to that seven of them have served us for the better part of the last 25+ years (some for as long as 45 years). PLEASE do not close this important institution of equity and inclusion in our city, especially not at a time in our history when we need it most. I urge you to vote NO on this proposed action.	05/21/25 11:10 AM
1035	Scott stiven	As an individual		I am writing to you as a Portland resident and as a member of three generations who have benefited over the past 45 years from the opportunity presented by the community music center. I am appalled to hear that there has been a last minute proposal to close the center as of 9/1. Please reconsider this on behalf of the families that have and will continue to benefit from the music programs provided at this vital community asset. You know that once it is gone there will be one less opportunity for our children to be exposed to the arts and one less reason to live in the city.	05/21/25 11:12 AM
1036	Diana Sellers	As an individual		I urge you to vote No on Amendment #45 regarding the closure of the Multnomah Arts Center. My experience with the Multnomah Arts Center is both personal and community based. On a personal level, I have taken tap dancing classes there for the past three years. The hour each week spent with others who enjoy this activity is uplifting and energizing, two things of value, particularly during this time of wearisome local, national and international events. On a broader level, the Multnomah Arts Center is an asset to the community. Not only does it provide a wide array of art and craft classes for all ages, the Multnomah Arts Center also hosts performances, gallery exhibitions and other special events. It is an integral part of Multnomah Village, and to close it would diminish the vibrancy of this community. I urge you to vote no on Amendment #45. Please keep the Multnomah Arts Center open.	05/21/25 11:14 AM
1037	Becky Franz	As an individual		Do not vote to close the Multnomah Art Center! Our family has benefitted from the classes and events at the Multnomah Art Center since it's inception, over 36 years! Our kids are both working artists, due largely to the excellent and affordable teaching they received from practicing artist/teachers at MAC. This rich resource also provides a community hub to the area, serving and supporting senior citizens, youth and many non-profit organizations with low cost spaces to operate from. I, too am an exhibiting painter who has developed my skills at the MAC. My daughter helped design and paint the lovely murals in the entryway. If you haven't gone to the MAC, you need to see and feel what a treasure the city will lose if this reckless plan is carried out. Our community needs the Arts and other resources at the MAC now more than ever!	05/21/25 11:15 AM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Joshua Johnson	As an individual		As a resident less than a quarter mile away from the MAC I find it to be VITAL to not only my family, the local community and the greater Portland Area. I have dozens of close friends who I have I met from and through MAC classes and clubs. After my wife started taking Ukulele classes at the MAC 2 years ago a handful of them decided to go to Proper Pint, a local pub. Now after countless vacations, bbqs, hangouts, almost a dozen of us meet weekly at Proper Pint after Ukulele class to invest in our local economy and community. Without the MAC we would have never met. With so much funding and artist spaces being shut down, like theaters and studios, they look to larger community centers like the MAC to host their events, classes and studios. While all these reasons are enough that the MAC should continue to be the pillar of its community that it is. Our neighborhood in Multnomah county has some of the highest tax rates in the state, and part of why I am willing to pay so much is to be close to such fantastic things like the MAC.	05/21/25 11:16 AM
Carol Greer	As an individual		I am completely dismayed and disheartened that Steve Novick put out a plan to permanently close both MAC and the Community Music Center. Such action would deprive access to experiences and life long pursuits for children and adults. Art and music are benefits for mental health. Our communities need that now more than ever. Our grandchildren have taken many classes at MAC for the past 15 years. Surely there are other options to cut in order to balance the budget. I urge all council members to vote NO. Thank you, Carol Greer	05/21/25 11:16 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1040	Lawrence Hall	As an individual		Dear Members of the Portland City Council, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed budget cuts that would result in the closure of the Community Music Center (CMC). I am a professional opera singer who moved to Portland in July of 2024 because I believed this was a city that truly valued the arts—more so than many others across the country. I came here because I believed Portland recognized the importance of accessible art and culture for all residents, regardless of income or background. The music industry already has countless barriers to entry, and community music education programs like the CMC are essential for breaking those barriers down. At every stage of my musical journey, I've witnessed firsthand how organizations like the CMC serve not only aspiring musicians from underrepresented communities, but also the instructors who mentor them. Music education has been proven to improve academic performance, increase student retention, and foster emotional and social development. Additionally, centers like the CMC provide critical training grounds for young professionals pursuing careers in music education—many of whom go on to serve in our schools and universities. As a performer, I have shared the stage with award-winning artists who would not have had a path forward without the support of community-based institutions like the CMC. I have lived in many cities, but Portland is the first I've considered making a permanent home. I know that once my time as a full-time performer ends, I will dedicate my energy to nurturing the next generation of musicians. I want to live in a city that shows, through its policies and priorities, that it values the arts, community, diversity, and opportunity for all. These proposed budget cuts threaten not just a beloved institution—they jeopardize the futures of students, educators, and artists across Portland. If you approve them, you risk sending a message that the work, talent, and dedication of this city's cultural contributors are not valued. I urge you to protect Portland's artistic legacy and invest in its future. Please preserve funding for the Community Music Center. Sincerely, Lawrence Thomas Hall III	05/21/25 11:18 AM
1041	Kayleen Kusterer	As an individual		The city council needs to adopt a budget that increases public safety funding, recent polls show that the majority of Portland voters support police staffing to match the average of other large US cities. Public safety is a TOP concern across all political affiliations. Portlanders do not want to spiral into further decline. VOTE TO SUPPORT PUBLIC SAFETY FUNDING. Thank You.	05/21/25 11:18 AM
1042	kari Stolzberg	As an individual		So, what's the rationale for closing MaC? Here you have a vibrant, active community resource serving the entire SW population of all ages and economic brackets -- children through elders. It offers not only arts and cultural opportunities, but supports the homeless and seniors. It is just the type of resource that communities seek to develop. Think about how vital the MAC will be in the event of a mass evacuation event (cascadia subduction zone earthquake? Mt. Hood eruption; massive offshore volcanic event and tsunami?). Instead of closing it, enhance it. Use it for more education. Provide homeless services for the tiny house village on Multnomah Blvd. Use it to help immigrant populations assimilate (English classes ? Ethnic food fairs? Ethnic food classes taught by immigrants? Ethnic food markets? The possibilities are endless. Portland will survive the current budget crisis but losing the MAC will diminish it for ever.	05/21/25 11:19 AM
1043	Cassandra Bent	As an individual		My daughter and I love the Multnomah arts center. I am currently in the hospital and taking the time to write this because the Mac is so important to my family and me. The MAC needs to start open to provide classes to our community	05/21/25 11:20 AM
1044	Lori Laws	As an individual		The Muktnomah Arts center binds he neighborhood together. In the 35 yrs we've lived here we've raised our kids taking classes, attending performances and supporting the center. Please don't close it!	05/21/25 11:20 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1045	Tracy Vitellaro	As an individual		Hello, I'm a Maplewood homeowner, local school counselor and a mother of PPS students. I'm writing to urge you to vote NO on Amendment #45, which if passed would shutter Multnomah Arts Center (MAC). The plan would reallocate the funds from Multnomah Arts Center's sale to pay for basic park maintenance projects like bathroom cleanings. I realize you may be unaware of the impact of this organization. I hope you will consider the trade off you are proposing. I'd like to share what this resource means to me, my family, and Portland as a whole.. My son has been taking classes at MAC since he was three. He's now 12 and just finished his most recent art class, where he learned new skills and made friends. My six year old daughter is currently taking her first-ever dance class with Sebastian. She comes out glowing, excited, empowered. Over the years, my kids have had the privilege to take affordable theater and art classes,, "Mommy and Me" music with Chuck Cheeseman, family art events, recitals, and camps. It's been accessible, humble, welcoming, and filled with joy. When I'm there, I walk by and see adults of all ages learning to make pottery, carving wood, painting, trying something new and I always feel inspired. I've said for years that one day I'll finally sign up for that watercolor class, and I hope to have that chance. Multnomah Art Center serves thousands of Portlanders of all ages and abilities annually, with values of accessibility, equity, and intergenerational and socio-economic inclusion. It is one of the few remaining places in Portland offering low-cost and free arts education, reaching seniors, children, and people from all backgrounds. Closing this institution would disproportionately impact those who have the least access to the arts elsewhere. Additionally, it provides essential space for local artists, nonprofits, and cultural partners to share their art, create, teach, and gather. This isn't just a disposable or irrelevant facility, it is a vital social and cultural institution that is deeply important to the Multnomah Village and our greater Portland community. Practically, over the past two years, Multnomah Art Center has received nearly \$1 million in public investment for seismic upgrades and ADA accessibility. To shutter it now would mean throwing away those funds and betraying the city's stated commitment to equity, sustainability, and community resilience. Portland cannot balance its budget by erasing what makes it vibrant and just. I respectfully ask you to protect this essential public resource and vote NO on Amendment #45. I urge you to please preserve this essential institution. ~~I would be grateful to speak with you further about your vision for this city, our neighborhood and your decision to bring this forward~~	05/21/25 11:22 AM
1046	Kristin Solomon	As an individual		I am writing to plead to the city council not to close the Multnomah Arts Center. I am an artist, SW resident and Executive Director of a non-profit arts gallery in the Pearl. I have seen firsthand the impacts of the decline in our community. Syphoning funding from our arts programs and organizations is not a winning strategy. Increasing police presence is not getting to the heart of what our city truly needs. Studies have proven time and again that we need arts and culture to thrive. The city has developed a cultural plan that outlines all of these goals and sentiments. We have citizens who voted for a dedicated taxes for the arts because they understand the value. It's time the city invest money and put action behind these words. I bought a house in the SW to be close to MAC and all the great affordable programming it provides. There is nothing like it in the city. Providing arts access to a variety of populations of people from all socio-economic backgrounds from pre-school to seniors. Classes are sold out within hours of listing, showing there is a high demand for their offerings. People travel from all over the city to patron the facilities. Yet MAC is also the hub for the community in Multnomah Village, bolstering the economy of our local businesses. Many folks drop off kids to class and shop in the village or go out to eat as part of their outing to MAC. If you truly want to create vibrant communities that provide MAC with more funding to sustain their efforts. We need to get to the root cause of the issues. Culture is the heart of the people. It's how people create community and enrich their lives. People are leaving Portland not because of the presence of houseless or drug activity, but that time and again money is poured into failing strategies. The anecdote to any destruction is creation. We must get creative to solve our problems. We do this by supporting and building up creative spaces to bring back the vibrancy. There is doublespeak from the city when I hear these words being spoken and then see amendments like #45 that undermine the same notions. Your actions are what matter. Do not close MAC.	05/21/25 11:23 AM
1047	Jenna Alexander	As an individual		Don't close the Multnomah arts center!! My daughter loves the classes she takes there and it is a wonderful community space.	05/21/25 11:23 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1048	Simone	As an individual		VOTE NO on Amendment #45. Portland needs the Multnomah art center. It changes life and gives more then a physical space to create, it gives thousands of children a place to feel included and build our future communities though love and shared culture. MAC is a safe harbor in a sea of chaos of the world, it's a place of equality and creation. So many would not have any of the opportunities to take classes or gain skills that Mac has offered so many of us throughout the years without it. You'd be taking away a proper public service.	05/21/25 11:24 AM
1049	Jennaca Ray	As an individual		The MAC has been our fencing home for years. For it to close down would be devastating to our community. Please consider this. Thank you	05/21/25 11:24 AM
1050	Marguex Gala	As an individual		Don't close the MAC! I so look forward to my toddler turning 3 and being able to meaningfully engage in the Multnomah arts center programs. We need a center for family engagement and I am at the playground, sandpit and basketball court weekly with my family, meeting up with friends in the community. It's lovely to see the community folks coming and going from MAC programs. Please - we need kid activities in the area!	05/21/25 11:24 AM
1051	Carlton Evans	As an individual		My understanding is that council member Steve Novick has stated that he may submit an amendment to the mayor's proposed budget that would suggest closing both MAC and the Community Music Center (CMC) to fund park maintenance. As a former resident of Montreal, Paris, New York (all cities that make funding community arts programs a priority), and San Francisco (a city that once did, and has suffered dramatically from ending that funding), I can say that MAC and CMC make Portland unique even amongst these cities know for their support of the arts, and a wonderful place to live. Closing down those organizations would be a huge mistake, making Portland less of a draw, and negatively impacting the quality of life of our children, retirees, underserved minority populations (to which these organizations to extensive outreach) to and the population at large. As a community member I vehemently oppose such an amendment to the budget. Thank you, Carlton Evans	05/21/25 11:25 AM
1052	Lori Alfonso	As an individual		Please DO NOT CLOSE THE MULTNOMAH ART CENTER!!!! SHAME ON STEVE NOVICK for submitting an amendment to close our beloved MAC. I've lived in Multnomah Village for almost 30yrs and I have personally been enriched by the MAC. I volunteer with Neighborhood House supporting our local Seniors, I frequent the open Art Gallery, I have several friends taking classes at MAC. It would be devastating to our community to lose this kind of art and cultural enrichment especially in times like these...	05/21/25 11:26 AM
1053	Jenna Alexander	As an individual		Don't close the Multnomah arts center!! My daughter loves the classes she takes there and it is a wonderful community space.	05/21/25 11:26 AM
1054	Courtney Mitchell	As an individual		Please don't close MAC!	05/21/25 11:28 AM
1055	Claire Coleman-Evans	As an individual		Please please do not cut the Multnomah Arts center. It is the heart of Multnomah I work with senior citizens and MAC plays a vital role in providing a place for them to meet and take classes. The MAC is essential to the people of Multnomah and far belong. It's used to hold meetings, classes etc. please do not cut funding or close the MAC SW residents need the MAC and many others use the MAC. Please do NOT close the MAC.	05/21/25 11:29 AM
1056	Leinaala Slaughter	On behalf of an organization	Liuna 483	We Liuna submit this recommendation to city councilors and hope that you will review this recommendation. Thank you. Leina'ala	05/21/25 11:31 AM
1057	Jessica Lee	As an individual		Reiterating that the proposal to close the Multnomah Arts Center goes against the community's wishes and would have a negative impact on our vibrant Portland neighborhood! Beyond providing beneficial arts programs, the MAC supports many nonprofits and underserved communities too. The Multnomah Village area has also taken on the Safe Rest Village and had a positive impact with that, so the city should support the needs of the tax-paying community and their wishes too. Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center!!	05/21/25 11:33 AM
1058	Dave Roberts	As an individual		Please don't close the Multnomah Arts Center. It's an extremely valuable asset to our community.	05/21/25 11:34 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1059	Hunter Buen	As an individual		I am an organizer for the Musicians Union Local 99 here in Portland. Arts funding cuts are a disgrace to our community, and directly hurt the lives of the musicians that make our city a cultural centerpiece of the Pacific Northwest. Music teaching at institutions like the Community Music Center and Multnomah Arts Center sustain musicians of all ages by supplementing wages and providing steady employment for so many struggling artists. Arts funding is by no means superfluous, extraneous, or unnecessary for the functioning of our City. In fact, arts are integral to this city's economy in a way that many simply cannot fathom. Being at the center of all this at Local 99, I can see the direct impacts of this funding on the ground. Cutting arts funding will mean a death of culture in Portland, and reduction in our status as the independent music capital of the world. Save the Community Music Center. Save MAC. Prioritize arts in the budget.	05/21/25 11:34 AM
1060	deborah kosak	On behalf of an organization	volunteermatch	Hello Portland City Council: Amendment 45 must receive a NO vote, no Arts budget cuts should occur impacting the Community Music Center. Beyond the extraordinary benefits communities receive by full access to arts programming, statistically significant research data supports our constituents achieving excellence performance standards, manifested both in the workplace, academic settings and community volunteer organizational/entrepreneurial volunteer engagement. The evidence indicates this is observable, noted by direct and indirect correlation to early age participation and continued arts participation throughout life. https://www.smu.edu/meadows/newsandevents/news/2020/smu_dataartsreportexcellencecommunityrelevance Thank you for your consideration and maintenance of arts programming budget allocations.	05/21/25 11:35 AM
1061	Frankie	As an individual		Time and time again, data shows us that public safety is directly linked to the well-being and economic stability of a community. When people are struggling, crime increases. Continuing to increase PPBs budget at the expense of essential programs would be devastating to our community and penalizes poverty. PPB has proven to have gross mismanagement of their funds, yet they are given more and more money. I urge the council to vote for people not police.	05/21/25 11:36 AM
1062	Jack Dickinson	As an individual		Safety is not built through more police budgets, it's built through investing in early care programs, bike safety, and many other programs that invest in our community. Portland needs to become a vibrant place for people to live and work, not another city with a bloated police presence.	05/21/25 11:37 AM
1063	Elyse Medina	As an individual		Esteemed councilors, We beg you to reject the proposed budget amendment that would close the Community Music Center and Multnomah Arts Center. These programs are so immensely beneficial to those who participate in their programs, you must find a better way to balance the budget. Three of our children study music at CMC and they are flourishing. CMC builds community, builds discipline, and builds confidence. This music program is irreplaceable, please keep CMC open! Thank you for your time, Elyse Medina	05/21/25 11:38 AM
1064	Kimberlee Obilana	As an individual		Writing in support of continued funding for the Multnomah Arts Center. It is a shame that my former neighbor, Steve Novick, would propose to close the center of the community for arts, music and play in Multnomah Village. It is so important to the neighborhood, the community, and especially the children. Kids LOVE the MAC. For this blooming commercial and residential area, removing community centers, especially around the arts, says a lot about the City and what is important to us. Please keep funding it!	05/21/25 11:38 AM
1065	Bogumila Kowalska	As an individual		I was saddened to hear that the current budget is planning on completely closing down the Community Music Center. As a long time member and a parent, I find the services that the center provides invaluable. Both my children benefited greatly from the after school choir program. I ask you to VOTE 'NO' ON AMMENDMENT #45 - DON'T CUT THE COMMUNITY MUSIC CENTER! Portland needs programs such as the one you are threatening to shut down. Many people benefit from them and they enhance the city.	05/21/25 11:42 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1066	Sarah Rehwalt	As an individual		The MAC is an invaluable asset to the Portland community in general and especially to the SW area. As a former student, and employee, I can attest to the powerful positive influence it has had on so many individuals of all ages and backgrounds and interests. I think it is of particular benefit to the elderly and school age members who often get left out of consideration on issues like these.	05/21/25 11:44 AM
1067	Emily Castle	On behalf of an organization	Workers Tap and Cafe	As a small business owner, I implore the city to fund people, not police overtime. I support Councilor Green's amendment to reallocate Prosper Portland's funds to support the people of this city. We have the money to fund parks, housing, transit, mental health services, and more. The rich must pay their fair share. No more money to police. Invest in PEOPLE	05/21/25 11:44 AM
1068	Chip Miller	As an individual		Please budget for the Arts! All arts organizations across the city are feeling the pain of this moment whether it be from funding cuts, shifts in donors, or continued recovery from the pandemic. The arts are a vital part of creating the culture of Portland - please prioritize these organizations and public access to art. It is life saving, economic driving, and important to the fabric of this city.	05/21/25 11:44 AM
1069	Julia Conder	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah arts center. This is a valuable resource to the community	05/21/25 11:45 AM
1070	Emily Roach	As an individual		Please vote NO on amendment #45 - Keep the Multnomah Arts Center OPEN! The Arts Center is a crucial fixture in our city, providing unique programs, events, and services that aren't found at any other community center. It's the heart of Multnomah Village, and our community would be shattered without it. But MAC classes and programs bring people together from ALL over our city--not just SW. As our public schools continue to face cuts year after year and even private art programs are closing, the MAC is truly the only place for Portlanders to experience such a diverse selection of affordable and accessible art, music, and fitness programs. The theater program specifically has been a fundamental part of my daughter's world for half her life. It's a safe place for her to be herself, grow creatively and confidently, and most importantly, it's a loving, accepting community of friends--a life saver when navigating complex school friendships. She's forged deep friendships with kids from every quadrant of Portland, and as a teen volunteer for younger classes, she's grown into a leader who serves our city in many ways, and has become a warm and welcoming face for kids of all ages around the community. Taking classes at the MAC was an essential part of my own childhood when I moved to Portland in 1992, giving me a creative outlet and a friendly environment when I struggled to make friends as the new kid. As a teen, taking classes at the art center with my mom gave us a way to stay connected while navigating the challenging waters of adolescence. And as an adult, I continue to explore and grow as an artist and as a human through the classes and events at the Arts Center. As a PPS teacher, I'm also able to witness and understand a side of my students that I don't get to see in the classroom. Seeing a shy, anxious sixth grader light up during a hip-hop routine, cheering for an energetic class clown as he thrives in a theater performance, and remarking on the craftsmanship of a young artist's work displayed in the gallery have allowed me to build stronger relationships with my students and better serve their educational needs. The Multnomah Arts Center is truly unlike any other community center in Portland or the surrounding suburbs. It serves people of all ages--from little baby art classes to hip hop for seniors! It provides crucial, positive programs and activities for our teens at a time when we're losing so many young people to depression, drugs, and violence. And these are programs teens WANT to sign up for and participate in! The teen classes fill up within minutes of registration opening and have long waiting lists. It's incredible to see teenagers enjoying the arts and interacting face to face instead of burying themselves in screens like so many of their peers. The Arts Center is thriving and bustling, and we can not lose this historic fixture in our community. Please vote no on amendment 45, and keep Multnomah Arts Center open.	05/21/25 11:45 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1071	Maureen Bayer	As an individual		DO NOT CLOSE MULTNOMAH ARTS CENTER! This important community resource has been crucial to my family over the years, providing a place for all of us to learn and practice our various arts from dancing, to music, to sculpture and weaving. It is a GEM in our community and must NOT BE CLOSED. In addition to classes, the Multnomah Arts Center: Has fifteen partners throughout Portland, serving Parks' targeted communities at their sites including The Rosewood Initiative, Home Forward, and Y.O.U.th. Houses several nonprofits including: Columbia Basin Basketry Guild, Neighborhood House, Oregon Children's Theatre, Print Arts Northwest, Community Policing, and Northwest Woodturners. Provides discounted space rentals to nonprofits. Makes arts education programming accessible by eliminating financial barriers to access, through the Parks Levy and MACA scholarships. Received roughly \$1,000,000 in seismic and ADA facility upgrades from Parks in the past two years, surely not an indication of imminent building closure. During summer months, MAC runs the Arts in the Parks program, providing free drop-in arts activities at parks (primarily in areas serving our targeted communities). Last year over 4,000 youth were provided activities through this program. Produces Free First Friday Arts for All at MAC, which provides drop-in arts education experiences along with free food for the Portland community. Staff works with Parks management and our partners to address long term facility needs.	05/21/25 11:47 AM
1072	Jessica E Pierce	As an individual		The City of Portland has a responsibility to the community to keep the Multnomah Arts Center OPEN. On Thursday, Councilor Steve Novick submitted amendment #45 to the City's budget, to PERMANENTLY close the Multnomah Arts Center as of September 1, 2025. This is a wildly misguided amendment, and the city council needs to reject this amendment and continue to support the vibrant and critical work of the MAC for our community. Here is only some of what the MAC provides: In addition to classes, the Multnomah Arts Center: Has fifteen partners throughout Portland, serving Parks' targeted communities at their sites including The Rosewood Initiative, Home Forward, and Y.O.U.th. Houses several nonprofits including: Columbia Basin Basketry Guild, Neighborhood House, Oregon Children's Theatre, Print Arts Northwest, Community Policing, and Northwest Woodturners. Provides discounted space rentals to nonprofits. Makes arts education programming accessible by eliminating financial barriers to access, through the Parks Levy and MACA scholarships. Received roughly \$1,000,000 in seismic and ADA facility upgrades from Parks in the past two years, surely not an indication of imminent building closure. During summer months, MAC runs the Arts in the Parks program, providing free drop-in arts activities at parks (primarily in areas serving our targeted communities). Last year over 4,000 youth were provided activities through this program. Produces Free First Friday Arts for All at MAC, which provides drop-in arts education experiences along with free food for the Portland community. Staff works with Parks management and our partners to address long term facility needs.	05/21/25 11:48 AM

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1073	shiloh	As an individual		I strongly OPPOSE the proposed budget amendment to close the Multnomah Arts Center in SW Portland. It is a well-utilized and beloved part of our community. We have invested in upgrades to the facility to continue using it, and in a purely practical sense, it wouldn't be reasonable to close it after those investments. I have taken many classes there, in metalsmithing specifically--a subject that requires a great deal of special equipment, tools and facilities, and isn't offered elsewhere. I plan to take many more classes there in the future. I have enjoyed the people I met there, and often ended the class day by visiting the small businesses nearby. It would be so devastating to lose this resource. Please don't close the MAC.	05/21/25 11:49 AM
1074	Candice Rutherford	As an individual		Hello, I am writing to ask you to oppose closing the Multnomah arts Center. Our family, over three generations have come to this Center for so many things- it is an invaluable part of our community. Please appose closing it. Thank you	05/21/25 11:50 AM
1075	Elizabeth Leach	As an individual		It would be a huge negative impact on children, youth. Adults to close Multnomah Arts Center It is an active location for the community and the city serving people from all over Portland	05/21/25 11:51 AM
1076	Theresa Bear	As an individual		I am District 3 The MAC is so important to our well being and community. PLEASE DO NOT CLOSE IT! We all are paying an art tax. Can it go towards this?	05/21/25 11:51 AM
1077	William and Elizabeth Hathaway	As an individual		Dorthea Lensch, Recreation Director from 1937-1973 would be very upset if the city council were to eliminate more vital arts programs from the city. The arts are a fundamental part of a healthy community and they need to be supported.	05/21/25 11:52 AM
1078	Cassondra	As an individual		It is insane that the community is considering closing the CMC and MAC. These are lifelines for people in Portland, including myself. While I've only participated in music classes, they have in fact changed my life and helped me deal with chronic pain. I have seen art shows and dances and know how much these opportunities lift people up.	05/21/25 11:53 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1079	Benton Strong	On behalf of an organization	Vigor Marine Group	Portland City Council President Elana Pirtle-Guiney Portland City Council Finance Committee Chairman Eric Zimmerman Members of Portland City Council 1221 SW Fourth Avenue Portland, OR 97204 Re: Portland City Budget and Prosper Portland Dear Council President Pirtle-Guiney, Chair Zimmerman and Members of the Council, Vigor Marine Portland, part of Vigor Marine Group, is a significant provider of family wage jobs in the Portland region. Many of these roles do not require a college degree, yet our highly skilled employees form part of the foundation of our local economy. That economy is at risk today. Vigor understands the budget challenges the city faces and recognizes the need to address the deficit. However, we strongly believe the best avenue for the city to achieve this is aggressive action to grow our economy and make Portland a city people want to do business in. That requires both addressing a regulatory climate that discourages business investment and proactively encouraging business to grow in Portland. Proposed cuts to Prosper Portland risk reversing the progress we have made and hamstringing the city's economic progress at a time when we should be unleashing it. Vigor has a long history of working with the professionals at Prosper and is grateful for their expertise, solutions-oriented mindset, and creativity in addressing challenges. The department's specific supports for the industrial sector are unique among cities in our footprint, and have helped our company make specific decisions that aided our work in Portland. Simply put, it is time for our economic development plan to lead the city into our next great era. This is not a time to step back or undercut our growth potential. We hope you will reconsider any proposals to cut Prosper Portland at this critical juncture. Sincerely, Benton Strong Director, Public Affairs	05/21/25 11:53 AM
1080	Laura Nelson	As an individual		My heart is breaking as I hear that the closing of the Multnomah Arts Center is actually being considered. As a neighbor of the MAC, and frequent user/patron, I cannot fathom our community without this resource. With school funding as it is, the classes and programs offered in the afternoons and summers to children is vital to their arts education. My children have learned music, acting, metalsmithing, dance, watercolor, and more. The community rentals of the rooms provide swing dances, martial arts performances, and teacher education workshops. The MAC is such a vital place for our neighborhood. It is the kind of place a senior citizen strikes up a conversation with a 2nd grader while waiting for a class to get out, and they become neighborhood friends. Please, please, don't strip our community of this anchor.	05/21/25 11:54 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1081	Shawn Wiley	As an individual		I urge you to vote NO on Amendment 45, which would permanently close the Multnomah Arts Center and the Community Music Center. Both of these institutions are vital to the lifeblood and well-being of the Portland metro area. In a time when school arts and music programs are being cut or eliminated, this is exactly the *wrong* time to eliminate these essential resources for Portland residents. Art and music inspire. They sustain us and help us understand and define ourselves, our communities, and our values. They communicate lived experiences, common humanity, and important points of view that are often otherwise ignored. Perhaps more importantly, these institutions serve as important community and family resources. The MAC has fifteen partners throughout Portland, serving targeted communities at their sites including The Rosewood Initiative, Home Forward, and Y.O.U.th. Not only are those communities underserved and deserving of whatever resources that can be provided to them, the MAC programs often represent the only opportunities for artistic expression and development, particularly among youths in the community. It's not simply a matter of identifying the next Picasso or Grant Wood - these programs produce connection and community, and play an important role in the cognitive development of the participants. As an abstract of a 2021 study notes: "Art and music education play a pivotal role in cognitive development, fostering creativity, problem-solving, emotional intelligence, and various cognitive skills. Beyond mere appreciation, these disciplines actively engage students in creating, appreciating, and understanding visual art and music. By exploring their imaginations and expressing themselves, students embrace their creative potential. Moreover, art and music education enhance cultural awareness, emotional engagement, and contribute significantly to cognitive growth." "Role of Art and Music Education in Cognitive Development," Journal of Emerging Technologies and Innovative Research, June 2021. The article further identifies art and music's "indispensable role in shaping well-rounded individuals capable of navigating life's complexities." For many Portland residents, the MAC and the CMC are the first, and perhaps only, place where they could learn to play an instrument or express themselves in an artistic medium. They must remain a priority if our community is to thrive. It seems that whenever there is a budget shortfall or perceived need to reorganize priorities, arts and music are the first things on the chopping block, when their contributions to our communities and civic life far outweigh those of other "priorities," which typically include taxpayer money being allocated to business interests, which in a free-market are supposed to be self-sustaining and which have a myriad of other resources at their disposal. Surely there are other places in the budget where cuts can be made. I urge you	05/21/25 11:54 AM
1082	Babatunde Azubuike	On behalf of an organization	Black & Beyond the Binary Collective	Dear Mayor Wilson and City Councilors, My name is Babatunde Azubuike. As a Portland leader and Executive Director of Black & Beyond The Binary Collective, I am calling on the City Council to defund the Portland Police Bureau and invest significantly in housing, the most effective means of ensuring community safety. The proposed \$8 million increase to the PPB budget and cuts to essential services like parks, homelessness support, and community programs constitute a harmful act against our city. Now more than ever, we must shift focus from systems of control and punishment to resources that truly empower and uplift our communities. We support Councilor Morillo's amendments as a positive step, redirecting some police funding towards community-based solutions. However, these amendments do not go far enough. A profound shift is necessary—from relying on policing to addressing social issues, to building a system of care that invests in people, especially those marginalized by race, gender, sexuality, class, and disability. Housing is a fundamental human right and a cornerstone of community safety. Instead of further financing a flawed policing system, we must invest in deeply affordable housing, accessible mental healthcare, and community-led initiatives that target the root causes of harm. This means fully funding Portland Street Response indefinitely, granting dignity and support to those in crisis. By submitting this public testimony, our organization articulates a clear message to Mayor Wilson and the City Council: Portlanders demand a city that prioritizes housing and care over policing. We will not accept another year of increased police funding at the expense of our community's well-being. We urge Mayor Wilson and the City Council to stand with us for a Portland where everyone has a safe and stable place to call home. It's time to invest in people, not police! Thank you for your time.	05/21/25 11:57 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1083	Nikki Panos	As an individual		Dear Sirs and Madams, I am writing to submit my unwavering support of the Multnomah Arts Center Association and its pivotal place in our community. The MAC supports many members of the community in both small and large ways. It is the home and sanctuary for multiple nonprofits, provides a safe place for children and seniors to explore, commune and keep mentally healthy. I am honestly flabbergasted at this proposal to permanently close our center. One of the reasons I moved to Portland and especially to this neighborhood was it's SUPPORT of the arts. This is a complete reversal. I have been steadily losing faith in the dream that is Portland, and have begun to see it for what it seems to be becoming: a dying city. Losing the arts loses community. Period. I have defended our city for years against people who have spoken ill of it, but I am beginning to side with them and consider leaving the city when I am witnessing it become a husk of its former self, beginning with these seemingly small actions and closures of hubs of community. Shame on Councilor Steve Novick for this submission of the amendment. This is a sneaky action and I am disgusted at the idea of losing such a great arts center that keeps me loving and visiting my own neighborhood. Further, the fact that we, the taxpayers, have just spend \$1,000,000 in IMPROVEMENTS on this center to just be taken away makes me even more furious. Portland taxes are some of the highest in the country and I honestly DO NOT KNOW what I am paying for. Cold Regards, Nikki Panos	05/21/25 11:57 AM
1084		As an individual		Please do not shut down the Multnomah Arts Center. If it's a budgeting constraint that's fueling this consideration, get rid of the ample waste associated with the bloated homeless budget instead.	05/21/25 11:59 AM
1085		As an individual		Vote no on Amendment #45 Please save the community music center	05/21/25 11:59 AM
1086	Kirstin Strickland	As an individual		Keep the MAC alive! It's vital to the pulse of portland.	05/21/25 12:01 PM
1087	Mila M.	As an individual		I support Councilor Morillo's amendments that transfer new police funding into better ways of reducing crime, such as restoring park maintenance, improving traffic safety infrastructure, or doing gun violence outreach & intervention programming. There is somehow always more money to be given to the police unless we interrupt that idea. Not while other vital budget items fall by the wayside. Increased police funding doesn't make us safer - strong, connected, housed, financially stable and healthy communities make us safer. Portland Firefighters and Portland Street Response deserve increased funding. We do not need to be a self fulfilling prophecy - increased funding for police does not address the root cause of housing insecurity, mental illness, financial instability and crime. An ever-expanding balloon for police funding does not signal successful or beneficial police activity is occurring in a community - rather it signals the opposite. It also earmarks a lot of our money to address those who are breaking the law, in actuality a small percent of our population. Please use our money for all of us living, working, enjoying and uplifting Portland. Thank you.	05/21/25 12:02 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1088	Ciatta Thompson	As an individual		My name is Ciatta Thompson, and I live on the west side of District 4. I'm here today as a private resident—my views are my own and not on behalf of any organization. For the past four years, I've worked in Portland's hotel and hospitality industry, where I've seen firsthand the devastating impact of our ongoing public safety and mental health crises. I've witnessed drug dealing and human trafficking occurring in hotel rooms. A 14-year-old girl once overdosed in our elevator—thankfully, EMTs arrived in time to save her life. We've had individuals in severe mental distress walk into the hotel seeking help. We call 911—but sometimes, no one comes for hours. As a manager, I'm forced to weigh the safety of my staff, our guests, and the vulnerable people coming to us in crisis. But private businesses are not equipped to manage what is, at its core, a public safety and healthcare emergency. When I ran for City Council, the top concerns I heard from voters were homelessness, public safety, and economic recovery. Since then, Oregon continues to rank near the bottom nationally—and Portland is leading that downward trend. While there has been some progress, it's being held together by the overtime and dedication of our public safety officers. Requiring the Police Bureau to justify overtime funding amounts to bureau management—and under our new form of government, that is no longer the Council's role. I support the recent poll showing that 69% of Portlanders want more police officers. We are well behind other cities our size in staffing. As more people and businesses leave, now is not the time to pull back funding from the Police Bureau—or to defund Prosper Portland's business development efforts. Cutting those resources now would only worsen the challenges facing our economy and local entrepreneurs. Thank you for your time.	05/21/25 12:04 PM
1089	Craig Leinoff	As an individual		Hello, I understand the budget crisis will most likely negatively affect parks. There must be a cut-out or exemption made for children's programs, however; especially prioritizing services that cannot easily (a) be attained elsewhere, and (b) cannot easily be reinstated. The Community Music Center (CMC) and its child-centered programs should be explicitly prioritized since musical education for CHILDREN cannot reasonably be achieved independently and, if lost, would be unduly difficult to reinstate. If community centers must be cut, please carve out special dispensation to prioritize the CMC over sports/athletics and other facilities that may be easier to reinstate in the future. Speci	05/21/25 12:07 PM
1090	Bill Harris	As an individual		The two physical locations are a significant help for making the programs available.	05/21/25 12:08 PM
1091	Mace Bocek	As an individual		I've been coming to the MAC for about three years now. On Saturdays and Wednesdays, my HEMA club hosts our practices on the outdoor court. We've also had mini-tournaments and meetings in the indoor court and the dance room. From what I have seen, there is always something going on inside the MAC outside of my own activities. People go there to engage with their community in hobbies, crafts, arts, and many other kinds of activities. The loss of this space would be a major blow to that community engagement that would never be equaled by the apartment complex being put in its place. Don't hurt your citizens for a chance to increase profit, it helps the few and hurts the rest. Please.	05/21/25 12:08 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1092	Brandon Namm	As an individual		My name is Brandon Namm and I am a Consulting Arborist that works throughout Portland. As a former City of Portland employee, I understand the importance of applying Urban Forestry regulations equitably and efficiently. Councilor Zimmerman's request to strip Urban Forestry's Permitting and Regulation branch (https://www.wweek.com/news/city/2025/05/07/city-councilor-proposes-stripping-urban-forestrys-tree-regulation-team-directing-savings-toward-parks/) would be an absolute disservice to our community. Title 11 (Trees) provides a framework for conservation of our urban forest and the staff funding to the Urban Forestry Division ensures the goal of that legislation are met. A close look at the division funding is warranted to eliminate waste, but a Federal DOGE style cuts is an irresponsible proposal. The poorest and most underserved communities in Portland have the lowest canopy cover and receive the fewest environmental benefits from urban trees. Urban Forestry Permitting and Regulation upholds tree preservation and planting requirements, ensuring that the canopy continues to improve in these parts of the City. A close look at the part of Sellwood where I live(south of Tacoma St), provides a small glimpse into the inequities in our tree canopy. Right across Tacoma St, and especially across the Sellwood Bridge to Portland's forested west-side, there is significantly more and larger trees. Councilor Zimmerman must look at how his proposed budget will not only affect the majority of his constituency on Portland's west side that enjoy the benefits trees provide, but to the minority of District 4 on the east side and across the City.	05/21/25 12:09 PM
1093	Laura C Smoyer	As an individual		Community Music Center's Impact on My Life□ May 21, 2025 The Community Music Center changed my life. My husband and I raised our three children, now 23, 25, and 27 years old, in the city of Portland. When my oldest child, Joseph, was 3, we happened to drop in on a neighbor whose 5 year old child was practicing violin. Joseph was fascinated by the violin, and wanted to take lessons. I have no musical background, and didn't think much of this desire – but then I learned I could sign up for violin through Portland Parks and Rec, the same way a person signs up for swimming lessons or dance class. Two years later, Joseph was still interested in violin and so we went over to the Community Music Center and signed up. Looking back on my parenting years, this was the single most important choice we made. Our children attended our neighborhood Portland Public Schools and had a great experience, but they did not learn about the value of hard work and the satisfaction of persisting through challenges from their experience at PPS. They learned this through playing the violin. Our children were incredibly sporty, successfully playing many sports for decades. But they did not learn about the value of consistent, repetitive, practice – the everyday kind of practice that actually creates growth and change – through their sports. They learned this by practicing the violin. Our children loved being on their sports teams. But they learned more about collaboration and cooperation, and the importance of every small and large contribution, from the Friday afternoon String Orchestra than they ever learned from being on a sports team – where individual success is celebrated and winning is a distracting mission. I am a teacher with two master's degrees and 25 years of classroom experience. But I learned more about adjusting lessons, creating individual accommodations, finding ways to change the task or the explanation to meet the student, and creating a truly student centered experience from watching my children's violin teachers than I ever learned from my teaching education. While we were raising our children, I often shared that I do not know what our journey would have been like if violin lessons hadn't been made accessible to our children – in terms of price, availability, and support – through the Community Music Center. Nothing else would have worked out as well as it did without the throughline of violin. Portland Public Schools worked for my children because they learned discipline through the violin. Sports worked for my children because they learned about consistent practice through the violin. The overly competitive, individualistic aspects of sports culture in the United States was tempered for my children by what they learned about true collaboration and cooperation through community based, "all-comers," string orchestra. And my parenting (and teaching) skills, surely too top down and too authoritarian when I started, were expanded and strengthened by watching the many incredible CMC teachers who worked with my children. Making something "special" that is usually reserved for some elite group, like learning to play an instrument, accessible to all children no matter their skill, family background, or family income is the very best way the City of Portland can support its youth. The Community Music Center is an invaluable resource that truly changes lives. It changed my children's life, and my husband's and my own, so profoundly I truly cannot imagine who we would be without the CMC.	05/21/25 12:09 PM
1094	Irene A Holland	On behalf of an organization	Community Music Center	Please do not close CMC as it is vital to the health and welfare of our community serving young children to elders giving music skills we would not otherwise be able to afford or have access. There is ample social and scientific studies and evidence to this.	05/21/25 12:09 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1095	Deb Wilson	As an individual		I am writing IN OPPOSITION of suggestion to close the Multnomah Arts Center (MAC). The MAC is vital to the community of Multnomah Village, providing not only an anchor to the neighborhood but also providing affordable opportunities for art and learning. It makes the village special. I have taken many classes at the MAC for over a decade, I have engaged my young nephews in classes, I have attended community meetings there and recommended it to many neighbors and friends (who have consistently stated their appreciation for the info after taking a variety of classes there). The arts and acquiring skills are essential for a well-rounded person and for society at large. It would be a travesty for the MAC to be closed without closer review of other budget items and regard for the importance of the center to this community.	05/21/25 12:16 PM
1096	Jessica Smith	As an individual		I just heard that the city council is voting to close the Multnomah Arts Center. This would be devastating to families in SW Portland. My daughter takes music lessons at MAC. It is the only affordable option for music and art classes for kids (and adults) in our area. I'm surprised the MAC is on the chopping block considering the significant investment in seismic and Ada upgrades PPR has made in the last few years. Closing it would be such a waste!	05/21/25 12:18 PM
1097	Dave King	As an individual		Police are already well funded. The challenge is to change their culture. Maybe this is beginning to change. I've noticed less or no police presence at demonstrations. Mental health and addiction do need to be improved. Portland Street Response needs to be expanded. I think we need rent control. Rents and real-estate prices should be rolled back. I don't know how, but I blame the banks, developers and landlords for homelessness. Back in the day (before the 80s) Portland was a relaxed place to live because housing was easy. Parks could use more facilities for people, especially kids cheap things like swings and spinning things, basket ball and badminton courts, picnic tables and covered shelters etc.. And more pools indoor and out are expensive but really good for the communities. Prosper Portland is part of the housing problem, they used to do some good things like free or no pay storm windows.	05/21/25 12:19 PM
1098	Chauncey Canfield	As an individual		My name is Chauncey Canfield I live in district 3. The community music center has long been a vital part of our city's cultural landscape, providing a welcoming and affordable space for music lessons and performances fostering a lifelong love of music for all ages. My wife, daughter and I have long participated in performances, classes, community orchestra and monthly free workshops. Closing it would be especially devastating to the seniors and low income youth and the community at large and I urge you to keep it open. Thank you	05/21/25 12:29 PM
1099	Nathan Calhoun	As an individual		DO NOT CLOSE THE MULTNOMAH ARTS CENTER, THEY DO WAY MORE FOR PEOPLE DAY TO DAY THAN THE BIG FIVE ARTS ORGS. FUND ARTS FOR ALL THE PEOPLE NOT ARTS FOR THE RICH PEOPLE.	05/21/25 12:31 PM
1100	Eshé Thornton	As an individual		Please do not close down the MAC. I have been going there for years and I met some of my best friends there. It is a very important place because I have gotten to try a lot of different things like piano, ceramics, metal working and choir. It is a great way to connect with other kids and it has played a big part in my life. I was thinking to continue taking classes there this fall but if it is closed I won't be able to keep going and trying out new things.	05/21/25 12:32 PM
1101	Michelle	As an individual		DO NOT CLOSE THE MAC. THIS IS VITAL TO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD.	05/21/25 12:32 PM
1102	Naomi Holland Scott	As an individual		My name is Naomi Scott and I live in district 3, as a neighbor to the community music center (CMC). As a musician and mental health provider, listening and playing music is a part of health, as well as an integral part of our cultural fabric as Portlanders. CMC is an asset to our community and not having it would strip so many of the chance learn music as a means of coping, connecting, and enhancing our community.	05/21/25 12:37 PM
1103	Michael Benedetti	As an individual		Please VOTE NO on Amendment #45!!! The Multnomah Arts Center is the heart and soul of my Southwest Portland neighborhood. It's provides art, dance and music classes for both young and old alike, along with camps for kids during the summertime. It also hosts a monthly gathering the last Friday of every month, that brings the community together. In all seriously, with Portland having taken a major hit post pandemic, the MAC remains a source of hope and optimism and contributes mightily to my and my family's quality of life in SW Portland. Tell Steve Novick to close community centers in his own district, and leave district 4 out of his crappy budget suggestions!	05/21/25 12:38 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1104	Ilyse Ball	As an individual		With regards to the budget, my top priority is public safety issues. I want to see our police and fire departments well staffed and trained to protect both law abiding citizens and properly arrest and detain criminals with the least amount of impact to all. I would also like to remind the Council that houselessness is not a housing issue. It is a drug/alcohol addiction and mental health management issue. Detox centers are not a cure for addiction, nor for houselessness. We need real solutions that curb the issues past and current policies have created, and this has nothing to do with funding. It has to do with efficient and effective use of resources, along with policies that prioritize law-abiding citizens, not criminals or people who refuse help and are self-destructive, taking all of us down with them. It is a hard concept to grasp for many people in Portland, but the first priority must be to keep law-abiding citizens safe and healthy, or as a City, we won't be able to help anyone who is struggling and everyone will be at risk. Too many Portlanders/taxpayers (who can afford it) have already fled the City in search of safer communities. Please also remember that without taxpayers, the City can't do anything. It is time to stop treating high income taxpayers and profiting businesses with disdain. Or they will continue to leave Portland City Limits in search of more economical conditions. And the City will have even less taxes to fund important resources for its citizens.	05/21/25 12:42 PM
1105	Joseph Smoyer	As an individual		I grew up in Portland, OR District 3, and I am writing to urge you to vote NO on Amendment 45 regarding cutting the CMC. The CMC was a huge part of my childhood and my two younger brothers' childhood. At the CMC we were able to access affordable music lessons and classes that would not have been available to us otherwise. Playing the violin growing up had a massive influence on my development as a person and I credit it with much of my success as an athlete and student. I was able to learn how to learn through violin lessons at the CMC and pursue music in a way I would not have otherwise without CMC. I played from kindergarten until senior year of high school and spent many days in the CMC at lessons, playing in orchestra, or hanging out while I waited for my siblings' lessons to be over. It provided a place for me to develop and grow. The CMC is a big part of SE Portland and I knew many people growing up who took lessons at some point at CMC. I think it would be a huge mistake to cut the CMC, especially at a time when people are looking for places to build community and affordable ways to pursue arts and music. Portland should be proud to fund a place like the CMC, no matter the cost. The role of a good government is to provide services and places of recreation like the CMC. I understand, as leaders, you face difficult decisions managing a budget, but the type of austerity cuts that you are proposing will not lead to a more successful city in the long term. Places like the CMC, help create an environment that will continue to push Portland forward as a modern, vibrant city in the future. A place where people are able to have access to arts and music education no matter their socioeconomic background. So please vote NO on this proposed budget amendment #45.	05/21/25 12:45 PM
1106	Chris Logan	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center in SW Portland. It is the one place in SW we have to be a community and learn new things as adults and children. My kids and I have been using it for 14 years and cannot imagine it not being there anymore. It is the glue that holds SW and Multnomah Village together.	05/21/25 12:45 PM
1107	Sheilagh Diez	As an individual		I recently learned that there is a proposal to close the Multnomah Arts Center. My teenager has been taking ceramics classes at the center since early childhood & it is a major part of their strong sense of self and well being. While we have looked for programs closer to our home, there are none with the caliber of those at Multnomah Art Center and so for years have made the trek from district 3 across the river. I know it may seem frivolous, but the arts are an integral component of mental and emotional health for so many in our community, especially our teenagers and elderly. Please don't cut this amazing community resource.	05/21/25 12:53 PM
1108	Shelby Spade	As an individual		The community music center is an invaluable resource to Portland and the people that call this place home.	05/21/25 12:53 PM
1109	Kristin Voss	As an individual		Hi, I live in the Multnomah Village neighborhood. My son attended Maplewood Elementary and is about to graduate from Jackson Middle School. He will begin Ida B. Wells in the fall. We are low-income in a sea of affluence. My son has taken piano classes and then drum classes at Multnomah Arts Center since he was 7 years old. We would not have been able to take music classes at all if it weren't for the community center. We won't be able to continue these classes if it closes. Diversifying young people's interests and activities helps them to become good citizens. Rather than hanging out on the streets, smoking weed behind the bleachers, the kind of programs offered by the community help young people find new spaces to explore interests and develop alternative social networks that can offset the pressures that young people encounter. MAC also encourages senior participation in the community. It's one of the few places where mixed age groups come together. Additionally, I think it's important for neighborhoods to have community centers because they anchor a neighborhood. SW Community Center also has this importance in providing spaces for young and old to come together, feel a sense of community, and safety. We are in a time of crisis, and we need to stand up and support our community centers, if not for practical reasons, than for symbolic ones. Thank you for your time and have a nice day!	05/21/25 12:56 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1110	Sheri Jennings	As an individual		I signed up for live testimony today, but the council never got to me. My testimony was going to be number 171. My name is Sheri Jennings, and I'm here as both a Portland resident and someone who owes a great deal to the Multnomah Arts Center. We moved here from 2,000 miles away during the height of the pandemic. Just months later, my mother died of COVID in Texas. We were grieving, isolated, and knew no one. But the Multnomah Arts Center became our refuge. It gave us structure, connection, and healing. It wasn't just a place to take classes—it was where we began to rebuild. And I'm not alone. A friend of mine has a young child who struggles to talk to new people. But at the Center's Art Free-for-All, that child formed a beautiful connection with an older volunteer. They light up when they see each other. He kneels to talk gently at eye level, and the child proudly shows their art. These small, deeply human moments happen there every day and are uniquely cultivated by the Multnomah Arts Center. This center serves thousands across the city annually. It's inclusive, affordable, and intergenerational. It can also be financially lucrative. The Multnomah Arts Center generates revenue. With thoughtful program adjustments, it could move from sustainable to profitable—a net gain, not a loss. Many of us would gladly pay a bit more for classes. We'd contribute to fundraising. We're not asking the city to bear this alone—we're asking you to partner with a willing and committed community.	05/21/25 12:58 PM
1111		As an individual		Please support the music and art community centers and vote no on amendment 45. My family depends on affordable resources to help my children thrive. We cannot afford private music lessons. We need intergenerational centers for the health of our community. Thank you	05/21/25 12:58 PM
1112		As an individual		Don't close MAC	05/21/25 1:00 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1113	JKU	As an individual		I would only hope that elected officials would act in my stead and create common sense budgets-maintaining in tight times, cutting discretionary spending and NOT adding in new projects or any kind of leveraged debt. I am not interested in officials making a name for themselves by spearheading novel, unprecedented, ground-breaking, contentious bill proposals. Rather, I would desire sitting with the inherited budgetary predicament and making small changes to allow for assessment of the effects of budget alterations (over/under-correction, effectiveness). Portland has had a long history of accountability breach. Gain my trust by making common sense choices and publicizing them broadly with metrics so that these electorate proxy changes can be understood. Comments as related to categories above: Economic Development: (Councilors Green and Dunphy) Why not cut back instead of ax a program like Prosper Portland? TIF strategy is in line with our overall DEI image. Allow Prosper to make internal adjustments with staffing, reorganize their priorities, carefully document these when using funds and then have oversight of how well these metrics are met. DO NOT just ax-adjust and reassess. During this assessment/adjustment phase DO NOT change the the TIF boundaries. TOO many variables confound metric accountability and analysis. Public safety: (Councilor Novice, et al.) I do favor a mindful use of police resources-stratifying/triaging need and response- Low level calls utilizing trained professionals leaving more demanding calls to there highly trained. We do NOT want fewer officers. Fee increases: (Mayor Wilson and Councilors Green and Dunphy) Vibrant communities:(Councilors Zimmerman and Novice) 1) Cut back(not eliminate) on tree inspector jobs, put that money into maintenance which INCLUDES tree inspection 2) Leave Multnomah Arts Center and Community Music Center OPEN, just minimize subsidy-allow for private entities develop plans to help these valuable landmarks remain afloat. 3) Sign facilities that the City is held harmless when facilities are used by the public. Homeless issues: (Councilor Loretta Smith) I am also alarmed that the city is paying to operate its own homeless shelters when it already shells out tens of millions of dollars to the county to run shelters. This situation needs to be put under a microscope of accountability. Save money here!!!! Other:	05/21/25 1:02 PM
1114	Leanna Van Slambrook	As an individual		The MAC has changed my life and has given me and my family so much joy in creating and strengthening our art skills. It would be devastating to lose such an incredible place in our community. Please do not take the MAC away from us. Our community across the city will loose the only art centered community space.	05/21/25 1:05 PM
1115	Denise Manzi	As an individual		Don't close Multnomah Art Center! It is a very important, cultural asset to our vibrant community.	05/21/25 1:08 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1116	Kristin Shiga	As an individual		Thank you for hearing public testimony on this important topic. For the record, my name is Kristin Shiga, and I am a longtime homeowner in District 2. I am here to urge you to vote NO on Councilor Novick's proposal to close Multnomah Arts Center. I have been teaching in various programs at the Center since 2001, but today I am testifying as a concerned private citizen. Others have already cited the importance of the arts in Portland. But the list of services provided for THOUSANDS of Portland families by MAC over the years is larger than that. It includes: - [] Exposure to visual and performing arts for all ages - [] Accessible family programming - [] Community building & rental space for local guilds, food assistance programs and more - [] Child & Elder care - [] Professional Skills Development - [] Exhibition and sales opportunities for entrepreneurial artists and much more This community organization provides unique services that contribute to Portland's status as a desirable place to live. It also has provided hundreds of jobs to teaching artists over the years, who with the Portland Parks & Recreation administrative staff that run the Center will be jobless if the amendment passes. Lastly, the proposal to permanently close MAC as a cost-saving measure is extreme. Problem-solving skills are at the foundation of arts education, and any one of our students can tell you there are other options for increasing revenue and decreasing expenses that would not eliminate MAC completely. At a time when the Country's executive leadership is characterized by destabilizing, unilateral cuts, it's even more crucial for State and local leadership to remain measured in their response to unprecedented budget challenges. I urge you to vote no on Amendment 45. Thank you.	05/21/25 1:08 PM
1117		As an individual		Honestly, I know nobody that uses the MAC (Multnomah Arts Center), and I believe if the budget used there can be better allocated to benefit Portland Parks & Recreation, I believe it to be a good idea.	05/21/25 1:09 PM
1118	Jessica Porter	As an individual		Please DON'T CLOSE MULTNOMAH ARTS CENTER!! This is a vibrant and treasured community resource, and it provides SO MUCH to so many in our community. The arts are fundamental and healing to so many- closing MAC would be absolutely detrimental to our SW Portland community. This place serves and enriches the lives of so many, from our young people to working folks, to our lovely retired community leaders. Please find another way to make the city budget work without removing vital resources like MAC from our communities! Vote no on amendment #45!!	05/21/25 1:09 PM
1119	Elizabeth Withers	As an individual		I am outraged that an increase to the Portland police budget is even being considered given the already grossly disproportionate allocation of 30% of the city's entire General Fund Budget to the bureau. We are living through a terrifying time as facism and white supremacy are on the rise and the Portland city council has the opportunity to live up to our reputation of being forward thinking and progressive by refusing to pour more and more of our resources into institutions of state sanctioned violence and social control. Furthermore, it is crucial that Portland take steps to reduce racial instances of experiences of police violence. Again, I see this budget is an opportunity to take some steps towards reducing the racial injustices that our city and the entire state of Oregon have been known for. As we watch the federal government being gutted of every possible safety net, I urge the council to act in stark contrast and choose to prioritize funding of life affirming alternatives to policing such as Portland Street Response. In order to address the deficit I support the City Council removing \$13 million from Prosper Portland's General Fund allocation and use it to pay for vital programs that directly support Portlanders and their families. Prosper Portland can use its \$50 million slush fund (strategic investment fund) to pay for its existing small business programs with no reduced service. Going forward, all Portlanders deserve greater voice and vote over how community & economic development dollars are spent through participatory budgeting. Thank you, from East Portland	05/21/25 1:12 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1120	Ursula Schwantag	As an individual		1. Portland needs the economic development program. We cannot afford to lose more and more businesses. it is worth investing in Portland's economic vitality. Draining the strategic investment fund to plug holes short term is a shortsighted strategy. 2. Please do not close the Multnomah Art Center. It provides vital performance space for the SW Portland Community Band, of which I am a member. The band's concerts at the MAC raise much needed funds for the Ida B Wells Highschool Band program and contribute to the wellbeing of band members and audience members.	05/21/25 1:13 PM
1121	Edith Fuller	As an individual		We moved into our home on SW Canby Street about 40 years ago... and have seen a number of changes over the years. One important change was that the Multnomah School, which was about to be razed in favor of a housing development, instead became the Multnomah Arts Center.. And I can still remember one of our then uphill neighbors telling us that it was imperative for us to get over there to get that change stopped. The housing development was stopped! And today we have the MAC, indeed a real asset to our neighborhood with all the various activities going on inside its walls for all, little kids through adults.. classes and meetings, presentations in the auditorium, providing meeting spaces for local groups, etc.	05/21/25 1:15 PM
1122	Christine Bridges	As an individual		I'm writing to express my support for continued funding of the SUN Community Schools program. We have students at Grout Elementary, which is one of 10 SUN sites. Our school is a Title 1 school with many low income families from diverse backgrounds and nationalities. We depend on SUN school for affordable after school and summer programming. SUN offers amazing enrichment programs for our students with programming such as Oregon Children's Theatre, reading & math support, Echo Circus, letter writing with Reed College staff/students, girls basketball, yoga, dance and others! Without SUN, our school community would be missing out on many of these great opportunities, while wealthier schools will likely continue to have access to after school programming funded through their PTAs or private options paid for by parents. The SUN program serves a diverse population of hundreds of kids and families across the city. Many of these families cannot afford other options. SUN is exactly what Portland needs right now; programs that help working families and contribute to making Portland an attractive and desirable place to call home. Please help our community by continuing to fund the SUN programs!	05/21/25 1:16 PM
1123	Gregor Halenda	As an individual		I'd like to submit a request to continue funding the Multnomah Arts Center. Small community programs are the glue that keeps a neighborhood together. My children attended programs at the Arts Center and my sister, after being diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's, found that the pottery program was one of the last things that she was able to do and that gave her a feeling of independence. The Village has accommodated the Safe Rest Village and I think that's great but please don't start to cut the funding that makes our area special.	05/21/25 1:17 PM
1124	Sandy	As an individual		Please don't close Multnomah Arta Center!	05/21/25 1:18 PM
1125	Judith Christian	As an individual		please do not allow budget cuts to close the Multnomah Arts Center. I visit my family living in Portland and have always been impressed by the Arts Center and always hoping my town on the East Coast have such a wonderful space for so much to give to the community. The Arts and a place for children and adults alike to experience programs that enhance the mind and body.	05/21/25 1:19 PM
1126		As an individual		Multnomah Arts Center Please don't close the MAC, one of the only places in SW that has art classes for kids and people like me (older adult) that can't afford services and classes this hub of Multnomah provides!	05/21/25 1:22 PM
1127	Randy Bowden	As an individual		I just heard today about a possible closure of the Multnomah Arts Center. This is extremely concerning considering the positive impact the MAC has had on our community over the years. I have a child who thrives on the theatre programs offered by the MAC throughout the year. The closure of the MAC would be devastating to both the community and my child	05/21/25 1:24 PM
1128	Christina Tello	As an individual		Please don't close the MAC. Its a wonderful place for community building. We have met many diverse families there that express themselves through the Arts. Portland has to keep its creative edge. So many other City buildings are taken over by the homeless. We can't go to the downtown library as our kids don't feel safe. The MAC is a place that is still triving with families.	05/21/25 1:24 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1129	Josh Bridges	As an individual		I'm writing to express my support for continued funding of the SUN Community Schools program. We have students at Grout Elementary, which is one of 10 SUN sites. Our school is a Title 1 school with many low income families from diverse backgrounds and nationalities. We depend on SUN school for affordable after school and summer programming. SUN offers amazing enrichment programs for our students with programming such as Oregon Children's Theatre, reading & math support, Echo Circus, letter writing with Reed College staff/students, girls basketball, yoga, dance and others! Without SUN, our school community would be missing out on many of these great opportunities, while wealthier schools will likely continue to have access to after school programming funded through their PTAs or private options paid for by parents. The SUN program serves a diverse population of hundreds of kids and families across the city. Many of these families cannot afford other options. SUN is exactly what Portland needs right now; programs that help working families and contribute to making Portland an attractive and desirable place to call home. Please help our community by continuing to fund the SUN programs!	05/21/25 1:25 PM
1130	Jeannette Ward	On behalf of an organization	NuProject	My name is Jeannette Ward, and I lead NuProject, a Portland-headquartered nonprofit. As you look at budget recommendations, I want to speak for the Portland community I serve: small, neighborhood, family-owned cannabis businesses. Each year, Portland cannabis businesses contribute app. \$5M in taxes - new money - to the Portland budget. Portland city voters approved the collection of tax money because they voted in November 2016 for those taxes to support minority- and women-owned businesses. Of the millions in taxes paid by cannabis businesses, last year, \$420,000 went back to cannabis businesses to fund Technical Assistance programs and loans and grants. The City of Portland has a cannabis revolving loan fund for cannabis businesses. A growing pool of money for lending to an industry that otherwise does not have enough outside capital to fund its growth and potential boom. NuProject has funded \$2M in loans and grants to the Portland cannabis community. The small dent is lifeblood for businesses who have used the money to hire employees and expand operations. 80% of loans went to minority owners and 40% to women owners. Portland's cannabis revolving loan fund has a default rate on par to traditional commercial loan portfolios. It's an innovative program that's growing the seed capital available for cannabis businesses. Portland is funding programs to small businesses that are working. I understand cities have to cut budgets. As you listen to the community, I'm here to say don't throw the baby out with the bathwater. Our funding comes today through Prosper Portland in its Inclusive Business Resource Network, which is on the chopping block. As you look at trimming budgets, know that this program for cannabis businesses, funded by cannabis tax dollars, must continue. Voters gave you their will on that desire in 2016 when they voted for the tax collection. Plus, you don't throttle startups, you feed them seed capital. Increase funding for cannabis businesses so you can invest more seed in an industry economists all agree is poised for explosive growth with federal legalization still in front of us. Please make these decisions based on Portland's long-term prosperity. Please be surgical with your cuts not blunt. We can find innovative ways to increase funding to cannabis businesses, increase the economic outlook for cannabis tax revenue, and meet city budget demands.	05/21/25 1:25 PM
1131	Lauren Greenwalt	As an individual		My name is Lauren Greenwalt, of Multnomah County. I am shocked to learn of the proposed closing for the MAC, which is such a vital part of the arts community in Multnomah Village. Do we really want to live in a world where we make it harder for communities in need to access the arts? I thought this was Portland, a city that appreciates the value that Art contributes to our world.	05/21/25 1:25 PM
1132	Lydia Pickard	As an individual		I was recently informed that amendment #45, which was recently submitted, includes a provision to permanently close the Multnomah Arts Center. This would be a tragedy for the SW Portland (and beyond!) community. I took classes there as a child, and now my children take classes there as well as my senior citizen mother. We have joined their free community events over the years, supported their arts sales, and supported the senior center inside who sells their wares year round. It provides innumerable opportunities for the community to come together- including their outside spaces: the basketball courts, playground, etc. I can't imagine Multnomah Village without it and, in fact, it brings more business to the village- often when we are at the MAC for one of their programs, we stay to have lunch or shop in the village as well. Please do not allow this important community resource to be closed. There is nothing else like it in our community. Thank you.	05/21/25 1:27 PM
1133		As an individual		Please save MAC. It's vital for our community	05/21/25 1:31 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1134	Lara Kim	As an individual		I'm writing to urgently plead that the Multnomah Arts Center receives adequate funding to remain in operation. MAC has provided the Portland community from all age demographics with comprehensive programming and resources for creative and cultural production through education, workshops, exhibitions, community space, and more. As "third spaces" for youth and adults become increasingly scarce in our city and across the US, we cannot afford to lose our community spaces that do so much to provide accessible resources, activities, creative outlets, and cultural development for our city's residents. I am a Portland-based artist that recently participated in a group exhibition at MAC, and have witnessed firsthand how many folks utilize and rely on MAC, from providing summer classes to youth to exhibition opportunities to diverse artists in our community. Portland is an emerging hub of culture and arts and has so much potential to become one of the few nationally recognized destinations on the west coast with a noteworthy arts scene, but we need to invest in and support it to cultivate this and the economic, cultural, and social gains a thriving arts scene brings. I am heartbroken to imagine all the youth, adults, and seniors alike who rely on this space to fulfill their social, creative, and community needs who would be left without MAC and it's accessible programming. As a troubled youth, arts centers like these kept me busy and out of trouble and provided a healthy outlet for creative expression. It's difficult to describe the immense benefits of these spaces to people who are unaware of the value of art in the emotional, mental, and social health of a city until they are already gone. Please save MACA.	05/21/25 1:35 PM
1135	Rachel harris	As an individual		The Multnomah Art Center has been an important part of our community on so many different levels since my husband and I moved into the area in 1988. I worked as a juvenile court counselor and a youth service counselor at West side youth service center, I worked as a staff person at the Multnomah art center, I taught classes for sign language and singing for children at the art center, I worked with the senior center, our son took lessons there for years as did many of the children that we knew as well as adults, and I've taken classes there throughout the years as well as as attended beautiful gallery, showings, and special events and art sales there. It's an absolute magnet for positive community building that exists nowhere else nearby and touches so many people's lives. Please do not even consider closing the Multnomah art center!	05/21/25 1:37 PM
1136		As an individual		Please keep the MAC open. It is one of the most affordable places left in this city for kids to try new things. They offer fun classes and opportunities for youth and adults alike who are looking to learn.	05/21/25 1:42 PM
1137	Jessica Norman	As an individual		Please vote no on Amendment #45, specifically to close Multnomah Art Center and the Community Music Center. I grew up attending classes at MAC and it's a crucial part of the community in Southwest Portland. I understand the need for budget cuts, but this institution has served as a staple in the community for children and adults alike. It would be devastating to lose it.	05/21/25 1:44 PM
1138	Phillip Arroyo Long	As an individual		It is with shock and disappointment that I feel the need to reach out to you today. Novicks plan to shut down the Multnomah Arts Center is without a doubt NOT in the interests of the general public. The MAC provides an invaluable space to so many community members it's hard to fully enumerate. From art, dance and music education, facilities access and even gallery space it is truly a multifaceted space. The MAC brings life, art and culture to Multnomah village and the greater Portland area. please, DO NOT SHUT IT DOWN	05/21/25 1:44 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1139		As an individual		As a frequent person spending money on local Portland businesses without a car, I am very pleased to see a re-commitment to vision zero But More than words must be there So Look at the budget, Support Councilor Koyama-Lane's commitment to Vision zero which Saves human lives (both driver and non driver) and curtails wear and tear of the streets when Non cars are Not in excess as they Currently are and have been since the pandemic with the uptick in injuries and deaths from ignorance since 2016. The budget increase for Multiple Modes of transportation Gives choices to the public in a time when at least at the Federal level, Democracy and the freedom to choose is being taken away. Portland has always been different from what happens at the federal level. Councilor Green and Councilor Dunphy have found Money in the form of reallocation and the fact that there is both a City Manager and a committee for Economic development, I see Prosper Portland's money in the budget redundant. Support for reallocation of much of Prosper Portland's money should be an easy vote of yes. Currently there is a scale back in funding the needs of essential goods while the private sector gets funded and well, The public sector is Not supposed to be a corporate looking entity. Frustrations felt by the public are never fixed by efficiency but rather by Recognition. Recognize public health, an inequitable city, a housing crisis, and The Uptick of Injuries and deaths from Car drivers not choosing other methods of travel and Don't just name these things. What are the root causes and how Can this budget address ROOT Causes and not just have names and wins of private sector hand over to Never even reduce any of it. The profiteering over Public issues needs an ending. Private Contractors should Not be given windfalls as in the money the city doles out should be a mirror of the Defense budget waste which is mostly due to monopolies in supply chain without regulation of such. Public money given and public sector oversight is the only solution to Private sector Profiteering. Find the money to fund a solution to profiteering within FY 25- 26 Budget instead of all the noise of frugality which will cost more with privatizing for the budget year and in future budgets unless it is properly addressed NOW. Remember the private sector always moves in where a need is not fulfilled or its abandoned by the public sector and leads to happy contractors but unhappy constituents who get less for their money. Thank you for what I hope to see as critical thinking and listening to the public through actionable items in this budget as opposed to what has transpired over the last 4 years including on what was to be done over Racism and classism after George Floyd shed light on ways regulation and budgets contributed to these. Words are never enough. Right steps are the best way forward. I do see The Portland Street Response and a new form of city government as hopeful and are the right steps. This budget can add and must add to these steps through scrutiny and integrity and critical thinking as several councilors have done	05/21/25 1:45 PM
1140	hannah morton	As an individual		please don't close multnomah arts center! taking classes there has brought me so much joy and i can't imagine what i'd do without having this opportunity for growth and fun and community in my life	05/21/25 1:48 PM
1141		On behalf of an organization	CMC	About the closing of the community music center	05/21/25 1:48 PM
1142		As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is a community gem, one of the few art and music teaching communities on the west side. If you close it, there is no way for children, seniors and adults to replace the gap it will create in their lives. Please do not de-fund this irreplaceable community resource!	05/21/25 1:49 PM
1143		As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is an integral part of Multnomah Village which should not be closed. With continuous classes year round, it serves as a hub for our community and houses several non-profit organizations. It would be devastating to not only lose its services but to have a building that large just sit emptied is a huge waste!	05/21/25 1:50 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1144	Benjamin Landsverk	On behalf of an organization	Voices Unlimited	Hello friends! My name is Ben Landsverk, district 2, testifying against amendment 45. I have been a composer and professional musician for nearly 30 years, with most of my focus on community music and group singing. I'm a founder of Portland's Low Bar Chorale, and co-founder and artistic director of Voices Unlimited - Portland's flagship choir serving the neurodiverse community. Our choir is 70 members strong, and comprised of folks with autism, Down syndrome, and other superpowers across the neurodiversity spectrum. Since its founding in 2011, Voices Unlimited has called the Multnomah Arts Center home. We meet on Saturday afternoons to rehearse and perform a wide variety of vocal music. Every year we present a MainStage musical - this year, it's Frozen. The Multnomah Arts Center is the perfect place for our choir to meet. It's an inviting and inclusive space, full of art and a thriving community of artists. It's right on a TriMet line, and the multiple parking lots are easily accessible by TriMet Lift - a service many of our singers use. The front desk is always staffed, so our singers can arrive and depart on their own schedules, spend time together before and after rehearsals, and take advantage of the space and immerse themselves in the many gifts of community art. It really is the perfect home - they love it. Friends, if you close the Multnomah Arts Center, you are taking away their home. This is not a community that deals well with change. Closing the MAC will create distress, trauma, and a cultural crater in their lives. Voices Unlimited is in the middle of rehearsals for Frozen. Our show goes up September 20 - you have MAC scheduled for closure on Sept 1, right at crunch time. Friends, ask yourself, do I really want to take this away from this community? As for Commissioner Novick's amendment 45, I have just 3 words - Let It Go.	05/21/25 1:52 PM
1145	Debie Stellway	As an individual		Please don't close Multnomah Arts Center. We need more classes not less options.	05/21/25 1:52 PM
1146	Elisa Gusdal	As an individual		I'm commenting on Amendment Novik 4. Please keep The Multnomah Art Center and Music Center open. With all of the chaos going on in our world today, and budget cuts and expenses going up, now more than ever we need everything to do with the arts supported. The arts help us to think outside of the box, to think deeper and come up with creative solutions and to find the beauty in times that are not so beautiful. The arts are our mental health. Please please do not do the ordinary and cut the arts first. Stand up and try something contrary, fully support the arts by keeping these two places open and seeing how they give back to our community again and again. Thank you for listening to me.	05/21/25 1:56 PM
1147	Sylvia H Gray	As an individual		Community Music Center. Please do not close. This builds community - in a time when community building is fading and is urgent. I have performed there; I've been to other concerts; I've been to classes. It brings together all ages and gives children opportunities to learn music they otherwise would not have. Please do not cut - it's a small but important part of the fabric of our city. I am writing this at an airport between flights - I just heard about it and was shocked. I believe I am in district 4 but not positive and have no time to look it up. Sylvia	05/21/25 1:56 PM
1148		As an individual		Do NOT close MAC. MAC is an important pillar where folks can access affordable art classes and build community. Please do not close it, it is near and dear to so many.	05/21/25 2:01 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1149	Michelle Crimmins	As an individual		My name is Michelle Crimmins and I have been a resident of the city and an active voter for 25 years. I live in District 4 and am testifying today against an amendment to the city budget that would close the Multnomah Arts Center and the Music Center. This would be a short-sighted decision that would significantly damage the arts, culture and community life in Portland. I have been a user of the MAC for more then two decades and many phases of life. I attended classes together with my children, and took them to creative classes when they were kids. I've myself have taken accessible and reasonably-priced classes of various types as an adult: ceramics, printmaking, metals, lithography and more, just for fun and to connect with fellow citizens doing something creative. I didn't need to buy tools or – I could share the ones available. The space offers learning opportunities and instruction that simply cannot be accessed anywhere else in the city – and will disappear, along with the jobs of the people who provide them. I attend classes want to learn something new and challenge myself in a positive environment, while meeting others. There are few opportunities to do that in modern society anymore. This is one of the last remaining places. I cannot believe the City Council would consider closing these incredible gems that serve such a critical role in our community. And Multnomah Arts Center is truly a community center. People come from all over our city to take these popular and engaging classes. (It's not just District 4.) They dance, they act, they sing, they play, they make music, they create, they express themselves. They build empathy for other human beings. They build skills, intelligence, self-worth and confidence – especially the children – as they work together to create. We hear over and over again that there is an epidemic of loneliness in society, few safe and enriching places for kids to go after school, a lack of community organizations for adults to connect and gather and learn about and from each other – why would the city remove a key place to do these things? Many lament the federal government's recent funding cuts to arts and culture organizations – why would the City of Portland pile on? In just my last few classes, I have sat with and connected with a college student, a retiree, a highschooler, a person experiencing homelessness from the safe rest village just down the street, a middle school teacher, a physician, a thrift store worker, an engineer, and a young adult just finding her way in the work world. It is a multigenerational gathering space, always humming with activity and life. I have learned not only from the absolutely exceptional and amazing teachers, but from each of these encounters. Classes are full and the parking lot is full. The Multnomah Arts Center serves many of the most vulnerable in our society: older adults and our children, doing things that bring meaning and joy to life – creation and expression. Last evening while I was in class, I did an informal survey about the Multnomah Arts Center, asking fellow class members how they would describe it, what it meant to them – here are some of the answers: •Connection •Community •Rejuvenating •Creative •Can be myself here, it's like home	05/21/25 2:01 PM
1150	Melissa Hoving	As an individual		Don't close MAC! As a member of the SW Portland Community Band, a non-profit organization that supports the Ida B Wells High School Band, I urge you to not close MAC. We are 50 members from the local community, and we perform twice a year at the Multnomah Arts Center. We fill the main auditorium to CAPACITY and proceeds from our concerts support new musical instruments and equipment for the Wells High School band program. If MAC closes it will negatively impact the students in the band program at Wells High School. Don't close MAC!	05/21/25 2:05 PM
1151	Xavier D. Stickler	On behalf of an organization	Downtown Neighborhood Association	Dear Portland City Council, Attached is a letter of support for Frog Ferry signed by 71 members of the downtown community. While Frog Ferry is not requesting any general fund money from the City, instead applying for the transportation decarbonization grant PCEF due next week, we want the Council to be aware of the fervent community support for this initiative.	05/21/25 2:06 PM
1152	Enus Estrada	As an individual		Art and music are a cultural necessity. It's a universal way for all of us to Express our feeling and moods. The world would far worse off without our creative freedom being shown in art and music	05/21/25 2:07 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1153	Mary Lopez	On behalf of an organization	Latinx Community Choir Project	The Community Music Center has become so much more than just a place to sing—it's a space where I feel seen, heard, and deeply connected to my culture. As a member of the Latinx community choir, I've found a home away from home, surrounded by people who share not just music, but stories, traditions, and joy. Through this choir, I've reconnected with my heritage in ways that make me feel proud and empowered. We don't just sing; we celebrate our roots. Every rehearsal is filled with laughter, learning, and a shared sense of belonging that's rare to find. In a city where it's easy to feel isolated, especially as a woman of color rebuilding her life, CMC has been a vital lifeline for me—and for so many others. This center uplifts entire communities by making music accessible and inclusive. It fosters unity, creativity, and healing. We need places like CMC to stay open, not just for current participants, but for future generations who deserve a space to grow, express themselves, and be embraced just as they are. Please keep the Community Music Center open. It is a sanctuary of culture, connection, and community. —Mary Lopez	05/21/25 2:10 PM
1154		As an individual		DO NOT CLOSE THE ARTS CENTERS! Public arts access is vital to our community and the city as a whole.	05/21/25 2:10 PM
1155	Hayli Hay	As an individual		Please keep the Multnomah Arts Center open! It is integral to our community and the multnomah village neighborhood.	05/21/25 2:11 PM
1156		As an individual		Property Compliance (PP&D) is a public health and safety function. A core City responsibility.	05/21/25 2:13 PM
1157	Janis Wright	As an individual		The multnomah art center is an important part of our community! It is imparative to. Keep the center open. It brings people in our neighborhoods together, teaches classes and has vibrant cultural events. Please do not close this center!	05/21/25 2:17 PM
1158	Wendy Woodrich	As an individual		Please DO NOT CLOSE the Multnomah Arts Center! It is a vital part of the Multnomah Village community, and the greater Portland community as well. I attend fitness classes there, have been to many art shows, and attended the memorial to a very dear friend there. Closure would leave a huge hole in my heart!	05/21/25 2:17 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1159	Charlie Michelle-Westley	On behalf of an organization	Portland Copwatch	May 21, 2025 2025-2026 Budget Amendments Portland Copwatch + Lived Experience Testimony I am Charlie Michelle-Westley here on behalf of Portland Copwatch, a tribal member, a victim of police brutality and systemic racism including in this chamber. We, of Portland Copwatch, advocate that the Portland Police address systemic issues, stop harassing, profiling, assaulting, and killing people and hold Police to real accountability. The budget is a police accountability tool that has been under-utilized. We're encouraged by the councilors' efforts to use it to require PPB transparency, provide closer oversight, and invest in safer, proven, publicly supported efforts like PSR. Public safety should be safe for all. Until that is the case, we do not support any additional funding nor do we believe the police budget should be exempt from cuts. Just 2 weeks ago the city paid out \$475,000 on two settlements for police brutality and violating constitutional rights. - Recently, more than a dozen officers took unlawful actions against a black disabled man. Handcuffed him, took his possessions, damaged his vehicle, yet, no charges filed, because no crime had been committed. This is not uncommon. - Only 3 officers even filed the required reports! - This is not public safety, especially for our BIPOC Community members. This is targeted traumatizing state sanctioned brutality. - An egregious waste of our taxes. - No need for more officers or overtime; instead the need is for addressing systemic targeting issues to build trust. ~~My personal testimony: I'm so grateful for those few city councilors that fight for us, who hear us, who value our lived experience, that~~	05/21/25 2:17 PM
1160	Sara Jean Accuardi	As an individual		I want to add my voice to the chorus of Portland community members stepping up to fight for the Community Music Center and MAC. These organizations are vital to our community. What they offer to members of the community of all ages is irreplaceable. Now, more than ever, our community needs resources like this at a time when arts in Portland-- a city known for vibrant artistic expression-- are dwindling. These organizations foster healthy, community-minded, empathetic, creative thinking members of society-- don't we need to encourage that as much as we can these days? There is no need for us to suffer this loss.	05/21/25 2:19 PM
1161	Jonah Pawley	As an individual		The MAC is an amazing space for all sorts of community events, including sports and arts related activities, especially for those who would struggle to afford it otherwise and kids still learning and finding things they enjoy. Closing the MAC would do nothing but take away much of the joy surrounding these events and would be an incredible loss of resources to the community.	05/21/25 2:21 PM
1162		As an individual		Closing the Multnomah Arts Center is a huge mistake. Removing a community space in Portland will make problems in Portland worse, not better. Kids need a place to spend time so they stay out of trouble, adults need a place to socialize and meet with their neighbors. If funding is an issue, tuition can always be raised or other community groups can step in. It's hard to believe that the decision to close the MAC isn't just a convenient excuse to stop arts funding as a whole. Funding for the arts is one of the few things I am happy my tax money goes to - it increases equity and makes the world better. I can't say the same for everything else that's part of the general budget.	05/21/25 2:24 PM

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1163	Elisabeth Le Guin	As an individual		My name is Elisabeth Le Guin and I am speaking to you from Southern California. I grew up in Portland, and from 1969, when I was 12 – the age of the middle schoolers who came to this meeting -- the Community Music Center was a central part of my life. So much so that I went on to become a professional Classical musician, a career for which CMC prepared me extremely well. I'm here today to urge the Council to VOTE 'NO' ON AMENDMENT #45, which would defund the Community Music Center and cause it to close. It is an organization like no other in the United States, providing first-class musical education and experiences to a broad community of people at very low cost. Sure, this costs the city money. But it will cost the city far more to close the Center. Music enriches us in ways that far outstrip its financial impact. Cutting, starving, dismissing music may produce a nicely balanced budget; but it cuts, starves, and dismisses our ability to listen to and harmonize with those different from ourselves. Please don't take an irrevocable step toward making Portland into a city that used to be a great place to live. Maintain your commitment to Community Music Center, and Portlanders – former, present, and future -- will sing your praises.	05/21/25 2:25 PM
1164	Blake Shell	On behalf of an organization	Portland Arts and Culture for Equity	I'm Blake Shell, Executive and Artistic Director of Oregon Contemporary, and I'm here today on behalf of Portland Arts and Culture for Equity, a group of organizations advocating collectively at portlandartsandculture.org. The City of Portland removed all DEIA measurements from the funding tiers of Arts Organization support this year. Now Councilor Novick has proposed the closures of the Multnomah Arts Center and Community Music Center. Throughout the city's arts and culture community, we see this as a further act of aggression towards the arts and equity in this city. The MAC and CMC serve youth to seniors and people of all abilities and give access to the arts for many who would not have access otherwise. The arts and culture sector is a larger economic driver than transportation, tourism, agriculture, and construction. Portland's successes, population, and identity are tied to the arts, in particular smaller cultural assets. Arts employ Portlanders and arts programs and events are community safety. To view the arts as a separate force from the economy, employment, and safety of Portlanders is completely false. There is no version of a great city with a declining artist population. Portlanders want this to be a city of arts for all, please don't make it a city of arts for some. PLEASE VOTE 'NO' ON AMMENDMENT #45	05/21/25 2:26 PM
1165		As an individual		The Multnomah arts center has been a pillar of my community for decades, since I was a child. To have funding cut for such a valuable community space would be deeply saddening. I sincerely hope this bill can be amended to preserve such an important landmark.	05/21/25 2:32 PM
1166	k haapala	As an individual		Multnomah arts center is a special and vibrant piece of SW Portland. Our community actively participates in art shows, classes, theater performances, etc. This facility should NOT be considered as an amendment for cost savings strategy for city budgets. The MAC is well utilized by many different sectors of the area and provides unique and affordable opportunities for arts enrichment as well as exercise classes, etc. DO NOT CLOSE THE M.A.C. and eliminate this amazing portland resource	05/21/25 2:33 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1167	Ocean Jasso	As an individual		Dear Councilors, My name is Ocean Jasso. I'm the Advisory Bodies Analyst at the Office of Community & Civic Life. While our Immigrant and Refugee Program Coordinator, Wafa Almakari, is on leave, I've been filling in for her, particularly with supporting the New Portlanders Policy Commission (NPPC). In that capacity, I would like to share my support for Zimmerman 7 to increase the Immigrant and Refugee Program from 1 to 2 FTE. While my colleague can't be here right now, I want to emphasize how much Wafa has built up the Immigrant and Refugee Program. With the support of our bureau, Wafa has worked to build partnerships between the City and other jurisdictions, including the Clear Clinic, which offers free help on Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) renewals with work permit applications, immigration legal screenings, and advance parole for DACA recipients. Wafa has helped to build up public-private partnerships through the City's Welcoming Week program, working to acquire sponsorships for this annual event—an event that I and the rest of Civic Life support annually. Wafa has also built up our New Portlanders Policy Commission, adding eight new members to the NPPC. While Wafa has been away, I've assisted the NPPC with drafting a letter to Mayor Wilson, urging him to use his platform to speak out against the deportation of Kilmar Abrego Garcia and the visa revocations of some of our college students here in Portland due to their political activities. I've also arranged to have Mayor Wilson join us at our next NPPC meeting on June 10th. Lastly, I want to highlight that Wafa was recently honored by Gov. Tina Kotek with the Women of Achievement Emerging Leader Award for her work with the City's Immigrant and Refugee Program. This is a prestigious award and a testament to the impact of Wafa's work and effort to build up the Immigrant and Refugee Program. The City's Immigrant and Refugee Program used to have 2 dedicated FTE. I've seen it whittled down to 1 FTE. Imagine what more Wafa could accomplish with the Immigrant and Refugee Program if she had more support. Please support Zimmerman 7. Thank you, Ocean Jasso Advisory Bodies Analyst I Office of Community & Civic Life	05/21/25 2:37 PM
1168	Rachel Bancroft	On behalf of an organization	Bridging Voices	It has come to my attention that Steve Novick submitted an amendment in the City's budget to permanently close down the Community Music Center as of September 1 of this year. I implore you NOT TO CLOSE DOWN THE COMMUNITY MUSIC CENTER. That amendment to the city budget is really harmful. I am the board chairperson for Bridging Voices, a nonprofit queer youth choir for kids ages 13-21. As you may know, nonprofits have been hit hard this year. We have had to scale back our staff because of our funding struggles. In order to cut costs and meet the needs of the youth, we discontinued our contract with our previous rehearsal space, and entered into a contract with CMC. We are able to rent the space free of charge, and it is ADA accessible. It's also really important to have non-religious spaces for arts organizations. The CMC has been great for us. Without it, we have very few options and will probably have to pay at least \$2000 per month for a rehearsal space. That is a lot for a small nonprofit. Please reconsider this amendment. The CMC is an important space for the community. And after all the hits to arts funding at the federal level, to have cuts at the city level is devastating. Thank you, Rachel Bancroft	05/21/25 2:38 PM
1169	Peggy Shannon	On behalf of an organization	District2 NECN	I support amendments that will restore DCO funding as much as possible . We realize there has to be cutbacks, and also realize how minimal support is needed to sustain our neighborhood organizations, which help prevent the root causes of crime, homelessness, and deterioration of businesses; namely, poor community services. Community/neighborhood programs keep kids/adults safe and out of trouble, and promotes good citizenship. Cops are needed, yes, for extreme transgressions, but community crime prevention and healthy behavior programs are essential to reduce the need for cops.	05/21/25 2:42 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1170	Heather Weyda	As an individual		I am writing to urge that the council reject Amendment #45, which will result in the closure of the Multnomah Arts Center and the Community Music Center. I moved here from Ohio in 2019, right before the pandemic hit. After restrictions were lifted, I craved a sense of community. I found that much-needed connection in the Multnomah Arts Center. Every Tuesday night, I attend a weaving class that is filled with people from all over the city, of various ages, and diverse backgrounds. The weaving program has been a part of Portland Parks and Recreation since 1955, and what a waste it would be to throw that history away on, seemingly, Councilor Novick's ill-conceived whim. Please consider how removing these resources from our community will affect the city at large. Please vote no on Amendment 45. Thank you.	05/21/25 2:43 PM
1171	Mary Jaron Kelley	As an individual		Hello, I am a city of Portland, office of Community and Civic Life staff person and CPPW member. I have worked for the city, and this evolving bureau for over 25 years. I have witnessed so many changes and transitions. I have been listening to the testimony and reading the councilors' amendments. I have supported thousands of community members in North Portland while working for NPNS, and now I am supporting the District 4 coalition office. I encourage councilors to delve into the work that engagement staff does for community members, individuals and committees, how we work to share and connect people with City services and beyond, before they make budget decisions that also impact the wider communities, and districts. I agree that district coalition offices should not bear the brunt of cuts, and I also agree that there is administrative waste throughout the city. However, there are staff that are engagement experts committed to the communities that they serve- and that ultimately if those engagement experts are removed, communities will also suffer.	05/21/25 2:44 PM
1172		As an individual		Vite No on amendment 45	05/21/25 2:46 PM
1173	Jennifer Brinkman	On behalf of an organization	Portland Samba	Hello, please do not vote to close the Community Music Center or the Multnomah Arts Center. Portland Samba utilizes the CMC weekly in the fall and winter to practice and provide classes to the public where folks in the community can learn to play a drum and other instruments. The CMC and the MAC are both vital to the communities within the city, offering resources and opportunities that can't be offered elsewhere. They both serve marginalized communities, providing enrichment thru the arts which nurture and promote wellness, physically and mentally. I implore all city council members to not vote to close CMC & MAC! Thank you, Jennifer	05/21/25 2:48 PM
1174	Heidi Owen	As an individual		I'm writing to beg the city to keep the Community Music Center and the Multnomah Arts Center open. These two centers provide CRUCIAL access to arts instruction to children and adults in Portland. This is particularly important since arts are basically non-existent in most PPS schools, and with the federal government cutting funding to arts and humanities. When my daughter was young, we couldn't afford private music or dance lessons, and the Community Music Center allowed us to provide that to her. They instilled in her a love of dance, music, and art, which she still participates in today. PLEASE don't take the arts away from Portland's underserved children!!!!	05/21/25 2:52 PM
1175	Aidan Wolfe	On behalf of an organization	Sunrise PDX	Hello City Council, My name is Aidan Wolfe, I'm a 33 year old lifelong Portland resident. I have spent a lot of time in various communities around Portland and care deeply about this city's health and safety. At this time, I am a recent collaborator with Sunrise PDX and the Working Families Party of Oregon. I wanted to briefly voice my support for Councilor Avalos's proposal to divert 75% of the proposed allocation of funds for police overtime to a discretionary fund under Council oversight. I believe strongly in reimagining our city's approach to public safety and reigning in the spending of the PPB, whose budget seems to grow year over year despite no noticeable changes in their positive impact on our community. I wish to see our city's drug, mental health, and housing crises brought under control in a humane and well thought out way. I believe this can be done by prioritizing investments in our vibrant communities. Additonally, I would also like to voice my support for Councilor Novick's proposal to introduce a tax on CEO's making more than 100 times the median employee salary at their company. Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony and the hard work you all have put into crafting a budget that works for all Portlanders in this difficult time.	05/21/25 2:54 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1176	A lifelong Portlander (remaining anonymous for privacy in public record)	As an individual		Hello Councilors! I am very concerned that police use up such a giant portion of Portland's budget. I want to see police funding dramatically decreased. Because public safety is created by strong communities and not by police, I want to see funding maintained for parks, arts and music programs, youth programs, community centers, and Portland Street Response. I also want to see funding reallocated from Prosper Portland's General Fund toward the above community programs. I was happy to vote for councilors Koyama Lane and Morillo who I trusted would advocate for these priorities. Thank you all for your work.	05/21/25 2:57 PM
1177	Jennifer Lanier	As an individual		The upcoming budget has some provision for Portland Center Stage of \$450,000. That would be incredibly helpful. PCS is the largest theatre in Portland and the second largest in the state. The pandemic led to huge financial problems as it did so many theatres across the country. PCS is very important to their neighborhood for driving business to them. PCS is important to Portland as a whole as a vibrant, nationally recognized theatre that puts local talent to work. PCS is crucial to Portland's culture as an arts leader in Oregon. I am a board member and believe it is in the best interest of the city to fund PCS as well as support the other arts venues in town. Please vote for funding PCS and fund the ARTS & Culture General Fund. Portland also needs these groups to create a more positive view of our city instead of it being seen as a punchline.	05/21/25 2:59 PM
1178	Casimir Covert-Keefe	As an individual		Please do not give the Portland Police Department any more money. Public safety will be better served by maintaining and improving upon community improvements, like parks, libraries, and restrooms. Help build a safe public rather than fostering a department that punishes those they deem out of line.	05/21/25 3:01 PM
1179	Joel Devalcourt	As an individual		I strongly oppose budget amendment 55 proposed by Council members Dunphy and Green. It cynically targets Prosper for funding unspecified corporate interests, which couldn't be further from the truth. In fact, a large share of the funding provides targeted, equitable funding for Portland's resilient and diverse small businesses and nonprofits, most of which have been marginalized by capital markets and disinvestment. The Council members arbitrarily equate TIF resources with council-approved economic development funds. Would the council support defunding Our People's Market, Winter Lights Festival, and technical assistance for minority-owned food businesses, among so many other terrible consequences? That's the effect of this amendment. Ironically, the Council members argue that they want more public control, yet Prosper has consistently demonstrated stellar financial audits and the agency's community engagement is top notch. An 11th hour proposal that has almost no public support is not the kind of governance Portlanders asked for with the new charter. It would be a shame to defund our growing, equitable economy for self-serving and misdirected ideological reasons.	05/21/25 3:02 PM
1180	Colleen Holland	As an individual		My name is Colleen Holland, Thanks for your time . I strongly oppose Steve Novick's #45 agenda to close Multnomah Art Center. (MAC) Art is a life line for so many people. MAC makes a variety of art easily available to a diverse population. I have lived in the Maplewood Neighborhood for 26 years. As a single mother MAC offered an affordable creative education to my son. It's a welcoming community; Fluid with vibrant creativity that makes for a healthy society. Currently I love the highly professional curated exhibits. The space may be dated but artists care far more about affordable function than state of the art pomp. Let us celebrate what works and leave it alone! Please vote no on agenda 45. Art is food for the soul, and measure of a societies well being. MAC is the heart of Multnomah village's community. Truly yours, Colleen Holland	05/21/25 3:04 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1181	Frances Chewinng	As an individual		I virtually attended the entire 2+ hours of the meeting today waiting to speak, but, because of the overflow of speakers, I was not able to. I am not surprised by the overflow. I was there, like so many others, because of the absolutely shocking news that there was an amendment on the table (45) to shut down the Multnomah Arts Center and Community Music Center. I whole-heartedly endorse every person's arguments in favor of maintaining funding for these vital, unique, and successful public services. If I knew what the thinking was behind considering closing them, I would tailor my remarks to those arguments because these organizations provide good in so many different ways -- for the human soul, for community, as a crime-prevention tool, as an economic engine. Having listened to the varied and compelling testimonies, I was going to share my perspective as someone who recently moved to Portland. I heard several folks who were advocating for more police spending talk about the "doom spiral" of people leaving Portland. Well the MAC achieves the exact opposite. I moved to Portland partially because of MAC and certainly because of the culture that it embodies. It is a heartbeat of Portland and a hub in the community. As someone who grew up in Madison, Wisconsin, went to school in Boston, spent about a decade in NYC, and another in L.A., all wonderful cities in their own ways, I can tell you, Portland is unique. Portland is unique because it supports and fosters community. Not only does MAC offer classes, it hosts free events on the First Fridays that allows families and multiple generations to interact, gather, and engage with each other at no cost. The independent stores and restaurants in the neighborhood benefit economically, but we are there as humans and neighbors not as consumers or customers. I work a full-time job but can barely make ends meet. Nevertheless, at MAC, my daughter can take ballet, theater, and art classes. Portland makes this possible. It is easy to destroy things. It is not so easy to create organizations as meaningful and impactful as the MAC and CMC. They have been around for decades and are continuing to grow in order to reach more and more people and children in Portland. They help make Portland the soul-enriching city that it is. I remain astonished that there is even a consideration that they be closed. If such an amendment is possible, then, despite the many other voices that have spoken, I must speak too. Vote NO on Amendment 45. MAC and CMC are precious. Protect them.	05/21/25 3:05 PM
1182	Lajune Thorson	On behalf of an organization	Downtown Neighborhood Association	Please support Cpouncilor Clark's amendment to share part of her budget to help fund the District 4 Coalition.	05/21/25 3:11 PM
1183	Alaric True	As an individual		Dear Portland City Council It has come to my attention that the Community Music Center is slated to be discontinued, to be shut down. Please, I beg of you, reconsider. I understand that budgets are tight and many are fearful of changes at the federal level that might have further negative effects on state and local budgets, but to lose such an important cultural key stone as this affordable, accessible music center is to take one step farther away from our own humanity. The Community Music Center has given so many Portlanders their start as lifelong musicians. It is open to all at any level at an affordable price - indeed, many of us are not able to afford private music lessons. There must be a way to save this institution - please don't cut it - we need it. It is too important. I appreciate that you have to make difficult decisions and, as a member of civic leadership,you are beholden to many different interests and constituents. Please reevaluate the importance of this resource - the Community Music Center is vital to so many. Would slightly raising fees help pay for the projected shortfalls, even if they remained within reach for low income families? Thank you for your time, Alaric True	05/21/25 3:19 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1184	Kelly Song	As an individual		Hello Mayor, Administrator, and Council Members, My name is Kelly Song. I was at the council meeting since 8:50am this morning, and unfortunately I was not able to speak my piece today, so I am writing it here. That being said, thank you for working on the balance. I can only imagine that balancing a city's budget is one of the more difficult things to accomplish, especially in our city, especially now. You never know what will work. I was going to wax on about the MAC's virtues, and how it kept us from moving away when we were poor. Now that we have enough money to not worry about rent for the next 6 months, I am so glad the MAC kept us here. Instead of going on and on, I'm going to address a question that came to me when I was listening to everyone's testimony. "How do you know community centers are working?" You try to shut them down. If the community is there, it responds. Imagine if everyone in the community knew you were shutting it down. Thank you for reading, good luck with everything, Kelly Song	05/21/25 3:22 PM
1185	Tina Skiles	As an individual		Due to the time limitations for public testimony at today's council meeting, I was unable to give in-person verbal testimony so I am submitting my testimony online. I am respectfully asking City Council to vote NO on Amendment 45 which would close the Multnomah Art Center and Community Music Center. It seems extremely drastic to permanently close these two vibrant art centers (in order to balance the 2025-26 budget) without a longer process for public input. I am testifying as a grandmother on behalf of my grandchildren, who didn't want to miss school today, but absolutely love MAC. Their favorite activity is First Friday Arts for All. They (and my) lives are also enriched by dance and art classes, visiting the gallery, and watching the drama productions put on by the children and youth drama classes. To them, art is as important as visiting local playgrounds, which they also love. I'm also testifying as a member of the Columbia Basin Basketry Guild, a non-profit organization run entirely by volunteers that has been headquartered at MAC since 1990, over 35 years. CBBG's mission is to preserve, promote, and teach the art of basketry. The Guild currently has over 350 members, many of whom reside in Portland and the surrounding Metro region but due to the outstanding quality of the Guild's programs (offered both in-person and via zoom, members come from all over Oregon, other states and Canada. Closure of MAC would have a drastic impact on the Guild and many other arts programs and non-profits that call MAC home. Multnomah Art Center is at the heart of Multnomah Village and supports Portland's land use goal of investing in the village to keep it as a vibrant, diverse community. You just supported making a major capital investment on 82nd Avenue, finding that BRT, bike, pedestrian and safety improvement will help that street meet those same land use goals. The proposal to close MAC would do the exact opposite for Multnomah Village. Please do not approve amendment 45 to the 2025-26 budget. Thank you for your service.	05/21/25 3:23 PM
1186	Barbara LaCombr	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center. I recall taking my two granddaughters there for music lessons. It was a wonderfully enriching experience for them. Thank you.	05/21/25 3:27 PM

1187

Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
	As an individual		Neighborhood Associations and Coalition Funding: Funding should be fully eliminated. The system has been rendered ineffective due to changes under former Commissioners Eudaly and Hardesty, which dismantled a once nationally recognized model. Many associations have since collapsed, and city support staff have exited. Standards are no longer enforced, and meetings are often held in exclusive, adult-only venues like bars—alienating youth and culturally diverse participants. The current system no longer serves its intended public purpose. Immigrant and Refugee Program: This is not an essential city service. Most cities do not operate such programs directly. Numerous nonprofits, already supported by state, federal, and private funding, do this work more appropriately. City resources should be focused on core municipal functions. James Beard Public Market: This should receive no public funding. The location suffers from high crime and declining foot traffic. It risks becoming a failed investment similar to the underused hotels near the Oregon Convention Center. Public dollars should not subsidize speculative development in unstable areas. Prosper Portland Grants and Funds: Taxpayer money should not be used to subsidize wealthy developers and landowners. These funds should be eliminated immediately. Prosper Portland lacks accountability and transparency, and the public sees little benefit. Noise Office: This office appears ineffective. Multiple complaints result only in automated responses with no follow-up. If a program provides no measurable service to the public, it should be shut down. Oppose Avalos Proposal for \$1.2M in Nonprofit Grants: This proposal lacks oversight and accountability, with funds likely to flow to favored organizations with personal ties. There are no public KPIs or reporting requirements. Taxpayer money should not be used as unrestricted grants to politically connected nonprofits. Small Donor Elections Program: Do not increase funding. This is not a core function of local government. While basic services like street sweeping go unfunded, taxpayer dollars are being redirected to campaigns. That's unacceptable. Keller Auditorium Renovation: Any renovation funding should require future rental and ticket pricing to fully cover operating costs. The arts already receive funding through the dedicated arts tax. It's time to prioritize critical infrastructure—like street maintenance and flood mitigation—over	05/21/25 3:28 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1188	Ocean Jasso	As an individual		Dear Councilors, My name is Ocean Jasso. I'm the Advisory Bodies Analyst at the Office of Community & Civic Life. I'm submitting this written testimony to encourage you to vote no on the following amendments: Kanal 3, Zimmerman 5, Zimmerman 6, Zimmerman 8, and Zimmerman 9. Kanal 3 would eliminate the Chief Engagement Officer position and distribute those funds into 2 FTE Positions: an Analyst III and an Analyst II position. The city spent roughly six months recruiting for the new Chief Engagement Officer position—as a result, Amanda Garcia Snell was hired. Amanda has been on the job for about three months now. She truly hasn't had a chance to show her capabilities, nor has she been empowered to do her job. Eliminating Amanda's position now would be a waste of taxpayer money. Zimmerman 5 would also be a waste of taxpayer money in eliminating the Chief Engagement Officer position, given that the city spent six months recruiting for the position, while Amanda Garcia-Snell has only served in the position for three months. Why go through all the effort to hire someone, only to discard them barely months into their tenure? It makes no sense. I will also note that with Zimmerman 5, I understand the need to cut administrative costs and that layoffs will ultimately be inevitable. But Councilor Zimmerman doesn't appear to understand nor wants to understand what Civic Life does or what these positions do. As for Zimmerman 6, 8, and 9: I'm not opposed to these programs being moved elsewhere; but Councilor Zimmerman stated during the May 14, 2025 Budget Work Session that the reason behind his amendments 5-9 is to eliminate the Office of Community & Civic Life. However, this betrays Councilor Zimmerman's lack of understanding of the City Charter. Section 2-301 of the City Charter states that "The City Council establishes the bureaus and their authority by ordinance. The Mayor exercises all executive and administrative powers over the bureaus." If Councilor Zimmerman wants to eliminate Civic Life, it's his right to seek that. However, Councilor Zimmerman needs to seek that through an ordinance that would eliminate the bureau from city code. Councilor Zimmerman cannot eliminate a bureau through the budget process. Councilors, I urge you to oppose Kanal 3, Zimmerman 5, Zimmerman 6, Zimmerman 8, and Zimmerman 9. Thank you, Ocean Jasso	05/21/25 3:28 PM
1189	Fred Knack	As an individual		Hi I just want to express my support for the Multnomah Arts Center. It is a critical resource for the community. Many seniors use this center for social interaction. Removing it would cause more isolation in an already isolated world. There has got to be a way to run it on some reduced level rather than shutting it down completely. Thanks	05/21/25 3:29 PM
1190	Lorena Varga	As an individual		Removing Arts and Culture is removing individuals and their voices. We rise as a nation, indivisible through our artistic and cultural approaches. That's how we learn, bond, and grow. Whether you see it or not, art and culture is in your everyday day living. It's in your everyday cup of Joe, your drive to work and the building that you dedicate your work hours in. Almost everything tangible and intangible is intertwined with art and culture. Because of art and culture we have sayings like "Eyes can see only what the brain can comprehend" a line used to motivate people to grow their intellects and contribution to society. Through sayings like that we develop the will to create and evolve. Please do not take away the people's voice and comfort during times of need especially chaotic times that we are experiencing right now. We can use this for more than just entertainment, it's a way to reach millions of individuals. Life is bleak without art. And everyone realizes that at some point in their lives, whether they're an artist or not. Don't let it be too late.	05/21/25 3:31 PM
1191	Barbara Bochinski	As an individual		I agree with Je Amaechi's testimony. Having talked with various houseless people, I think the emergency shelters are germly and risky. The Police are not synonymous with public safety. Parks and Rec keep people supported and out of trouble. Thank you.	05/21/25 3:35 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1192	Barbara Bochinski	As an individual		I agree with Je Amaechi's testimony. Having talked with various houseless people, I think the emergency shelters are germmy and risky. The Police are not synonymous with public safety. Parks and Rec keep people supported and out of trouble. Thank you.	05/21/25 3:35 PM
1193	Nanci Champlin	On behalf of an organization	Southeast Uplift, District 3 Coalition	Budget Section: City Administrator Thank you, Councilors, for your time and leadership! I'm Nanci Champlin, I serve on the board at Sellwood Community House. Today, I am writing as the executive director of Southeast Uplift District 3 Coalition that serves the 19 neighborhoods in inner Southeast and parts of NE Portland. Along with our sister District Coalitions, we are primarily funded through Civic Life. Collectively we support the City's 94 neighborhood associations, plus dozens of other local groups – many led-by and serving some of Portland's most marginalized communities. These organizations serve on our boards, sometimes receive Community Small Grants, and utilize the support we offer through our civic incubator programs. All of this is in service to helping our City thrive. I urge you to take 3 actions around the FY 25-26 budget: 1) Please support the Councilor Avalos and Zimmerman amendments that would restore funding to the District Coalition base grants, and the Community Small Grants program. 2) Please provide the \$80,000 that the Coalitions need for the insurance to support a volunteer army in every Portland neighborhood. As one-time funds this year, those dollars expire on July 1st. 3) Support Councilor Clark's "Community Partnership Support Framework" that would identify programs and service ripe for community partnerships. Once piloted, please explore applying this framework to other service areas. For example, Sellwood Community House is reviving free summer recreation in Portland parks, and currently SE Uplift is partnering with Urban Forestry to increase tree canopy in eight priority District 3 neighborhoods through our long-standing relationship with those neighborhood associations. We stand ready to explore with you other ways that this civic infrastructure can be leveraged to help our city meet its goals. Thanks again. I wish you much stamina as you near the finish line!	05/21/25 3:36 PM
1194	Mark Neher	As an individual		RE: Community Music Center (CMC) I realize the City of Portland is struggling financially, and is looking to cut costs in order to balance a budget. The CMC is one organization that should be spared as the community benefit far outweighs the cost. One of our children took lessons and performed on multiple occasions at the CMC for multiple years. This experience was quite valuable to her development as an educated, well-rounded individual. Ever since, our family has continued to support CMC via regular donations, as we firmly believe the CMC is an exceptional organization which has provided an exponential return on investment! When considering what to cut, we simply ask that you carefully weigh where our city's resources are best used, and invest into programs and organizations that provide the greatest return in value back to our community. In our minds, the CMC definitely passes this test, and should be allowed to continue its mission.	05/21/25 3:40 PM
1195	Eve Ashkar	On behalf of an organization	Adler Commercial Properties	Please see my attached document for full comments.	05/21/25 3:53 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1196		As an individual		Please DO NOT LET the Multnomah Arts Center close down! It is a huge part of my life and so important to the community.	05/21/25 3:53 PM
	Amy Tilley	As an individual		Multnomah Arts Center is a mainstay of our community. The classes and art studios are one of a kind and reach the many. The studios provide a deep and enriching education into many fields of the arts such as woodworking, ceramics, jewelry, performance, painting, dance, music, for all ages and walks of life. The center provides space and/or services for the needy, elderly, and community services such as The Neighborhood House, and the police. The arts and community building are needed the most when times are tough. We need this center for a place to come together, support one another, and explore our humanity through the arts. The education learned at the MAC is as important as what is learned in our public schools. The MAC is one of the places that makes Portland special. As a citizen, I (as all Multnomah residents) pay additional taxes for the arts, preschool, and homeless. We support our larger community. I am asking that the MAC stays open and continues to support us, the community!	05/21/25 4:00 PM
1197	Liz	As an individual		Save Community Music Center! Please don't make cuts to the community music center (CMC)! I've been to a number of amazing cultural performances & workshops at CMC over the years that would have never been accessible to the public without the CMC. This winter, I found myself at a special workshop given by Portland Samba by an incredible, famous Brazilian musician who came to Portland just for it. I wish the council could have experienced it, because it encapsulated the inclusive vibrancy that makes Portland so great to live in: testament to the vital importance that the CMC provides to the city. Before even entering, one could feel the electricity in the neighborhood air, see the people exuding joy & excitement gathering at the CMC, it was almost like a Timbers game! There was dance & music all day: people rhythmically coming in & out providing the beat of vibrant community. There must've been 55 people throughout the short time I was there, one of the most diverse events I've ever been to in Portland. But, here's the thing: I've been going since to the 'regular' Saturday practices at CMC & each activity is just as amazing. It provided a light I am so grateful for during a dark winter. The group has quickly become a second family: people engaging with each other to buy instruments locally, planning trips to Brazil from PDX airport, buying food & water at local grocers to support the performance in the parade, meeting up each weekend to gather at local food carts, meeting up at local restaurants to plan parade details & discuss representing Portland at events in Seattle, California... None of this would happen without the space CMC provides, as it is the foundation. Portland Samba is just a tiny fraction of the people that CMC supports, and we are significantly large in numbers, strong in community building. I urge you to vote in support to keep CMC open & thriving, and invite you to join us! Thank you, Liz Villarreal 97206 P.s. image attached is just a small fraction of Portland samba: this is the top tier performance group.	05/21/25 4:06 PM
1198	Lyndsay Levy	As an individual		It is hard to believe that we are looking at closing the multnomah arts center and giving more money to the police ❤️ parks, rec centers and places that allow the public to participate in art and music are essential at this time living in the hand maids tale of anericia	05/21/25 4:10 PM
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	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1200	Lorreina Guyett	As an individual		I was originally slotted to speak today but was unable to due to the large influx of speakers for this. Since this will now be written, I apologize in advanced for adding additional opinions to my original testimony. I'm speaking in favor of prioritizing community programs and against an increase for the Portland Police Budget. The Portland Police Bureau (PPB) has had a budget increase every fiscal year since 2012-2013, with the only exception being 2020-2021. At this point, we have ample amounts of evidence to admit that the infamous doom loop is rooted in a retributive justice system that would give more money to PPB rather than accept that maybe, 151 of those 208 vacant positions don't need to be filled. Especially the ones that have remained vacant for up to 5 years. Over the two hours we heard multiple stories of people begging to not close community centers, art centers, and music centers. We heard the desperation as they asked for you all to help maintain their connection to community. The stories are as heart breaking as the money is tight. But the reality is that we cannot keep these doors open and our community strong without cutting cost from somewhere else and asking others to tighten their belts. Which leads me to remark that there is a dystopian situation, forcing people to beg for their community centers while budgeting another \$2 million towards the PPB. It is unsustainable to ask everyone to bear the burden of budget cuts while giving more to the police, especially when they already make the largest chunk of the pie in our existing budget. We cannot continue to expect our community workers to spin hay into gold while giving the PPB more money to flush down the toilet. Its important for us to prioritize preventative measures, community building, and public transportation. Instead of giving more money to the PPB, which they will claim will be used to "[improve] the bureau's relationship with Portlanders". Meanwhile, there's a cheaper solution: they could just stop trying to intimidate city council members, pulling disabled people out of their mobility devices, or putting their hands on people's throats as they have done to me, personally, and many others. I ask you to look at the data, not just questionable surveys but the large collection of data from meta-analysis, which shows that the best way to build a sustainable community is meeting people's needs, providing housing, and building community centers where people can know there neighbors. We have an opportunity to turn the page away from retributive systems that continue to fail and towards restorative hope that brings us all together, I hope you all look at this budget and vote for restoration instead of retribution.	05/21/25 4:16 PM
1201	Frann Michel	As an individual		Less for police, more for parks (but not golf). Less for shelters, more for actual housing and preventing eviction. Reconfigure Prosper Portland as proposed by Councilors Green and Dunphy. I support the Amendments proposed by Councilor Morillo. Thank you.	05/21/25 4:26 PM
1202	Bea Dames	As an individual		I believe the Multnomah arts Center is an incredible place. Some of my earliest memories as a little kid were formed there at the art classes my mom and I went to. I think that it's a vital part of the Portland culture and it would be extremely sad if it got shut down.	05/21/25 4:46 PM
1203	Blake Shell	On behalf of an organization	Portland Arts and Culture for Equity (Oregon Contemporary)	We urge the council to pass the amendment by Councilor Dunphy that includes this- "Increase Bureau Program Expenses and one-time General Fund discretionary within the Office of Community & Economic Development by \$135,000 to provide increased general operating support to small and mid-sized arts organizations." With over 400K having been lost to 45 of the 80 orgs (and the top 5 receiving that instead this year) the arts orgs that have been impacted need all of the help we can get. We are trying to stay afloat in a time when we are getting NEA cuts and funders have record number of orgs coming to them. Any increase earmarked for small-to-mid has an outsized benefit to the community, this could likely be the difference in organizations cutting staff, cutting programs, or even closing their doors.	05/21/25 4:47 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1204	Patricia Banchemo	As an individual		The abrupt and poorly thought out proposed closing of The Multnomah Arts Center and Community Music Center is extremely disturbing. Discussion about this needs to be much better publicized. Both of these community centers are lively and warm places for people to connect and find meaning in their lives. We and our family and friends have all found a lot of joy taking classes, performing and watching performances. Depression and anxiety are rampant in the community and these centers are a simple antidote to despair. Please don't take them away	05/21/25 4:55 PM
1205		As an individual		It has come to my attention, quite suddenly, that City Council is considering shuttering the Multnomah Arts Center and Community Music Center. I resided in Raleigh Hills 1995-1997 and took ballroom lessons at the Multnomah Arts Center, and saw how their kitchen supported the elderly by providing space for Meals on Wheels, and supported youth through such programs as musical theater, supported marginalized communities through its gallery and art programs, and created community engagement through the availability of its indoor and outdoor space for both locals and members of the community from all across town to gather, make art, play sports (in the covered basketball area outside), get moving in dance classes of all sorts, even say goodbye to loved ones in nonreligious ceremonies in the auditorium. The Multnomah Arts Center is a vital community resource that the City of Portland should be promoting, not cutting. In 1997 I moved to the east side, and my spouse (with whom I took that ballroom class in the late 1990s at MAC) and I began to take classes at the Community Music Center. We connected with elders who found engagement and community through group music classes from beginning to advanced, for voice and instruments. We progressed in skill level to the point where I served as accompanist for a youth choir performance for young singers learning both musical and life skills through choral instruction at the Community Music Center. There is not time enough before the submission deadline for me to look up the many local, national, and internationally known music professionals who began their careers with classes at the Community Music Center (nor for me to adequately proofread this testimony, so please forgive any typing or spelling errors). The CMC is another venue -- another resource -- that the City of Portland should be championing, not dissolving! It is already so poorly supported by the city, and so loved by the community, that a separate nonprofit exists to ensure it, and the hundreds of adults and youths who love and use it, can continue to thrive and contribute to the life of this city. We cannot be "the city that works" by reducing the community gathering spaces that allow arts and culture to thrive and be passed on to new generations.	05/21/25 4:56 PM
1206		As an individual		Don't close Multnomah Arts Center! It is a healthy and thriving community space and closing MAC will strip an essential resource from the surrounding community!	05/21/25 4:58 PM
1207	Mary Carr	As an individual		Please don't close Multnomah Arts Center. It's an anchor to Multnomah Village. I've attended sales there and taken a class. Excellent teachers and art studios. I'd take more classes if they didn't fill so fast. That should tell you something.	05/21/25 5:06 PM
1208	Samantha Couch	As an individual		Please don't close MAC, my kids took many art classes when they were young and it's a staple in multnomah villlage. Keep the arts alive!	05/21/25 5:07 PM
1209	Patricia MacRae	As an individual		As a mother of two children and grandmother of three, I read with great concern the proposal to completely close both the Multnomah Arts Center and the Community Center as a way to reduce the current budget deficit. This is simply not acceptable! These two resources offer a wide range of classes for all ages, both at their main facilities and throughout the city. Low-income children and seniors are two groups who will be hardest hit by these closures. Further, completely shuttering these two programs will make it almost impossible to reopen them when our budget situation improves, as staff, facilities, materials and supplies will have disappeared while the buildings sit empty. A number of years ago, the Portland Children's Museum was permanently closed due to lack of funding, and the City of Portland failed to step up to save that wonderful science resource. Will this Council now eliminate another set of community resources for children and families? Directing these funds to park maintenance services seems like a poor choice, as there are many ways that the parks can shave expenditures without completely shuttering them! I urge you to please find a way to retain these resources that help make Portland what it is known for - a vibrant community that understands the value of the arts in our lives.	05/21/25 5:07 PM
1210	Cynthia Sarfo-kantanka	As an individual		I am writing to urge you to keep funding for MAC I and my family have used this facility many times and it is vital to have arts in the community	05/21/25 5:08 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1211	Macey Bishop	As an individual		I am deeply disappointed that Portland’s elected leaders are considering an increase to the police’s budget while we’re in a nearly \$100 million budget deficit where other city departments and vital community services are facing proposed cuts. I applaud council members who are urging the city to look at the Portland Police Bureau’s wasteful spending with scrutiny, such as councilor Morillo. Police will never be adequate or appropriate crisis responders. We reject the notion that Portland Police Bureau needs more police. Having police does not mean less violence in our communities. Police do not prevent or stop immediate threats of harm or violence. Not only that—police are a primary source of violence for Black, Indigenous, Brown, trans, and poor people.	05/21/25 5:11 PM
1212	Andrew Bass	As an individual		Hi Councilors, Thank you for taking the time to read and listen to our community members’ testimonies. My name is Andrew Bass, and I’m a constituent of District 4. I am urging you to continue funding our parks and affordable housing programs by reallocating the increased funds intended for the PPB as per Mayor Wilson’s proposed budget. When I first moved to Portland 3 years ago directly out of college, I fell in love with this city’s access to the outdoors and natural beauty. Being able to ride my bike to a lush forest teeming with biodiversity and having access to well-maintained trails was virtually impossible where I grew up in South Florida. It’s something I appreciate so much now. Portland’s parks provide a sanctuary for people to pursue their recreational activities and decompress from the busyness of their everyday lives - an essential part of mental health in this day and age. My love for these parks is shared by many, and according to Mayor Wilson’s own email, was a major reason for economic development in the late 2010’s. People want to live in and around nature because we know the quality of our lives increases when we do. Seeking to use a larger police force as an encouragement for businesses to remain in Portland is an extraordinarily sighted-approach to some of the problems our city faces, specifically homelessness. The unhoused are seeking more resources (affordable housing, mental health services, affordable and healthy food sources, etc.) and relocating them with the help of PPB doesn’t fix the root of the problem at all. It’s a tactic of moving unhoused folks away from our business centers and into other areas of the city. This doesn’t make our city safer, and, more importantly, doesn’t address the needs of people who are forced to live on the streets. Create an environment where people want to move back to Portland by showing them the city values our parks, housing for all, and other public goods. Please continue funding our parks and affordable housing by reconsidering an increase to PPB’s budget. Thank you genuinely for taking the time to consider all opinions and I appreciate the hard work you do. Best, Andrew Bass - District 4	05/21/25 5:11 PM

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1213	Rebecca D	As an individual		I am deeply disappointed that Portland's elected leaders are considering an increase to the police's budget while we're in a nearly \$100 million budget deficit where other city departments and vital community services are facing proposed cuts. I applaud council members who are urging the city to look at the Portland Police Bureau's wasteful spending with scrutiny, such as councilor Morillo. Police will never be adequate or appropriate crisis responders. We reject the notion that Portland Police Bureau needs more police. Having police does not mean less violence in our communities. Police do not prevent or stop immediate threats of harm or violence. Not only that—police are a primary source of violence for Black, Indigenous, Brown, trans, and poor people.	05/21/25 5:11 PM
1214	Erica	As an individual		PLEASE VOTE NO on Amendment #45 on the city budget to NOT close the Multnomah Arts Center! It is such an asset for our community, serving many local non-profit organizations as well as thousands of youth every year. I live in District 4 and work close by the Multnomah Arts Center so I see what an important part of Multnomah Village it is.	05/21/25 5:14 PM
1215	Jamie Edwards	As an individual		Stripping even more funding from Arts & Culture in Portland means that there simply is no Portland remaining. The idea that a further loss of identity is any kind of solution is a dangerous one. The antithesis of Art is not simply a cultural void. The antithesis of art is barbarism. And we are seeing this at a terrifying scale nationally. Now that NEA funding (and RACC funding for that matter) have all but been dissolved, why would we deliver our own death blow to what remains of those artists and organizations that are still fighting the good fight? Why would we voluntarily give into barbarism in our incredibly vibrant city? If you need a bottom line reason; how about the fact that all Portland tourism and all housing values are based on the notion that Portland is a place where Arts & Culture is positively thriving. If you need an intimate reason, I am going to quote Xavier Ramey and and tell you "Art and artists deal with that part of humanity that insists on a personal dealing with themselves." If Portland (of all US cities) decides to consciously deprioritize our own creative culture, we are giving up on any opportunity to challenge that terrifying political climate knocking at our door. We claim to desperately need 3rd spaces as a measure against crime and lack of unity, and then we propose a budget that eliminates all the incredible 3rd spaces that actually exist. Are we Portland or aren't we?? Are we a city that dims its own light in the name of "safety", only to wonder in a year from now why we were plunged into darkness. I ask you, as an Arts Administrator of 20+ years, as a devoted native to Portland who loves her city, PLEASE reconsider that allocation of funds that strips the publicly engaged creativity (and therefore the life) right out of our incredible city. Please pause, and open this up to wider discussion with the Arts & Economies Committee. It should terrify every citizen to think of the Portland that will result from the current budget proposal. There is time to rethink this. Thank you.	05/21/25 5:19 PM
1216	Emma Bonitati	As an individual		Please do not close Multnomah County Arts Center. They provide invaluable tools and experiences for our community.	05/21/25 5:24 PM
1217	MaKenzie Godso	As an individual		I am a regular attendee at the Multnomah Arts Center taking tap classes every week since 2022. This community center has brought me so much friendship and joy through a transitional, hard period in my life. I am blessed with beautiful intergenerational friendships because of this community center. I never would have met some of the people who I now consider close friends if it wasn't for this space. I see the joy on everyone's face when they are at MAC and it is such a warm, loving space to be a part of. This is vital community hub and taking it away would be devastating.	05/21/25 5:24 PM
1218		As an individual		Hello! Thank you for all your work for all Portlanders. We appreciate you and your guardianship of all that is special and crucial in Portland. To that end, please vote no on amendment #45. Parks, music and art (and our beautiful Portlanders!) are the heart and soul of this town. Creativity in solving tough issues is another thing we do well. There are creative ways to support and nurture our communities that depend on the services and benefits of the Community Music Center are Multnomah Arts Center bring to all Portlanders. It's alot harder to get something back then to keep it alive continuously. You heard moving testimony today on how time at those places has launched careers, businesses and provided community, education and access to music that many would not otherwise be able to afford. Please vote NO on amendment #45 and commit to exploring creative ways forward together that prioritize keeping the heart and soul of Portland beating. Thank you so much.	05/21/25 5:26 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1219	Traci	As an individual		To whom it may concern (that's all Portlanders!): Please save the Multnomah Arts Center. It is truly a Portland treasure that has supported artists, future artist and families for many years. It certainly has supported me and my family by providing employment, community, opportunities, opportunities to advance curiosity with the arts, arts appreciation, arts education (Thank you, Nate), amazing drama program (Thank you, Dawn and Timothy). Please think of the impact of destroying this community! Please allow Portland to continue to be Portland. The accessibility and affordability of the MAC is a blessing. Please allow it to continue to support future artists and families who might not be able afford this otherwise. Kind regards, A concerned citizen who understands the importance and value of arts education	05/21/25 5:27 PM
1220	Scott Rice	As an individual		Thank you for this opportunity to comment. I am a resident of the Hayhurst neighborhood in District 4. I am writing to urge the Council to vote NO on Amendment #45, which would see the closure of the Multnomah Arts Center in Multnomah Village. The MAC is a vital resource to our community, providing a safe, welcoming, and creative space for citizens of all ages & means to engage in arts education. I most recently experienced this firsthand when I attended the monthly First Friday Arts for All at the MAC, where I saw a room packed with families engaged in art & discovery of all kinds. The energy and spirit was palpable and immediately drew me in. These are the activities that enrich our community and make Portland that special and unique place to live that we all treasure. The sum of the value of such resources far exceeds any dollar amount. An investment in education—and in particular arts education—is carried forward through life as a widened perspective, an understanding of capacity in oneself and others, and a foundation for curiosity and further learning. These are qualities that make for a compassionate and considered civic-minded population--a sound investment in human spirit at a time it is sorely needed. From an economic sustainability perspective, MAC serves as a creative hub and entrepreneurial incubator. Further, its central location in Multnomah Village draws customers to surrounding businesses and serves as a vibrant anchor of a bustling place of commerce. I urge you to note NO and continue to support the arts as an essential and integral part of our community.	05/21/25 5:30 PM
1221	Kris Eklund	As an individual		Multnomah Art Center is an important piece of our vibrant community. Please do not shut it down. We are taxed higher than any where else. Please continue to allocate resources for this important cultural place. It's part of what makes PDX rich in diversity, arts, and community. Without those things we have no flavor or personality lose our cultural richness.	05/21/25 5:31 PM
1222	Melissa Munson	As an individual		My 5 year old just started taking ballet and piano lessons at the Multnomah Arts Center and absolutely loves it! I know countless others that have also participated in classes and would be devastated to see it close. It provides such a wide array of classes and are offered at an affordable price. If this closes, we are closing opportunities for people that may otherwise not be able to take classes like these offered at the Multnomah Arts Center	05/21/25 5:32 PM
1223	eleanor	As an individual		i oppose the idea of closing the multnomah arts center because it is a vital community that hives more than it gets. it changes people's lives for the better- it has nothing but positive accolades for the portland community-	05/21/25 5:37 PM
1224	Mateo Ballard Strauhal	As an individual		DON'T CLOSE MAC! Please vote VOTE NO on Amendment #45! The Multnomah Arts Center is an INTEGRAL part of our community--from classes to art shows to community events, all of us near Multnomah Village are enriched by the Arts Center. Some of my favorite memories have been at the Arts Center--doing pottery with my son, seeing community productions, etc. I realize that the budget is an issue, but we cannot close such an important institution. I think we need art more than ever at this moment. Again, please vote NO on amendment #45. Thank you.	05/21/25 5:40 PM
1225		As an individual		Please don't close the multnomah arts center, I use it all the time to practice piano on a good piano because I don't have a better one at home, and It's a really important place for anyone wanting to grow their artistic talents. It's an amazing community space.	05/21/25 5:42 PM
1226	Desmond Ballard Strauhal	As an individual		DON'T CLOSE MAC! Please vote VOTE NO on Amendment #45! The Multnomah Arts Center is an INTEGRAL part of our community--from classes to art shows to community events, all of us near Multnomah Village are enriched by the Arts Center. Some of my favorite memories have been at the Arts Center--doing pottery with my son, seeing community productions, etc. I realize that the budget is an issue, but we cannot close such an important institution. I think we need art more than ever at this moment. Again, please vote NO on amendment #45. Thank you.	05/21/25 5:45 PM
1227	Jeff Lassahn	As an individual		I have just heard that Steve Novick has proposed closing the Community Music center as part of the budget process. This must not happen. I have been attending classes at the CMC for many years, and I see it supporting a vibrant community of musicians both children and adults. It would be a terrible loss to the community to close it.	05/21/25 5:46 PM
1228	Maggie Rose	As an individual		Please note no on amendment #45! Multnomah Art Center is a vital part of the community!	05/21/25 5:49 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1229	Desiree Ferguson	As an individual		I lived in Portland, OR for 7 years. I learned how to be a metalsmith at Multnomah Arts center! It's a valuable resource and should not be closed!	05/21/25 6:09 PM
	Jeff Gauba	As an individual		I have sent you all an email a few weeks ago about the Property Compliance Division and it's significant contribution to public safety. I attached photos from our case work because they are very compelling. I am a Sr Building Inspector represented by AFSCME. I also live in district 3. One of our main jobs is to cite unsafe conditions on private property. These can often times affect adjacent properties, the right of way and surrounding neighborhoods. This can take many forms such as, dangerous buildings, unsafe/unhealthy rental housing, extremely distressed properties, severe trash and debris accumulation, vacant buildings that are open to entry and/or occupied by unauthorized people, camping on private property, sewer breaks, short term rental safety inspections, unpermitted and often unsafe work on residential and commercial properties, noise complaints, cannabis facility inspections and licensing and liquor licensing. All of our programs/groups are already operating below adequate staffing levels. The new proposed cuts are significant and will reduce our ability to respond to these concerns. After these cuts there will only be: 2 inspectors city wide to respond to dangerous buildings, unpermitted commercial work, Empowered Neighborhoods permitting assistance. 2 inspector city wide to respond to extremely distressed properties 3 inspectors city wide to respond to unsafe/unhealthy housing and rentals, ASTR safety inspections, Adult Care safety inspections and unpermitted residential work 2 inspectors city wide to respond to trash and debris, buildings open to entry 2 inspectors city wide to perform warrant nuisance abatements and address sewer breaks 1 noise officer city wide 2 cannabis facility inspectors city wide 2 city planners city wide 2 inspectors city wide to regulate demolitions regarding asbestos and lead, inspect and enforce erosion control measures for all permits with ground disturbance. Most of these inspectors provide enforcement assistance for other agencies and bureaus. These agencies include Police, Fire Marshal's Office, PEMO, SSCC, BES, Site Development, Plan Reviewers, and Commercial/Residential Inspections for PPD. There will also be reduced capacity for the following: Foreclosures:	05/21/25 6:21 PM
1230	Diane Flack	As an individual		I am begging the Ciry Council not to close The Community Music Center. It is a bastion of good will to everyone in the City. We have attended concerts there for thirty years. We know how important music is the lives of people of all ages, especially children. Please reconsider the value of this dear place in the Cominity.	05/21/25 6:24 PM
1231	Jana Nelson	As an individual		Please don't close the Multnomah Arts Center. This place is essential for all of our community. They offer so many things for kids and adults. These programs have changed my life building positive recreation and connecting me with so many people that I've been friends with for years.	05/21/25 6:25 PM
1232	Stacey Clampitt	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! I have taken wonderful metalsmithing classes there and they were more affordable and accessible than other courses I've taken. the instruction was really great and I want to take more classes in the future!	05/21/25 6:31 PM
1233	Jonah Tice	As an individual		I play with the Portland Samba drum ensemble and enjoy the high value use of the Community Music Center on SE Francis Street. We practice there on Saturdays through the winter and it is an essential part of our success as it lends a comfortable musical space to rehearse and interact with the Portland Community through public lessons. Please continue to fund this vital location for the Arts in Portland, Oregon! Thank you, Jonah Tice	05/21/25 6:32 PM
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	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1235	Kevin A. Lefohn	On behalf of an organization	Community Music Center	I am a professional violinist, conductor, and music educator, with an international career in performance and teaching. Locally, I serve on the faculties of Pacific University and the Metropolitan Youth Symphony, where I teach and conduct orchestra ensembles. I am also a long-standing board member and currently the vice president of Community Music Center, Inc.—the nonprofit partner supporting the Portland Parks & Recreation’s Community Music Center (CMC) in Southeast Portland. Since 1955, this nonprofit has provided essential financial and programmatic support for music education across the city, marking 70 years of service. The proposed closure of the Community Music Center as part of Portland’s FY 2025–26 Budget Amendment #45 would be a devastating loss to a treasured institution that has enriched our city for generations. Introduced by Councilor Steve Novick, the amendment misrepresents operational costs as capital expenditures and recommends cuts that would dismantle vital arts education programs, eliminate over 150 jobs, and disproportionately impact underserved communities throughout Portland. CMC plays a critical role in ensuring accessible, affordable music education for families across all Portland neighborhoods. Its programs prioritize outreach to Black and Brown youth, LGBTQ+ youth, seniors, immigrants, and people with disabilities—offering thousands of hours of instruction and dozens of free concerts each year. CMC is a cornerstone of Portland’s cultural and economic life. There has been no concrete evidence presented to justify the claim that CMC must close in the “not-too-distant future,” as stated in the proposed amendment. Eliminating this program would abruptly end 70 years of service and artistic contribution to our community. I strongly urge the Portland City Council to vote NO on Amendment #45 and ensure that both the Community Music Center and Multnomah Arts Center remain open and supported. Kevin A. Lefohn Violinist, Conductor, Music Educator Board member & Vice President Community Music Center, Inc. Non profit PP&R partner	05/21/25 6:32 PM
1236	Zachary Biggs	As an individual		I am opposing the proposed closure of the Multnomah Arts Center and Community Music Center. Please see the word doc for elaborated commentary.	05/21/25 6:33 PM
1237	Han Chang	As an individual		MAC is important. Our kids take classes and summer camps here. Vital part of community. Please don’t close.	05/21/25 6:37 PM
1238	Simcha Einhorn	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is of the utmost importance for community members all over the city. It brings invaluable access to the arts to those who may not have access otherwise. Being able to sign up for classes there is something that brings so much light and joy to my life - the cost of art classes elsewhere is something that is out of reach for myself and countless others. Please do not defund or close the MAC!	05/21/25 6:49 PM

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1239	Hanna K	As an individual		Hi I am writing in to say that I hope budgeting is not taken from the Multnomah Arts Center and the Community Music Center. These two public services are important for people of all ages - I've seen kids as young as toddlers and retired folks who are 80+ get to enjoy making so many different types of art, many of which may not be accessible without these centers. I agree that we need more resources to go towards park services but it does not make sense to remove services that are already providing public good. In fact, it seems more budgeting for centers like this would do more good - especially for people living in areas that are further away from these 2. While art and music might not have a tangible dollar amount benefit, services like this are some of the few things that make Portland stand out to ordinary folks as a city we'd want to live in. Giving people something positive to do with their time can prevent potential crimes, reduce impacts of loneliness and boredom, especially for those who are older or poorer. I believe having more resources for services like these can act as a preventative measure for spending millions of more dollars in the future. I preferred Novick's suggestion of having the Portland Police Bureau better utilize their time by outsourcing certain services such as wellness checks to PS3's and scrutinize more carefully how their flexible /discretionary budget is being used in general.	05/21/25 6:53 PM
1240	David Danzmayr	As an individual		A letter form David Danzmayr, Music Director of the Oregon Symphony May 21, 2025 Dear Council Members, With shock I heard yesterday that the funding for the Community Music Center is in jeopardy. Shock and disbelief, because I simply cannot understand why funding to this beautiful organization would be even up for a debate. CMC is giving affordable lessons to students who would otherwise not have been able to afford them - so many students who would not receive lessons without CMC. In fact, in the Oregon Symphony there are now and have been for decades musicians who were such students from CMC. Our grammy-award-winning guest artist Esparanza Spalding was such a student from CMC. Research shows again and again that instrument and music lessons have a significant positive impact on outcomes in school, life, and happiness. Especially for underserved communities, an institution like CMC is the only path to reap those science-backed benefits. There is so much talk about other programs, but I always come back to what really works, and music education is one of the pillars that have been proven again and again to work. So please don't take that away. Last year I visited CMC personally. I really enjoyed my visit. The atmosphere was great! I observed an ensemble rehearsal, and saw the community the kids were forming and the outstanding job the teachers did. This is not some small, random institution to be cut. This is an organization that provides high level education for a low price of admission. Dear council members, please be so good and see that the little money you might save on this will be a truly devastating loss for so many people – to teachers, students, the community. A city should take arts seriously and provide on all levels for the building of a community of artists, arts lovers and students. Please don't cut the funding to the Community Music Center. - David Danzmayr, Jean Vollum Music Director of the Oregon Symphony	05/21/25 6:54 PM
1241	Pam Winklesky	As an individual		Please don't close MAC. I took my children to MAC during those precious pre school years - the course offering was the best! I tried to take ceramics classes at MAC several years ago but couldn't get in because it's so popular The community needs more places and spaces like MAC for a thriving city.	05/21/25 6:56 PM
1242	Ash Ginsberg	As an individual		Please keep the Multnomah Arts Center open. Availability to accesible art programs is central and vital to a strong and vibrant community.	05/21/25 7:08 PM

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1243	Christy Ward	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is a vital part of our community. It allows our children and citizens so many necessary opportunities - classes, performances, sports, parties. Just in the last few years, my children have attended classes, birthday parties, and sports practices at the center. Our middle school (Jackson) and elementary school (Maplewood) have hosted our school auctions at the MAC. Our kids love playing basketball and using the playground equipment. Please keep the Multnomah Arts Center open. It is a necessary piece of our community that allows us all to connect and thrive!!	05/21/25 7:14 PM
1244	Grace Quinones	As an individual		PLEASE DO NOT CLOSE MAC!!! This would be a devastating loss to our community.	05/21/25 7:17 PM
1245	Amy Gupta	As an individual		Don't close the Multnomah Art Center please! It has served all three of my children and my family for so many years and it's a staple of our community.	05/21/25 7:19 PM
1246	Sean Pollock	As an individual		Do not close the MAC!! It is a vital part of the community and it helps many of the low income kids in the neighborhood!! My daughter is taking an art class there and is loving it! I see so many kids able to get the enrichment they need. There is no other affordable options like this in the area!! It is vital to keep it open. Closing this down would be a travesty and shame. Shame on you Steve Novick for even proposing this!!	05/21/25 7:21 PM
1247	Swapna	As an individual		Hi, Please don't shut down Multnomah Arts Center. Councilor Steve Novick submitted amendment #45 to the City's budget, to PERMANENTLY close the Multnomah Arts Center as of September 1, 2025. MAC collaborates with 15 partners across Portland to support communities targeted by Parks, offering services at locations such as The Rosewood Initiative, Home Forward, and Y.O.U.th. It also hosts several nonprofit organizations, including the Columbia Basin Basketry Guild, Neighborhood House, Oregon Children's Theatre, Print Arts Northwest, Community Policing, and Northwest Woodturners. Additionally, MAC offers discounted space rentals to nonprofits. Through the Parks Levy and MACA scholarships, MAC ensures arts education programming is accessible by removing financial barriers. Over the last two years, the organization has received approximately \$1,000,000 in seismic and ADA upgrades to its facilities from Parks—this investment reinforces the continued use of the building, dispelling any concerns of imminent closure. During the summer, MAC leads the Arts in the Parks initiative, which offers free, drop-in arts activities at various parks, mainly in neighborhoods that serve targeted communities. In 2024, this program engaged over 4,000 youth. MAC also organizes the Free First Friday Arts for All event, offering free arts education activities and food for the Portland community. MAC's staff works closely with Parks management and community partners to plan for long-term facility improvements and ensure sustainable growth. PLEASE DON'T SHUT DOWN THE MAC ! It is ESSENTIAL for our community's well-being. Community well-being helps to keep down criminal activities which in turn helps law enforcement officers.	05/21/25 7:30 PM
1248	Erin Severe	As an individual		Please do not cut CMC!!!! We rely on this service. Best community program	05/21/25 7:37 PM
1249	Michael W Sherraden	As an individual		Our granddaughter, Ellie Sherraden (2205 Canby Ct.), takes ukulele lessons at MAC, and very much looks forward to going there, learning, then practicing at home until she returns for her next lesson. She enjoys every part of this and is proudly developing a sense of herself as a person who can make music. Every young person should have experiences like this. MAC has made this possible. Please find a way to keep it going. Michael Sherraden (1212 SW Nevada St.)	05/21/25 8:02 PM
1250	Alanna	As an individual		Keep the Multomah Art Center OPEN. It has been an amazing source of enrichment in my life and others. Now, more than ever, we need creative outlets. Do not be short-sighted!	05/21/25 8:03 PM
1251		As an individual		The portland police are violent and corrupt. Excessive use of force lawsuits from 4 years ago continue to be settled with large payouts of public dollars, yet no officers are ever held accountable. The police take a huge portion of the city budget and treat us with contempt. They resist all efforts at reform, including illegally leaking false accusations against a sitting council member. They are ineffective at actually keeping us safe, spending most of their time protecting retailers from shoplifting, and violently suppressing our free speech. They do nothing to stop wage theft, which dwarfs retail theft. The money spent on police (and their robot dogs, drones, tear gas grenades, LRAD, and other dystopian nightmares) could be much better spent on parks, public restrooms, community gardens, afterschool programs, arts and cultural events, housing, and public transportation. We have been pouring money into prisons and police, the US leads the world in the number of people it incarcerates, and yet we still aren't safe. It's time to admit the strategy isn't working. It's time to shift funding away from police and towards things that actually work. We are slipping into an authoritarian police state. Portland does not need more cops.	05/21/25 8:07 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1252		As an individual		This is a beloved institution and provides so much value to the community. The arts are in peril, and closing MAC would only make it worse	05/21/25 8:07 PM
1253	Sergio Quinones	As an individual		Keep the Multnomah Arts Center open! This is a critical part of our SW Portland community. We learn, we share, we gather, and we stay united with the Multnomah Arts Center. If it was to close down it would leave a big hole in our community and a resource that people from all over Portland and the surrounding areas use.	05/21/25 8:15 PM
1254		As an individual		Vote NO on #45!! Please do not close the MAC or the CMC! \$1.8 million is nothing compared to the benefits that art and music classes provide for all.	05/21/25 8:29 PM
1255	Darrick Chan	As an individual		Please do not close the multnomah art center. It is a vibrant center for this community and with the homeless camp nearby, it would be sending the wrong message and lead to a much worsened neighborhood.	05/21/25 8:40 PM
1256	Celia Wagner	As an individual		I have benefitted from tge offerings at tge Community Music Center and the Multnomah Arts Center since my first class in 1990. My daughter grew up taking classes at CMC. I have made lifelong friendships and beautiful music with other people. I didn't have high salary, and these two spaces didn't charge more than we could afford. Each of them brings extraordinary value to its neighborhood. Please don't cut their funding. Children, teens, and adults need the service they provide. They make portland a better place.	05/21/25 8:54 PM
1257	David Kessler	As an individual		Save MAC! Vote no 45! Multnomah Arts Center is a well-used and well-loved community asset! From after-school programs, senior programs and opportunity for cultural enrichment through a myriad of arts,dance and music classes. Not to mention fitness classes every day! It's a fun and vibrant community!!!! Save it! Vote no on 45! SAVE MAC!!!	05/21/25 9:02 PM
1258	Sara Levasseur	As an individual		The Community Music Center has been a part of my family's life for generations and a treasured resource in our community. I took music classes there as a child, and years later, my daughter had the same opportunity to learn and grow through its programs. The center provides far more than just music lessons—it fosters creativity, confidence, and a lifelong love of the arts. It's one of the few places where families from all backgrounds can access high-quality music education in an inclusive and supportive environment. Keeping the Community Music Center open means preserving a space where children and adults alike can discover their talents, express themselves, and build lasting connections through music. It's an investment in our community's cultural and emotional well-being.	05/21/25 9:03 PM
1259	Patricia Morton	As an individual		My 10 year old daughter has been taking weekly music lessons at the community music center for a few years now. Since beginning lessons there her love for music has really flourished. The community music center has been a lifeline for our family, and I'm sure many other families feel the same way! My child discovered their passion for music through the center's programs, and it's had a profound impact on their confidence and creativity. I urge you to continue funding this vital resource for the community.	05/21/25 9:09 PM
1260	Colleen Henson	As an individual		Councilor Steve Novick has proposed closing the Multnomah Arts Center and the Community Music Center. No notice was provided to city residents regarding the proposed closures of these cherished resources, which are indispensable for Portland residents of all ages and provide educational and social opportunities for all. I urge you to keep these centers open. The closure of the Sellwood Community Center has already burdened District 4. Portland is losing the community centers that bring all Portlanders together and make this city a wonderful place to live.	05/21/25 9:11 PM
1261	Laura Canfield	As an individual		I am absolutely devastated by the prospect of the closure of the Community Music Center as part of the budget amendment. CMC is such a central part of the community and a vital resource to allow people of all walks of life come together and share the gift of music. My entire family has taken part in classes, performances, community orchestra, monthly workshops. We donate to the non-profit foundation every year because the staff is fantastic and provides such an irreplaceable and valuable service to Portland. I urge you to reconsider the closure of this absolute gem in our community.	05/21/25 9:12 PM
1262	Nell Whitman	As an individual		Don't cut funding for the Community Music School! I took a community choir class there,and it gave me a sense of joy & community in a dark rainy winter. There aren't other resources like this for adults! (I commuted from North Portland). It's even more important for children. With music lessons cut in the schools, where else do kids learn to play an instrument? Without places like CMC providing affordable music lessons, music will only be for the wealthy. This is not healthy for Portland or for Portlanders.	05/21/25 9:13 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1263	Mirabai Peart	As an individual		Hello, my name is Mirabai Peart, I'm a professional performing violinist and teacher living and working in far SE Portland. I want to appeal to you to please not cut the Community Music Center from the budget. It is an incredibly vital part of the music education and music community here. When I first moved to this city, the CMC was one of the first music community hubs that I found out about, and, lacking my own space to practice where I was staying, I was able to use CMC for my private practicing. While I've only ever been involved peripherally, renting the wonderful hall as a place for my student recitals,for example, I've been very aware of CMC as a mainstay and springboard for so much of the musical life here, and an employer of excellent musicians and educators, and very importantly all the while doing this while making sure that music education is available to underserved communities. I've noticed that in the last number of years, the leadership of the CMC has stepped up their focus on diversity and inclusion, and through this, if they are allowed to remain and develop these programs, there is endless potential for cultural and community empowerment for marginalised communities here in Portland. We need these things, and without these Portland will losing an important aspect of it's vibrancy and it's investment in the cultural and artistic lives of our youth and into the future. I urge you kindly to please keep full funding for the CMC.	05/21/25 9:20 PM
1264	Courtney Knudson	As an individual		VOTE 'NO' ON AMMENDMENT #45 - DON'T CUT THE COMMUNITY MUSIC CENTER! Community music center is vital to the well being of music community especially among young budding musicians. So many diverse families come together weekly to learn and play music. The teachers are top notch and love their influence on these children's lives. My kids both take lessons there and we would not be able to afford to give them the experience of playing violin and piano without Community Music Center. We can not afford private lessons within someones home. Do Not close such a vital and welcoming organization.	05/21/25 9:24 PM
1265	Amy Vanacore	As an individual		Please keep funding Community Music Center (CMC)! This is a vital community resource that provides lower-income families access to music lessons. Without this beloved organization, many children in Portland would not have the opportunity to learn how to play a musical instrument. Increasing access to music education makes our communities healthier, safer, and more vibrant.	05/21/25 9:28 PM
1266	Cory knudson	As an individual		No on amendment 45. CMC is a pillar among Portland's public music education establishments. Losing this part of parks and rec programming would be an incredible tragedy to the community. Past present and future. Portland can not afford to lose this treasure.	05/21/25 9:30 PM
1267	Rebecca Nelson	As an individual		As a long-term Portlander, parent, working artist, and musician I strongly oppose any effort to close the CMC and MAC. These community spaces are unique, serve Portlanders of all ages but particularly families, fill a gap in PPS general education by providing heavily discounted, quality music education, and are truly representative of Portland's artistic, welcoming vibe. I understand that budget decisions are so fraught, but let's not sacrifice these safe community spaces where magic truly happens and Portland is at its best.	05/21/25 9:30 PM
1268	Judy Hoarfrost	As an individual		I learned that City of Portland amendments include a proposal to close Multnomah Arts Center and Community Music Center. I strongly urge that these important community places not be closed! I am a 70-year-old long-time resident of Portland. My three children and their friends grew up taking part in a great number of activities and classes at MAC, including music classes, indoor park, drama classes, dance classes, and art classes. They took part in many performances on the stage in the auditorium. I also have taken classes at MAC, including currently participating in a Community Choir that will perform in the auditorium in June. I have many friends and know of many people in the community who have benefitted from MAC. The Community Music Center is also a wonderful resource. It is where my daughter had singing performances and piano recitals. These experiences led to success in not only music but also in other facets of her life. The MAC has also for a long time been an important center for helping elders in our community. MAC has done so much good for my family and for so many families. I hate to see this resource disappear. This is a staple of the community. This is a resource that is an investment in our children and the adults and elderly of our community. We NEED THIS. This is not the place to make cuts. PLEASE do not close the Multnomah Art Center. Please find a way to keep it open so it can continue to be a place where we all can learn and build our community in the present and for the future.	05/21/25 9:31 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1269	Angela Pennock	As an individual		Please don't close the MAC!! (Multnomah Arts Center). We have lived in Multnomah county for over 10 years and we have loved going to the MAC as a family for various things. My children have taken classes there, and have taken piano lessons there, and have attended various concerts there. I believe the MAC is a valuable resource for the community at large and providing holistic living . Families and communities NEED the arts and need places to be able to gather that are safe and family friendly. This has been just that. Please don't take it away. The community is counting on you to make the right decision. Thank you.	05/21/25 9:33 PM
1270	Rachel Schaeffer	As an individual		I am a member of the newly formed Latinx Choral Project. We meet every Monday at the Community Music Center (CMC) to rehearse together. We need the CMC not only to make music but also to share our music, our culture, and our love to the Portland community. Don't cut the CMC, vote "NO" on Amendment #45!!	05/21/25 9:43 PM
1271	Michelle Checkis	As an individual		I tried to share my testimony in person, but was too far down the list to make it in front of council. I am a mother who works downtown and my 8 year old daughter loves to dance. I can't afford lessons for her at Portland Ballet Company. I can afford ballet at the MAC and treasure the community our family has found there. I implore you to not close the Multnomah Arts Center as proposed in amendment 45. It is too important to the local community and to the arts community in all of Oregon. \$1M in seismic and ADA upgrades were put into this facility in the last two years, noting the "state of the assets" is a bad faith argument for closing the MAC's doors. What could possibly go in its place that would be able to replace what MAC brings to Portland? This facility keeps this vibrant SW neighborhood safe and active; classes here are always full and in contrast to downtown, full of community members. Students of all ages walk the sidewalks and support the businesses in the village all day long, all year long. The safe haven housing that was placed at Multnomah village's doorstep is effectively a non issue in the neighborhood, and some residents there even attend classes alongside us all. After attending the council meeting in person today and hearing the loud community call to keep this open, I know that council is not being honest if you claim to listen to your constituents but still move to close this facility. To close the MAC would mean that you are giving Portland families another reason to move out and head for Beaverton, Tualatin, Lake Oswego and the like, where community centers are being built rather than taken down. They aspire to the vitality found here while Councilor Novick proposes throwing it away by crossing out a line item in a spreadsheet. This is a place that makes Portland Portland, and you will be stripping one of our crown jewels by eliminating it. Please look elsewhere for park maintenance funds. Your integrity as stewards of Portland's priorities and resources depends on it.	05/21/25 9:46 PM
1272	Jackie Yerby	On behalf of an organization	Portland for All; Friends of Portland Street Response	Thank you for your commitment to our city. I'm looking forward to next year's budget process when there is more time for public engagement and input.	05/21/25 9:52 PM
1273	Christina McKenzie	As an individual		Please do not close the MAC, a valuable educational and recreational center for so many of our families	05/21/25 9:52 PM
1274	Carol Cavallaro	As an individual		Our SW neighborhoods are growing and MAC helps give unique opportunities for growth to many. Expanding the choice of classes at the center is needed not reducing.	05/21/25 9:52 PM
1275		As an individual		The arts are more important than ever to our communities. Please don't close MAC.	05/21/25 9:55 PM
1276	Elissa Morris	As an individual		Please don't shut down the Multnomah Arts Center! It is a valued place for the neighborhood. Used for arts, sports and even auctions for our PPS schools. We have sadly already lost Alpenrose dairy and the wonderful yearly events they used to hold. Please don't shutter another valuable community center.	05/21/25 10:01 PM
1277	Christine Yun	As an individual		See attached pdf.	05/21/25 10:03 PM
1278	CG	As an individual		Please vote NO on Amendment #45. DON'T CLOSE MAC! This is an extremely valuable space in our community. I attended many classes here when I was a child- 30 years ago. This is WHY I moved back to this city/neighborhood, so my children could experience the special gems of Portland, that contribute to shaping them, challenging them, bring joy and a rich experiences. It's vital for our community and future to have a resources like this.	05/21/25 10:13 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1279	Mary Sauve	As an individual		I urge you to vote NO on amendment 45 to the city budget. The MAC and all it offers should not be taken away from the people. Please don't destroy our community, which welcomes everyone and manages to give us a little hope in this time when there is so little. People of all ages from all backgrounds and from all over the city, use this facility daily. Please don't take this magical place away from us. Again, I urge a No vote on Steve Novaks Amendment 45 to your budget. Thank you for your consideration.	05/21/25 10:15 PM
1280		As an individual		Please do not close the Community Music Center or Multnomah Arts Center! There are still singers in the adult choir at the Community Music Center, the Francis Street Singers, who have sung in that choir as long as it has existed. Don't take that community away from them! When one longtime member of the Francis Street Singers became elderly, his daughter began driving him to rehearsals, and she joined the choir. They sang there together for a while. Though he knew he was in infirm health, he came to rehearsal the week before he died -- that's how important the Francis Street Singers (and the Community Music Center) was to him. His daughter continued to sing with the choir. Do you want to take that community away from her? A choir of Ukrainian-American Portlanders currently rehearses at the Community Music Center. It is a safe and welcoming space for people who have friends and relatives in a place beset by war. Does Portland's City Council want to take that safe and welcoming space away from them? The community of the Community Music Center certainly doesn't. I think a city that voted to tax itself to support art wants to help them keep singing.	05/21/25 10:24 PM
1281	Barb Hutchinson	As an individual		Please do not close multnomah art center. I have three grown children who all attended many classes there. I also take classes there. It's a wonderful facility. If staffing is an issue consider volunteers	05/21/25 10:24 PM
1282	Kevin Goldsmith	As an individual		I want to express the Goldsmith family's desire to keep the Multnomah Arts Center open. This community education center has provided valuable arts education (Music, Dance, Crafts) to my family and the neighborhood. Please vote no on closing the Multnomah Arts Center	05/21/25 10:24 PM
1283		As an individual		Please keep the Multnomah Arts Center open. Many children and adults enjoy their classes, gallery, and multiple arts events. The Senior Center is currently housed there also, with its classes, opportunities for socialization, and exercise.	05/21/25 10:46 PM
1284	ANN FELICIA LAURITSEN	As an individual		Please do not close the community music center. This is really the one avenue parents have for their children to pursue music. Schools only have a weekly music class and band. As a single mom I was able to send my sons to violin lessons at CMC from grade school thru high school. One still plays violin even while getting his PHd. This resource is vital and so special to Portland. Please do not close it.	05/21/25 11:05 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1285	Scott Belleri	As an individual		To the Members of the Portland City Council, I am writing to express my profound concern regarding Amendment #45, which proposes the defunding and effective closure of the Community Music Center and MAC. As a dedicated violin instructor in Portland, I urge you to vote NO on Amendment #45 and instead, champion the continued existence of this vital 70-year-old public institution. Today, my violin and I gathered outside City Hall, playing music to showcase the vibrant cultural contributions the CMC fosters—contributions that must not be silenced. This act underscored the immediate and tangible impact this center has on our youth and our city's artistic landscape. The Community Music Center is far more than just a place for music lessons; it is a cornerstone of equitable arts education in Portland. It serves approximately 500 students, providing high-quality, affordable classical music instruction to individuals from all backgrounds, including children with significant financial need, children of immigrants, and other underserved minorities. For many, the CMC is the only gateway to a rich musical education that would otherwise be entirely inaccessible. The historical impact of the CMC is undeniable. It has been a formative training ground for countless talented individuals, notably nurturing the early talent of Grammy winner Esperanza Spalding. The potential loss of the Community Music Center isn't merely the closure of a school; it is the forfeiture of the opportunity to cultivate the next generation of artists, innovators, and engaged citizens. Hundreds of Portland's children would be deprived of access to the high-quality, affordable classical music education they deserve. Furthermore, the CMC plays an indispensable role in strengthening our city's social fabric. Programs such as the Latinx Choral Project rely on the CMC for crucial rehearsal space, highlighting its function as a vital cultural anchor and a community hub. It is a place where diverse communities can gather, connect with their heritage, and build lasting bonds through shared artistic pursuits. From a pedagogical perspective, the benefits of music education, as exemplified by the CMC's offerings, are transformative and far-reaching. The rigorous demands of musical practice, whether embracing the nurturing repetition of the Suzuki method or the analytical precision of the Dounis approach, instill unparalleled discipline, perseverance, and concentration—skills that extend far beyond the practice room into all aspects of life. Engaging with music also enhances cognitive function, improves problem-solving abilities, and fosters critical thinking. Moreover, ensemble playing teaches invaluable social-emotional skills such as collaboration, active listening, and empathy. For many students, especially those navigating financial hardships or new environments, the CMC provides a nurturing community where they can truly thrive and find their voice.	05/21/25 11:08 PM
1286	Alison Asarnow	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts center is an incredibly vital resource for Portlanders and we must not stop funding it.	05/21/25 11:09 PM
1287		As an individual		Please do not close the MAC!! This centrally located resources is one of the few arts resources for kids anywhere in Portland. I drive from N/NE because there aren't many arts and dance classes offered for elementary aged kids elsewhere. So many places are closing. The children's museum is gone. Oregon Children's Theatre is on hiatus. Multiple programs are closed - and my local community center is also on the chopping block. There isn't enough funding for arts education in schools - please don't also cut one of the only places kids can safely explore arts!!	05/21/25 11:37 PM

1288

Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Fangchi KOSS	As an individual		CMC music program is the reason why my daughter, Symphony Koss, has had the opportunity over the years to become a skilled violinist. As Symphony currently is busy preparing for her finals before she graduates from Grad School (Mechanical Engineering) at Stanford University, I thought I would take it upon myself to share why CMC is such a big part of her music education and personal growth. Symphony attended private violin lessons with Martha in around 2005 as a four-year old. She also attended Suzuki group lessons every week. As the quality instruction and group lessons have helped her progressing beautifully, she was accepted by the most-sought after violin teacher in Portland, Kathryn Gray at age 6 and then accepted into Portland Youth Philharmonic Young String Ensemble at age 7. She was concertmaster for Portland Youth Philharmonic from 2017 to 2019 before she moved on to Stanford University. Locally, Symphony was a solo winner twice in MetroArts Young Artists Debut (Cognizart) performing with Oregon Ballet Orchestra. She was also a concerto competition winner in Willamette Orchestra, Jewish Community Orchestra, and Vancouver Symphony Orchestra. In a blind audition, she was chosen and hired by Vancouver Symphony Orchestra to take up the only violinist spot. Additionally, Symphony volunteered her time to support younger violinists in BRAVO Youth Orchestra. Representing Northwest Region, Symphony won the third place in Junior Violin section in MTNA (Music Teachers National Association) nationwide in 2016. She was chosen by National Youth Orchestra to perform in Carnegie Hall and to tour in Asia with musicians selected nationwide in the summer of 2018. Debating between music major and engineering major, Symphony decided to major in Mechanical Engineering at Stanford University. She has also been playing the violin in her ensemble for five years since her freshman year and performing on and off campus. We are deeply grateful for the opportunities that CMC has graciously offered. As we understand without CMC, my daughter, Symphony, may have a different journey. Please continue to support youth and music. It is the best investment for the community. Thank you!	05/21/25 11:50 PM

1289

Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Carina Mears Connery	As an individual		My name is Carina Mears Connery, and I'm writing today in strong opposition to the proposed amendment to shutter the Multnomah Arts Center and the Community Music Center. Over the past year, the Multnomah Arts Center has been a lifeline for me. After being laid off from my job, I found myself struggling—not just financially, but emotionally. The MAC offered more than just classes; it offered a way forward. Through its subsidized programming, I was able to study metalsmithing and gain hands-on skills in a trade I had never imagined having access to. That opportunity has opened a door—not just to possible employment, but to renewed purpose, confidence, and connection. These community centers are not luxuries. They are essential infrastructure. They are our third places—spaces that aren't work or home, but where we gather, learn, heal, and grow. They are where I've built intergenerational friendships, found mentors, and watched neighbors support one another through creativity and shared experiences. In a city where loneliness and isolation are on the rise, places like MAC and CMC are antidotes. These programs uplift people. They bring music lessons and dance classes, ceramics and photography, woodworking and calligraphy, to children and adults who otherwise would never get to touch these forms of expression. They make the arts accessible—not just to the wealthy, but to seniors, people with disabilities, single parents, folks working multiple jobs, and those of us trying to find a new path after hardship. This is what equity looks like. To even propose eliminating all of Portland's public arts programming, while defending the budget of one sport—golf—is baffling. During public testimony, hundreds of Portlanders showed up to defend MAC and CMC. Only one person testified in favor of preserving the golf program's budget. That alone should show where our community's priorities lie. I understand the concern that redirecting funds from the golf budget may feel punitive. But perhaps there was too much investment in that program to begin with. In the past, Parks & Rec bailed out the golf program. If golf is a part of parks, then let parks ask for support in return—whether through repayment or budget sharing. If arts fit within the Parks & Rec portfolio, then golf surely does, too. When we talk about public safety, mental health, livability, and reducing crime, we need to look beyond policing. We need to invest in what actually keeps communities whole—access to education, skill-building, community care, and creative expression. That is what these centers do every single day. Defunding MAC and CMC would not just eliminate programs. It would eliminate teachers' livelihoods. It would dismantle vital community infrastructure. It would sever access to arts and skills for thousands of people. It would send a message that Portland no longer values the things that once made this city vibrant, creative, and inclusive.	05/21/25 11:50 PM

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1290	Fangchi KOSS	As an individual		CMC music program is the reason why my daughter, Symphony Koss, has had the opportunity over the years to become a skilled violinist. As Symphony currently is busy preparing for her finals before she graduates from Grad School (Mechanical Engineering) at Stanford University, I thought I would take it upon myself to share why CMC is such a big part of her music education and personal growth. Symphony attended private violin lessons with Martha in around 2005 as a four-year old. She also attended Suzuki group lessons every week. As the quality instruction and group lessons have helped her progressing beautifully, she was accepted by the most-sought after violin teacher in Portland, Kathryn Gray at age 6 and then accepted into Portland Youth Philharmonic Young String Ensemble at age 7. She was concertmaster for Portland Youth Philharmonic from 2017 to 2019 before she moved on to Stanford University. Locally, Symphony was a solo winner twice in MetroArts Young Artists Debut (Cognizart) performing with Oregon Ballet Orchestra. She was also a concerto competition winner in Willamette Orchestra, Jewish Community Orchestra, and Vancouver Symphony Orchestra. In a blind audition, she was chosen and hired by Vancouver Symphony Orchestra to take up the only violinist spot. Additionally, Symphony volunteered her time to support younger violinist in BRAVO Youth Orchestra. Representing Northwest Region, Symphony won the third place in Junior Violin section in MTNA (Music Teachers National Association) nationwide in 2016. She was chosen by National Youth Orchestra to perform in Carnegie Hall and to tour in Asia with musicians selected nationwide in the summer of 2018. Debating between music major and engineering major, Symphony decided to major in Mechanical Engineering at Stanford University. She has also been playing the violin in her ensemble for five years since her freshman year and performing on and off campus. We are deeply grateful for the opportunities that CMC has graciously offered. As we understand without CMC, my daughter, Symphony, may have a different journey. Please continue to support youth and music. It is the best investment for the community. Thank you!	05/21/25 11:53 PM
1291	Pat Kaczmarek	As an individual		Please don't shut down Multnomah Arts Center. Councilor Steve Novick submitted amendment #45 to the City's budget, to PERMANENTLY close the Multnomah Arts Center as of September 1, 2025. MAC collaborates with 15 partners across Portland to support communities targeted by Parks, offering services at locations such as The Rosewood Initiative, Home Forward, and Y.O.U.th. It also hosts several nonprofit organizations, including the Columbia Basin Basketry Guild, Neighborhood House, Oregon Children's Theatre, Print Arts Northwest, Community Policing, and Northwest Woodturners. Additionally, MAC offers discounted space rentals to nonprofits. Through the Parks Levy and MACA scholarships, MAC ensures arts education programming is accessible by removing financial barriers. Over the last two years, the organization has received approximately \$1,000,000 in seismic and ADA upgrades to its facilities from Parks—this investment reinforces the continued use of the building, dispelling any concerns of imminent closure. During the summer, MAC leads the Arts in the Parks initiative, which offers free, drop-in arts activities at various parks, mainly in neighborhoods that serve targeted communities. In 2024, this program engaged over 4,000 youth. MAC also organizes the Free First Friday Arts for All event, offering free arts education activities and food for the Portland community. MAC's staff works closely with Parks management and community partners to plan for long-term facility improvements and ensure sustainable growth. PLEASE DON'T SHUT DOWN THE MAC ! It is ESSENTIAL for our community's well-being. Community well-being helps to keep down criminal activities which in turn helps law enforcement officers.	05/22/25 5:16 AM
1292	Clarisa Walcott	As an individual		I do not agree with the proposed closure of Multnomah Arts Center. This center provides an essential connection for our community, exploration, knowledge and losing this center would be a a complete detriment to the people of Portland.	05/22/25 6:24 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1293	Jeanne Fu	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is a beloved community beacon, connecting students, adults, children, parents, artists, writers, teachers, staff with joy everyday. Please preserve this precious asset and allow it to endure so that children, elders, children at heart can continue to immerse themselves in art, dance, play, and momentous joy day after day.	05/22/25 7:04 AM
1294	heather fields	As an individual		I'm writing to ask the city to continue supporting the Community Music Center. My daughter started taking music lessons there and it played a huge role in her growth—she's now a teacher and professional musician. The Community Music Center doesn't just teach music; it helps people find their passion and is one of the last affordable opportunities to for families to access music instruction . Many of our children that began lessons at the Community Music Center went on to receive college scholarships for music. Music and art are essential not just for individual happiness but for creating a vibrant, connected community. Cutting funding would wipe away that opportunity for many kids and families in a time that art and culture organizations are under increasing stress. Please don't let that happen—let's keep this important resource alive and thriving for future generations.	05/22/25 7:13 AM
1295	Karina Andrews	As an individual		I wanted to give testimony about the importance of the Multnomah Art Center on the Arts and economic community of Portland and Oregon as a whole. I am a working artist with a career that began with a class at the MAC during one of the darkest times of my life. The classes offered at the MAC provided a light to different pathways in an accessible and welcoming environment as part of the greater community in Multnomah Village. Through the MAC classes I attended (printmaking, art and some fitness) I was able to reconnect with myself, hone skill sets to boost economic growth within Oregon and make lasting connections with the local community. Having an accessible place to learn new skills is essential for building a strong and vibrant economy and community as a whole. Places like the MAC serve to bring people together and help lift them up through the acquisition of new skills and connections with community members. These are essential in the creation of place and community. I sincerely hope that the City Council members take a deeper moment to reflect on the importance that the MAC center has on the community and urge the council to take action to keep the Center running.	05/22/25 7:18 AM
1296	Nicole	As an individual		When I first moved to Portland in 2019, I knew virtually nobody and had suffered serious trauma (as an already disabled veteran with PTSD). At the time the only thing my brain could focus on were creative projects- things that got me out of my trauma brain and into a flow. I took a couple courses at Multanomah Art Center, as the College of Arts and Crafts- I was told- had just closed. Those classes gave me skills to create art while negotiating the aspects of trauma that were largely visceral. The Body Keeps the Score. I was forced to walk away from a profession- that included 8 years of college education and a decade of invested time- for my own safety. As a result, the knowledge I gained at the art center was translatable into a job, which I now do for income. I cannot express how much we NEED art in the current political climate- as a community and as individuals. We need it to bind community members together, to introduce us to new community members, we need it so that we can get out of the, often, soul-sucking grind that we have to participate in to make ends meet. We need it to heal as individuals. Art is therapeutic, there are ample studies that show the arts (including music) are what help people get mentally well, survive difficult times, and calm nervous systems in fight, flight and freeze. There is no question that budget cuts, due to the cutting of Federal Funding, are going to occur, but I ask you to consider how much healthier and happier the community is with this resource: Multanomah Art Center is a crucial access point for so many people already, and many more to come. Shutting the doors permanently would be stealing the hope for tomorrow in an already dark period in American history. We need more art, not less. I ask that you consider alternatives, such as raising fees a bit, reducing less popular offerings, or innovating new ways to keep the center moving forward. Portland metro has already lost so much of the arts education opportunities that we're here even prior to my arrival- please do not take away the hope, joy, and opportunity that the center brings so so many lives.	05/22/25 7:46 AM
1297	Nancie M Hines	As an individual		How can Portland vote to close Multnomah Art Center? It's a hub of activities in SW Portland and a place for young children, summer camps, seniors and everyone else. This idea came up quickly without any citizens' input. I just signed up for a writing class in June and there were no signs in the lobby or any indication that someone wanted to close this center. I'm just paid \$197 for my class. Most people pay for classes there. What's going on? I say, Hands Off my community center!!!	05/22/25 8:19 AM
1298		As an individual		Vote no on amendment 45. Save the Multnomah Arts Center - Portland Parks & Recreation!	05/22/25 8:22 AM
1299	megan mishler	As an individual		I am urging you to keep the music center & Multnomah arts center open. We did so many music classes with my children when they were young at the music center. And now as I'm approaching retirement, I'm looking at classes in the art center for myself. These would be a huge loss to many generations of our community. Please find another way to save money instead of cutting these services.	05/22/25 8:35 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1300	Jil Freeman	As an individual		Multnomah Arts Center is a critical gathering, learning, connecting, educational space in our community. Closing it would have devastating impacts for our community and deny citizens the ability to learn new skills, connect with each other, and support the artistic vibrancy of Portland. Art is essential to a free and democratic society and closing the MAC during a time of creeping authoritarianism will only serve to further that Creep. Please persevere arts funding in Portland.	05/22/25 8:47 AM
1301	Carol Stampfer	As an individual		The Multnomah Art Center has been a tremendous resource for our family for 39 years. We used the MAC for indoor toddler groups, we took dance, art, singing lessons there. We had big birthday celebrations there and attended concerts for dance and music there. Most recently I have stood in line for two hours in order to get my spot in the watercolor class. Please find a way to keep this Portland treasure open!	05/22/25 8:54 AM
1302	Mary Crane	As an individual		Please do not eliminate essential community centers. This appears to have been approached randomly and thoughtlessly reminiscent of DOGE. I have used these centers my entire 40 years in pPDX not just in my district. Most are heavily used and provide support and activity to many who would not otherwise have access.	05/22/25 9:08 AM
1303	Danielle Ramos	As an individual		Please DO NOT SHUT MULTNOMAH ARTS CENTER. It is a vital and treasured resource in this community. I've lived in this neighborhood most of my life and it is untenable that my children would not be able to enjoy MAC as I did as a child. In so many ways we keep stealing from our kids, giving them scraps and that is bullshit. I know you have a tough decision but I plead that you let us keep MAC.	05/22/25 9:17 AM
1304	Daniel Cole	As an individual		Multnomah Arts Center Closing. This is a critical part of our community in SW Portland. I have a mug I bought from an artist who created it at the arts center and I drink coffee out of it every day. My daughter did sculpture there for years. Keep it going, and make the arts a priority for our community.	05/22/25 9:18 AM
1305	Mary S Taylor	As an individual		I strongly support both Prosper Portland's work and its present structure independent of the City Council, AND the existence and work of the Multnomah Art Center. I have taken classes at the latter and seen its superb work building community, providing a place for those needing services such as Meals on Wheels and being a wonderful catalyst for creativity and compassion in our part of the city. DO NOT CUT either program! Thank you.	05/22/25 9:27 AM
1306	Angelita Surmon	As an individual		I am writing to ask that the Multnomah Art Center funding be continued. This organization has provided a vital space for community arts learning for decades. It is a vibrant element of the Portland art community for learning arts processes, providing ceramics studio space, and supporting artists and the community through its ongoing gallery shows, special art and music events. Through its parks and recreation connection it offers affordable opportunities through its inclusive programs for all ages. I urge you to continue to support this vital community resource.	05/22/25 9:31 AM
1307	Annemarie Hoffman	As an individual		I just heard about the budget amendment that would close the doors at Multnomah Art Center on September 1st. I think this would be a devastating blow to the community and would change the trajectory of future community members who would benefit by the rich classes and opportunities offered. I personally met my best friend in a class at Multnomah Arts Center, and my friend grew a successful jewelry business based on what she learned in that class, as well as it helped change the trajectory of my own successful small business as I learned new ways to think about my designs. Please reconsider this budget cut and let's protect this vital community resource.	05/22/25 9:31 AM
1308	Julie Jacob	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is a vital part of the Portland community! It would be a tragedy to take away the artistic opportunities for Portlanders of all ages. I've taken classes there and I know many others who have. There's no other place like it in Portland. Do not close it!!	05/22/25 9:39 AM
1309		As an individual		Dear Elected Council Members, I am writing you this morning after seeing an instagram post from a fellow artist and important community member of the arts. In my 35 years of living in this city, Portland has always been supportive of what former Mayor Vera Katz called the creative class. The force of the arts culture in Portland cannot be understated. It's a major vein of this unique city, and it feeds communities and individual lives beyond compare. The proposed permanent closure of MAC and the Community Music Center is a terrible notion that would backfire and neglect Portlanders who are looking to thrive and learn and connect. Having access to learning in the artistic fields beyond academic institutions is paramount to a vibrant city. Ideas are born, possibilities are realized and communities are made in these places. Please please consider voting against budget amendment 45, and keep these incredible arts centers alive for all. They are so important and dearly loved by generations of Portlanders who wish to nurture their creative vein and contribute to the vitality of this city we call home. Please VOTE NO on this proposed budget amendment, we can do better than this, and keep the arts ALIVE and thriving in Portland! Thank you for reading my words. Have a nice day. Amy B.	05/22/25 9:43 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1310	Margaret Klute	As an individual		My children attended art, music and dance programs at both the arts and music centers 20 to 30 years ago, at a time when the schools offered little, and our family could not afford private instruction. All three of them have benefited from what they learned. We are a city that supports the arts! Please keep it accessible to all families!	05/22/25 9:43 AM
1311	Barbara Nicoletti	As an individual		As a music and arts advocate, participant, and educator in the area I ask the council to please strongly consider keeping the modest investment of the Multnomah Arts Center going. Enduring, accessible, and community-based opportunity for diverse participation in centers of art, music, wellness and exchange are cogs in the wheel of community wellness - not unlike sports fields or parks. These places are rare and precious opportunities for healthy connections as well as supportive of the arts. Barbara J. Nicoletti	05/22/25 9:45 AM
1312	Annette Fabiano Breed	As an individual		As a 74 year old artist living in Portland for 45 years, the Multnomah Art Center has saved my life. I have suffered from depression for most of my adult life. The Mac Center has allowed me to finally have a community of Artists friends. Not only am I learning new things, but I am no longer living in solitude. I feel like I am healing emotionally and spiritually. Please don't take the Mac Center away from all of us.	05/22/25 9:52 AM
1313		As an individual		PLEASE do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! It does so much good!!	05/22/25 9:52 AM
1314		As an individual		PLEASE do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! It does so much good!!	05/22/25 9:53 AM
1315		As an individual		PLEASE do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! It does so much good!!	05/22/25 9:55 AM
1316		As an individual		PLEASE do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! It does so much good!!	05/22/25 9:56 AM
1317		As an individual		PLEASE do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! It does so much good!!	05/22/25 9:56 AM
1318		As an individual		PLEASE do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! It does so much good!!	05/22/25 9:57 AM
1319		As an individual		PLEASE do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! It does so much good!!	05/22/25 9:57 AM
1320		As an individual		PLEASE do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! It does so much good!!	05/22/25 9:57 AM
1321		As an individual		PLEASE do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! It does so much good!!	05/22/25 9:58 AM
1322		As an individual		PLEASE do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! It does so much good!!	05/22/25 9:58 AM
1323		As an individual		PLEASE do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! It does so much good!!	05/22/25 9:58 AM
1324		As an individual		PLEASE do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! It does so much good!!	05/22/25 9:59 AM
1325		As an individual		PLEASE do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! It does so much good!!	05/22/25 9:59 AM
1326		As an individual		PLEASE do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! It does so much good!!	05/22/25 10:00 AM
1327		As an individual		Great community center and very active.	05/22/25 10:31 AM
1328	Sandra Cagley	As an individual		I am resident of Maplewood, in district 4, and I am urging the council to vote NO on Agenda item #45 resulting in the closure of the Multnomah Arts Center.	05/22/25 10:57 AM
1329	Samuel Adelman	As an individual		I understand that there is a possibility of the community music center being closed due to budget cuts. I know that these decisions must be balanced against cuts to other areas, but I believe the community music center is valuable enough to be preserved, and cuts should be made in other places instead.	05/22/25 11:52 AM
1330	Kenneth Tietsort	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center. It is the heart of our village. There are so many people that will be affected by this travesty of closing it down. The Arts need to be sustained for the health of the community. This is not acceptable and is a permanent solution to a temporary situation. Do what is right.	05/22/25 11:58 AM
1331	Yohko Katayama	As an individual		We are low income family and Arts center is super helpful for kids and adults art education!	05/22/25 12:06 PM

Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1332 Rebecca Chevrel	As an individual		I am a Portland mother and mental health counselor in training in district 3 and I am absolutely horrified at the suggestion of the closure of Multnomah Arts Center and the Community Music Center! This is some of the BEST affordable arts programming in this city! There many many studies linking urban community health to arts programming and the accessibility of arts programming! My son has flourished because of drama, dance, and martial arts classes at MAC, I myself have taken many classes there where I have connected with the community and made friends, and I know many children learning to play music at CMC whose family would not otherwise be able to afford music lessons. I appreciate the desire to spend more on parks maintenance, but engaging in the arts is what makes children into people who grow up and appreciate beautiful parks. Art and music heal, and help develop resilience, Art and music are anchors for children who lack stability in our community. Children who have faced multiple adverse childhood experiences sometimes just need to find ways to express themselves. Art and music increase their chances of growing up to be able to engage in society. Green spaces are also important, but not more important. Here is a link to a scoping review from the World Health Organization of over 900 publications discussing the individual, public, and community health benefits of arts and music. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK553778/ There are benefits across the lifespan for all ages. Thank you for your time, Rebecca Chevrel	05/22/25 12:08 PM
1333 Lee Ratcliffe	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center! This is unbelievable!	05/22/25 12:19 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
	Carol Ann Kirby	As an individual		I had previously submitted comments on the proposal for closing Multnomah Arts Center (MAC). Yesterday's Willamette Week article discussed Steve Novick's (district 3) proposed closing of MAC (district 4) and the Community Music Center (district 2). The primary reason given for this proposal was a lack of maintenance funds. Justifying the closure of a vital program because you have chosen not to provide needed building maintenance in your budgets is inconceivable at best. City residents passed a \$68 million Parks Replacement Bond that we're paying back through increased property taxes. Of the 40 park projects under construction or completed noted on your website, nine have occurred in SW Portland. Two were bridge replacements; four were drainage and play piece replacements; and one was a soccer field replacement. The two largest renovations were the Gabriel Park playground renovation and the MAC's seismic and accessibility improvements. One of the largest renovations is related to the community center you are now proposing to close. SW Portland is routinely ignored and/or under-served by local government. I do acknowledge that not all of the examples below are the responsibility of the City. However, I wanted to remind you of what we must deal with in SW Portland due to most government resources being placed elsewhere. Here are examples: •The safe streets to school certainly don't include SW Portland as most of our neighborhoods don't have sidewalks. A large amount of our roads are narrow and curvy and aren't safe for pedestrians. I do wonder if adding bumps for a street crossing to Marshall Park on Taylor's Ferry is representative of the amount of money other neighborhoods receive. •EPS doesn't provide buses for high schoolers. The closest Tri-Met stop in our neighborhood was removed. Ida B Wells is 2.7 miles away. That 2.7 mile daily round trip is left to every parent to negotiate for their children. •We have lived through arts programs being cut by PPS. Jackson Middle School's band program was completely cut during a previous budget cycle. PPS currently doesn't provide any budget for sheet music or replacing instruments. Parents turn to other art programs, like MAC provides, to give their children a comprehensive education. It makes it extremely difficult to re-establish and maintain high quality art programs when they aren't funded. •There are 11 community centers in the City of Portland. Only 2 are in SW Portland – Multnomah Arts Center and SW Community Center. Closing MAC would only leave us with one community center for one of the largest areas of Portland, covering a significant Portland of the City's western side. If you look at what is known about SW Portland, the average individual income is \$107K and the average home value is \$690K. Given this information, it is highly likely that SW Portland residents significantly contribute to the City of Portland's tax revenues. It would be interesting to see if our per capita tax payments justify a representation of services of only one community center. While I appreciate the budget issues you are currently dealing with, I would hope there would be a more thoughtful and deliberate response than "let's close all the art programs" the City provides to its residents. This is especially true and disconcerting when the Do not close the multnomah arts center. It is extremely loved and used by the community. It provides so much to all ages and demographics	05/22/25 12:43 PM
1334	Luke DeRosso	As an individual			05/22/25 1:06 PM
1335	Irene Iach	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Arts Center.	05/22/25 1:13 PM
1336	Amy Mace-McLatchie	As an individual		I urge you to vote no on the closure of Multnomah Arts Center and the music center. Art is a core identity of Portland. These facilities are vital for the continuing education of artists and exposure to art that other people may not have access to. Your vote holds the future of arts education in the city. At a time when the arts are being cut across this country the city's support of the arts community is vital. Please vote no.	05/22/25 1:31 PM
1337	Julie Mulley	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center has been a vital part of our community for many years and needs to remain open. A huge, diverse population of people benefits in numerous, very important ways from this center. Personally I have used it for more than 40 years .. for my son when he was young, for myself for art enrichment and social interactions, for my granddaughter for art enrichment and classes . I've utilized the senior center, taken piano lessons while dealing with grief , supported art sales , concerts, plays etc. the list of benefits could go on and on. I love the center and in this age of turmoil and government cuts and discord , we need to come together as a community . It needs to remain open.	05/22/25 1:36 PM
1338	Julie Lau	As an individual		As an artist and SW Portland community member, I URGE you to keep the Multnomah Arts Center open and thriving. In this moment of severe arts cuts, the MAC fills an essential role in our community. It would be a tragedy for our community to lose this and would create a hole impossible to fill for decades to come.	05/22/25 3:33 PM
1339	Emily Melina	As an individual		This is testimony against the proposal to close the MAC. The MAC is a cornerstone to youth and community arts and culture, not to mention community. The suggestion to close this is not only heartbreaking but quite honestly against the platform that Councilor Novik ran on. Certainly budget cuts are imminent but Portland has time and time again passed bonds to support PPR and this is what these were for.	05/22/25 3:36 PM
1340					

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1341	Deb Morgan	As an individual		The Multnomah Arts Center is an important community resource helping people from all walks of life and ages with a way to connect and improve their lives.	05/22/25 3:42 PM
1342	Kaylee Sales	On behalf of an organization	The Rosewood Initiative	Please keep MACA around. They benefit our community more than you'll ever know.	05/22/25 3:55 PM
1343		As an individual		So much corruption everywhere!	05/22/25 5:11 PM
1344	Brian Stewart	As an individual		Please continue funding for the Multnomah Arts Center - this facility and staff provide so much benefit to the community, children and seniors that it should be prioritized to keep its wonderful work and legacy going.	05/22/25 5:16 PM
1345	Mary Lee Braymen-Cleary	As an individual		Instead of ruining a mainstay of an arts community, the City should invent even more ways to fund MAC and keep Portland's soul alive. Any professional fundraiser, for profit or non-profit could generate a wide array of funding options. Before making any devastating cuts, time should be allotted for this purpose. There can't be an excuse for quick draconian measures.	05/22/25 5:33 PM
1346	Kari Phillips	On behalf of an organization	Multnomah Art Center	I'm writing today to voice my opposition to the budget cuts that would close Multnomah Art Center. This tremendous resource is a vital component to the arts community in Portland and surrounding areas. The diversity in disciplines, strength of instructors and variety of courses is a mecca for constituents of all ages and interest levels. It will not be easily replaced. I first took a ceramic class at MAC with my then fiancée as a pre-wedding/relationship building activity. I was so impressed with the facility and offerings that when I decided to pursue my interest in metal work, I selected MAC for that instruction. I took more than half a dozen classes there and now work full time as a jewelry artist. I know that my skills and business success grew from those classes and teachers. It's shocking that this is on the table. Hard decisions have to be made when looking at budgets, but this would be an extremely wasteful cut. It's built; it serves; it's loved. It would cost more to destroy it than use the money to build/supplement something else. Please look elsewhere. This is a city low in morale and the MAC is a beacon for joy, inspiration, community and creativity. It would be a huge mistake to eliminate such a good thing. Thank you for your attention.	05/22/25 5:34 PM
1347	Valerie Sasaki	As an individual		I currently serve as the board chair of Portland Center Stage and wanted to encourage you to vote in favor of a budget allocation to Portland Center Stage. PCS plays a significant role as the main anchor organization for theater in Portland and the surrounding area. It benefits local artists and other nonprofits by building audiences, training personnel, and even building sets for other theaters! Additionally, PCS has a significant role to play in the health of downtown. People who come to downtown to see a show also eat at restaurants, shop in stores, and tell their friends about how Portland is coming back. PCS may have to close its doors without this allocation due to a nationwide decline in support for the arts and a drop in season ticket purchases. We need the arts now more than ever. Please support PCS and vote for this allocation.	05/22/25 5:41 PM
1348		As an individual		Multnomah Arts Center is a vital part of our community. It brings arts to children and the elderly at affordable rates and helps connect people through the arts. The variety of classes offered are incredible and the teachers bring so much insightful knowledge and artistry to the center making it an inclusive and uplifting place to be a part of.	05/22/25 5:55 PM
1349		As an individual		I am a resident of Portland (District 3) and I am writing today to say how important the Multnomah Arts Center has been to me and to ask that it continues to be able to support students and artists. I have recently started taking classes at MAC and the teachers and community I have found there have been so helpful and encouraging. I went to school for art and am always trying to find new ways to explore different mediums but it can be quite expensive. This is the only studio I know of that significantly helps students with the cost of continuing education. I would not be able to afford a class like this without the assistance through the access pass. I feel deeply grateful that there is a place where artists can continue to learn new skills and build community with financial support. Please don't put these teachers out of a job that is helping the community. Please don't close the Multnomah Arts Center and vote no on amendment #45!!	05/22/25 6:07 PM
1350	Amber	As an individual		I am concerned about the potential of the closing of both the Multnomah Arts Center and the Community Music Center. Both the centers support community connections and for some they're accessing to arts programming. My child's first introduction to music was at the Community music center. I strongly believe this has facilitated his love of music and supported his emotional development. He continues to play music as he excels at school. Furthermore, their summer community involvement in the parks supports reduced crime in our area by consistently getting community members to gather in a positive space. The MAC is often an entry in to arts that would otherwise be inaccessible. My own friend grew her learning from the MAC into a thriving small business. Not to mention closing these would leave yet two more vacant buildings subject to crime in our communities. Please reconsider the closure of the centers and support their public programming. Thank you for your time	05/22/25 9:34 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1351		As an individual		Multnomah Arts Center, is an asset that could be self funding if managed correctly. Let's not further hamper the local businesses with yet another derelict building. Give it a p&l and manage it like a standalone business, but please don't CLOSE it.	05/22/25 10:06 PM
1352	SHLOMO VILOZNY	As an individual		You all really need to look at the policies that hamper small businesses and high earners in Portland, I scale startups for a living, I am a product of PPS and OSU, and I would never, ever advise a client to start a business in this city. When home interest rates go down, we are planning to leave this city (I am a 4th gen Portlander). These anti business, tax the rich policies are running us into the ground and out of town. Something needs to change or it's a race to the bottom, take a close look at who's leaving and where they are going (lake o, Richfield), and CHANGE something or this is just the tip of the iceberg of an evaporating tax base that is set to accelerate on your watch. The only thing holding it together is interest rates, for now.	05/22/25 10:43 PM
1353	Chau Phan Mende	As an individual		There are two testimonies: Neea Mende Chau Phan Mende	05/22/25 10:49 PM
1354	Sophie kendall	As an individual		The Multnomah arts center is a vital part of this community. Losing it would seriously negatively impact many residents and the city's culture as a whole.	05/23/25 12:10 AM
1355	Scott MacsonAld	As an individual		Education in the arts and crafts are a necessity. Multnomah Art Center has been an important gathering place for culture.	05/23/25 5:17 AM
1356		As an individual		Multnomah Arts Center has provided so much for many who cannot afford to pursue education in the arts. The ripple effect of this kind of cut is devastating in so many ways for our community. Please rethink!	05/23/25 6:57 AM
1357	Akseli Mende	As an individual		This was Akseli Mende's testimony, and his mother, Chau Phan Mende, has sent it on his behalf.	05/23/25 7:43 AM
1358	Sara Swink	As an individual		Save Multnomah Arts Center! It is vital to the community. The classes, the meeting space, the events are the essence of Portland. It brings a lot of business to Multnomah Village.	05/23/25 8:01 AM
1359	Mary Farrell	On behalf of an organization	Print Arts Northwest	Now, more than ever, we need to support the arts and these programs that support our community.	05/23/25 8:32 AM
1360	Carlin	As an individual		By closing Multnomah Arts Center, Portland will be dealing a critical blow to the very soul of Portland. Providing access to arts education for ALL Portlanders is a necessary part of the fight for equity and justice. Humanity is made through art, and taking away the Multnomah Arts Center will be taking away art from so many of the people who need it most. As a metalsmith, sewist, fiber arts enthusiast, and musician, I recently discovered the MAC and was floored by what an incredible resource it is - for all kinds of art. As a professional artist I was immediately enthusiastic to have a close and ready opportunity to share my skills with my community. Please do not take away this equalizing resource. The budget crisis is severe, but we cannot cut out our own heart in an effort to save our body.	05/23/25 9:43 AM
1361	Cindy Quale	As an individual		We are living in horrible times when the needs of the regular person are being undermined. Multnomah arts Center is a jewel of Portland. Children and adults are being served there in miraculous ways. I will tell you my story which is one of many. My son and I started going to MAC when he was 8. He enrolled in ceramics at that time and he continued to go there until he graduated from high school. He had his first job there mixing clay. Because of his time at MAC he applied to, and got into Rhode Island School of Design and now has a fabulous job in NYC as a lighting designer. He also continues to do his ceramics and will be featured in Dwell magazine in September of this year and has been invited to show in multiple art galleries. This would not have been possible without MAC. MAC is truly a community resource. In an era when there are nothing but cuts to programs it would be criminal to close MAC. DO NOT DO THIS	05/23/25 11:03 AM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1362		As an individual		Dear City Councilors, I urge you to approve a budget that prioritizes centralized, consistent, equitable, and responsive community engagement and communication services for all Portlanders. A unified approach will ensure equitable access to information and participation across our city and increase efficiencies as one city. Please commit to funding government reforms that Portlanders have voted for and that align with the Government Transition Advisory Committee (GTAC) recommendations. Strengthening a coordinated and collaborative community engagement structure across all service areas and valuing existing subject matter expertise within the city will be essential for good governance. Investing in a citywide equitable engagement and communications strategy will reinforce public trust and empower communities. Again, I urge you to adopt a budget that can deliver and execute on the promise to all Portlanders of good governance by prioritizing a unified, transparent, and accountable core services structure under your collaborative leadership.	05/23/25 12:28 PM
1363	Dan Charvat	On behalf of an organization	Dan's Music School	The MAC is very important to my small music school business that I run out of SW Portland. Twice a year I host recitals with all of my students here, and it is a wonderful opportunity for the youth to experience performing on a real stage in front of a large audience (usually 70-80 people). Please do not close the MAC! It means so much to my students, their families, and my independent business! Thank you, Dan Charvat	05/23/25 12:56 PM
1364	Cynthia Cristofani, MD	As an individual		To the Portland City Council: As a longtime student and donor to the Community Music Center, I was appalled to learn that Steve Novick has recommended its closure. Music is essential for our community and its citizens, and losing this gem which has served us for decades is an absolutely intolerable proposal. Not only do the many classes it offers serve Portland residents, but many of us from the greater Tri-County area (and even southern Washington) treasure the opportunities it offers. Its hundreds of students span a wide age range, from children whose families could not otherwise afford music lessons to retirees like me who happily indulge our passion for Renaissance music. Its many offerings could not possibly be replicated in alternate venues, should it close. Losing it would result in a community which is poorer and sadder. Surely there are alternative means of balancing the Portland budget without sacrificing this irreplaceable institution. Please save our beloved Community Music Center! Yours, Cynthia Cristofani, MD	05/23/25 1:51 PM

	Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
1365	Robert Williams	As an individual		My name is Robert Williams i am writing in regards to taking funds from the Golf Rainy Day Fund. When the golf committee need help it had to borrow money snd pay it back. So they started a rainy day fund for upkeep and improvement of the five golf courses. The money you are looking at is need for improvement and upkeep. The message you are sending is we can take money no matter what your plans are. Also it says to other areas you do not have to worry we will bail you out, so do not be prudent. Second, increasing cost of golf for the general fund or reasons other than golf will handcuff the golf courses when repairs or increases are need. This says to golfers travel to other courses or find something else to do. It appears that you have a short fall and see money and will take it without taking into consideration the long term consequences. Please find other ways to find the money or borrow the money and pay it back that way repairs can be made over time without having to borrow with interest. Golf supports youth, women elderly and many others. To increase the cost on the most vulnerable part of the community is like adding a tax because you are a golfer. I ask that you get a better understanding of the needs and cost of maintaining golf courses and leave the rainy day funds alone. Second I ask that you do not place a tax on golfers to maintain things other than golf. If you see no way out then borrow the money that will delay repairs and improvements not see that they are not performed. Thank you Sent from my iPhone	05/23/25 1:51 PM
1366	JoAnn Gilles	As an individual		Multnomah Art Center is one of those things that makes Portland the kind of city you want to live in. The classes I've taken, the classes I've taken my daughter to, the exhibits and performances I and my friends have experienced have, truly, changed our lives. It is shortsighted to even think about closing it. It would be tragic.	05/24/25 4:53 AM
1367		As an individual		I understand there is a proposal in the budget to close the Multnomah Arts Center. I oppose this idea fully. The art center is a long standing contributor to the community and part of Portland's magic. Please take this off of the table.	05/24/25 9:56 AM
1368	Randy Hall	As an individual		Please keep the Multnomah Arts Center open. It is the hub of the village. I have enjoyed taking wood turning classes there. My partner and I have attended concerts there. And we enjoy browsing through various art exhibits there.	05/24/25 1:12 PM
1369	Louis Gaty	As an individual		The MAC is one of the most effective and popular community centers in Portland. Trim the fat from something else.	05/24/25 6:29 PM
1370	Rochel Klein	As an individual		Please don't close this special place !!! Thank you!	05/24/25 11:57 PM
1371	Susan Bexton	As an individual		Please do not close MAC for SE Portland Music Center. They have been around forever, have served thousands of children and adults, and are a city treasure. What could be more important at this stage than children and the arts?	05/25/25 11:09 AM
1372	Tina Hsu	As an individual		I am strongly AGAINST the proposal to close down Multnomah Art Center. It is a place that fosters art education and entrepreneurship. Portland has a vibrant maker culture and Multnomah Art Center is a hub that is essential for fostering art and small businesses that spun off of it. Please keep it open.	05/25/25 11:58 AM
1373	Carol Malnati	As an individual		Please do not close the Multnomah Art Center! I've taken knitting classes and now clay classes and it is such a popular and vibrant community. I've met many friends through art classes there and not having this will leave a big hole in my life, not to mention Multnomah Village. Please find room in the budget!	05/25/25 7:21 PM
1374	Jason Rodgers	As an individual		I am writing to encourage you to reconsider closing the Multnomah Arts Center for budget-cutting purposes. This welcoming space, at the heart of Multnomah Village, makes this community vibrant by providing opportunities for both access to and the creation of arts and culture. Surely the operating costs are meager and better savings could be found elsewhere that don't impact so many members of the neighborhood. Thank you for your consideration.	05/26/25 7:32 AM
1375	Christina Lena Kreft-Tengblad	As an individual		DO NOT CLOSE the Multnomah Art Center!!!! The MAC is such a vital and important part of our community, for old and young!! My family has taken and enjoyed many classes at the MAC for the past 20+ years. We cannot imagine our community without the MAC! Shocking that this is even considered, especially since our property taxes are so high in Multnomah county!!	05/26/25 12:04 PM
1376	Jason Maurer	As an individual		Every night we walk as a family—my partner, our son and our dog—through Multnomah Village and up SW 32nd to the top of the hill, the highest point in the neighborhood. And almost every night we stop to take in the life at the MAC: a pickup basketball game, a dozen larpers in combat, the sound of a band or choir spilling into the street, all kinds of people coming and going to the Multnomah Arts Center. There's life at the MAC, the kind of life you'll never find in commercial settings. Inspiring, affirming, sustaining life. And Southwest Portland would be so much less interesting without it. Please do not close the MAC.	05/26/25 12:49 PM

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Name	Individual or organization	Organization name	Comments	Created
Linda Hutchins	As an individual		I am writing in opposition to the plan to close Community Music Center and Multnomah Art Center. These long-standing institutions provide important support and community for artists, musicians, families, and children. They are vital elements of our city's cultural ecosystem. We cannot afford to lose them on the heels of the closures of Oregon College of Art and Craft, Museum of Contemporary Craft, Newspace Center for Photography, and others.	05/26/25 4:54 PM
Emilie	As an individual		Do not close the multnomah arts center!!!! I grew up going here and my mother continues to do so for jewelry making classes.	05/26/25 7:16 PM
David Osborne	As an individual		Please don't close the MAC. It's so vital to us.	05/26/25 8:47 PM
Mike Lester	On behalf of an organization	New Seasons Market	I would like the attached letter presented to the County Council for their review.	05/27/25 11:19 AM

Street Tree Infrastructure Asset Management:

A survey of City archives

The City of Portland has called for transferring street tree maintenance responsibility from private citizens to the City in official documents since 1944.¹

2.1.1944 Report of the Superintendent of Parks , CP Keyser

“... altogether a ten-year program of planting, replanting, and trimming should be started. Or better, begin on a 25-year cycle of replanting all street trees. For this objective, the administration of street trees should be taken over and managed by the City Government, on a continuing systematic operations, which would in the end cost the community at large no more than has been spent right along haphazardly...”

5.8.1957 Street Tree Committee Conference

Requests Parks Bureau to do a study and prepare a master plan for the control of planting and financing of a Street Tree program for Portland and then will suggest plan to City Council, but hopes will first submit plan to this group for review

1.11.1973 City Code Chapter 20.40 (added by Ordinance # 134330 passed April 6, 1972, effective May 8, 1972)

Street Tree Regulations: 20.40.020 calls for comprehensive plan to be developed and established for the planting, maintenance and replacement of trees in and along streets

4.15.1975 Street Tree Advisory Committee Meeting minutes

Discussion of finding source other than General Fund to support Street Tree program, talk of \$0.05 per lineal frontage-foot assessment

7.15.1976 Street Tree Advisory Committee meeting minutes

Committee member Al Hampson (lawyer) asks City Forester Alex Wynstra about fall budgeting needs for a full street tree program, Wynstra says \$500,000 for street trees but does not include park trees; methods that could fund: Levy @ \$0.05 per linear feet assessed but this not currently allowable under City Charter

Al Hampson will talk to City Commissioner Mildred Schwab about possible methods of funding Street Tree program

9.16.1976 Street Tree Advisory Committee meeting minutes

Al Hampson will talk to City Commissioner Mildred Schwab about possible methods of funding Street Tree program

6.16.1977 Street Tree Advisory Committee meeting minutes

Street Tree Levy: need \$1.2 million for street tree program. Would require an assessment of \$0.25 per \$1000 of “evaluation” sic., average home value ~\$50,000 so average assessment is \$11.75 per property owner. Hampson says 1/3 of funding is from General Fund so net is homeowner assessment of \$8-\$9 annually for 5-year levy, says this does not include Dutch Elm Disease control program

¹ Information gathered by Bruce Nelson from the Portland Archives and Research Center during 2022-2024

6.30.1977 Special TAX Levy for Street Trees consideration

proceeds from Levy would go into City of Portland Street and Park Tree Fund" would be 5-year for total of \$6,250,000; not known if adopted or even brought to voters

10.20.1977 Street Tree Advisory Committee meeting notes

Discussion of Levy, City Forester Alex Wynstra should include the following items in the levy, according to committee member Al Hampson:

1. Street and park tree program;
2. Tree nursery program;
3. Dutch elm disease control program;
4. Sidewalk repair

1.9.1978 Memo from Douglas Bridges (Bureau of Parks and Recreation Superintendent) TO: City Commissioner Mildred Schwab

RE: Street Tree Program (calling for need for comprehensive tree plan)

Key to future success and development of a comprehensive tree plan ("The City Code requires the development and implementation of a street tree plan.") City Forester Alex Wynstra not have time to do this, want to have a person through federal CETA program to prepare plan and work with Street Tree Advisory Committee to carry DRAFT to neighborhoods."

Outlines steps to follow in developing program

5.21.1981 Street Tree Advisory Committee Meeting minutes

City Forester Steve Goetz says he believes the public generally supports large tree maintenance and that it is economically better for the City to aid and assist in street tree maintenance. The Street Tree Advisory Committee thinks this should be discussed with the City Commissioner in charge of Parks.

3.13.1983 TO: Jeff Rogers, Portland City Attorney

FROM: City Commissioner Mike Lindberg

RE: 2 projects of Tree Advisory Committee Requiring Legal Help

Second project is development of a tree levy – several cities pay for their tree programs using a nominal front-foot levy. Preliminary work in Portland seems to indicate that a levy of about \$0.15 per frontage foot would pay for tree maintenance, planting and for sidewalk repair occasioned by tree root intrusion. Preparing the levy proposal will require drafting assistance from your office. In addition, it is my belief that the operation and oversight of the levy should closely involve the Tree Commission.

8.21.84-11.20.87 Letter from Bill Naito to David Judd (staff member in City Commissioner Mike Lindberg's office)

Any interest in looking at tree lineal frontage tax?

5.25.1985 Letter from Street Tree Advisory Committee member Al Hampson to Mayor Clark

"I am well aware that there are too few dollars to be divided among too many worthy and demanding claims for them. I think that we can get a Tree Commission and then a linear foot

tax which will take all of the cost for the city's trees – both those along the street and in the parks – out of the general fund..."

3.31.1986 From: Northwest District Association (Gordon Smith)

TO: City Commissioner Mike Lindberg

RE: New Tree Ordinance

"Because we think that individual citizens should not have to single handedly bear the brunt of liability and maintenance of features which are an important asset of the entire city, we support a means of financing city planting and maintenance of all street trees. One such means which seems fair to us is an annual levy on all property owners, calculated by taking the number of lineal feet of that owner's property which abut public right-of-ways and multiple that number by an amount to be set by City Council."

1.15.1988 Letter from Miss Jewel H. Miller to Mayor J.E. (Bud) Clark

proposes setting up a job training program to teach people how to trim trees {Note that in early to mid-1980s the economy was not good, there were significant cutbacks at Urban Forestry resulting in them ceasing what street tree pruning they had been doing earlier.}

2.29.1988 Letter from Portland resident Mary Lou Jacobs

TO: City Commissioner Mike Lindberg

"I believe that large shade trees add beauty to our homes and neighborhoods. However, the cost of maintaining large trees is more than most homeowners can afford to pay. I urge you and your fellow Commissioners to give serious consideration to the need to invest some public funds into the ongoing well-being of our City's shade trees. "

3.15.1990 Urban Forestry Commission meeting notes

Urban Forestry Commission chair Bill Naito spoke of Street Lighting and Street Tree Levy as being a possibility for funding Forestry Division (of Portland Parks)

1.17.1991 Urban Forestry Commission meeting notes

Passage of Proposition #5 requires all City bureaus to reduce their general fund budget dollars by 18.9%; Tree Maintenance lost 2 positions

8.15.1991 Urban Forestry Commission meeting notes

Urban Forestry Commission chair Bill Naito thinks limitations on use of a front-footage charge likely due to passage of State Ballot Measure #5

11.14.1991 'In My Opinion' written article for Oregon? By Michael Sievers

Would like to see the creation of a Fund to maintain Portland street trees,

"The solution is the creation of a street-tree management fund through the implementation of a linear foot street frontage charge to property owners throughout the city." Fund would be dedicated to planting, trimming, replacement, spraying and general maintenance

5.21.1992 Paul Ries speaking at meeting of Urban Forestry Commission

Spoke about frontage foot assessment idea and the possibility of conflict with Measure #5

11.22.1993 TO: Director of Parks Charles Jordan

FROM: Ron Maynard, Natural Resources Operations Manager, Portland Parks

Sharing that the Urban Forestry Commission has expressed an interest in including the street tree program in the proposed General Operations Bond that Parks may be proposing; a full planting program of \$35,000,000 would work toward filling the ~100,000 street tree planting opportunities

4.21.1994 Urban Forestry Commission meeting notes

Discussion of Parks and Recreation proposed General Operations Bond (\$58.6 million – support/recommend \$200,000 per year for 5 years for tree planting; City Council is not supportive of the allocation for tree planting

1995 Urban Forestry Management Plan

Page 93 Goal 1. Maintain and enhance the urban forest in the Transportation Corridors while ensuring public safety. Actions: Establish Street Tree Study Group to study the benefits of the City accepting responsibility to maintain the trees and vegetation in the Transportation Corridors and Rights-of-Way.

2004 Urban Forestry Management Plan.

Page 4 PRESERVE. Develop and coordinate effective maintenance and stewardship programs to maintain, restore and preserve the existing urban forest and ensure the safety of the public.

Establish cost-effective preventive maintenance programs to improve the health and safety of park, public and street trees.

2009 BPS-commissioned Asset Management Cost Estimate by Davey Tree

2011 Street Tree Asset Management Study

May 10, 2017 City Council receives briefing on Street Tree Asset Management. See slide deck

November 14, 2017 City Council Street Tree Asset Management Work Session. Recording available here

2018 Parks Urban Forestry publishes Toward a more equitable Urban Forest: A city-wide tree planting policy, which includes the creation of an inter bureau committee to study funding mechanisms for street tree maintenance.

2019 Parks-commissioned “Managing Street Trees as Green Infrastructure - Cost Assessment.” by Davey Tree (final report not published online)

June 2021 ~60 Portland residents die due to extreme heat, neighborhood tree disparities, the lack of a heat mitigation plan, etc.

2022 Portland Clean Energy Fund is authorized to establish a \$40 million 5-year Equitable Tree Canopy planting and establishment program in Justice 40 neighborhoods. Staff receive direct input from public & contractors that the lack of a long-term maintenance plan for street trees and tree-related sidewalk damage decreases residents’ willingness to allow trees to be planted in front of their homes.

2024 Portland Clean Energy Fund dedicates \$65 million over a 5-year period to begin developing a street tree maintenance program for the entire city.

Portland City Council
 Wednesday, May 21, 2025 - 9:00 a.m.
 Testimony List

	Name	Document Number
1	Sara Fischer	2025-208
2	Brian Owendoff	2025-208
3	Jill Souede	2025-208
4	NathanielHudson-Hartman	2025-208
5	Travis Johnson	2025-208
6	Vadim Mozyrsky	2025-208
7	Todd Littlefield	2025-208
8	Tiana Tozer	2025-208
9	RobertLayne	2025-208
10	LanceGoldenberg	2025-208
11	MaijaSpencer	2025-208
12	BenjaminGilbert	2025-208
13	JamesDonley	2025-208
14	IsaacMcLennan	2025-208
15	KarenSumpter	2025-208
16	RachelMuneyyirci	2025-208
17	JamesO'Laughlen	2025-208
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20	JessicaGreen	2025-208
21	JamiePartridge	2025-208
22	Akil Patterson	2025-208
23	GracieCampbell	2025-208
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25	LydiaKiesling	2025-208
26	VivianSolomon	2025-208
27	RubanLawrence	2025-208
28	JeannetteWard	2025-208
29	SarahRadelet	2025-208
30	JonaDavis	2025-208
31	AnnKirkpatrick	2025-208
32	MegGoldberg	2025-208
33	Jessica Elkan	2025-208
34	AliBerman	2025-208
35	Catherine Leathers Self	2025-208
36	LorettaGuzman	2025-208
37	CaseyClapp	2025-208
38	Mont ChrisHubbard	2025-208
39	HerbertBeauclere	2025-208
40	MatthewWarren	2025-208
41	LaJuneThorson	2025-208

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43	MadelynPoehlein	2025-208
44	JeAmaechi	2025-208
45	NoelleStuder-Spevak	2025-208
46	StepanSimek	2025-208
47	ERNIEMUNCH	2025-208
48	CarolynLandsverk	2025-208
49	KristenDozono	2025-208
50	KathleenMadden	2025-208
51	LydiaKoo	2025-208
52	KristinShiga	2025-208
53	IsabelDammann	2025-208
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56	SuzanneBishop	2025-208
57	Christopher Myers	2025-208
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60	JudithWilding	2025-208
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