

Matasar, Emily

From: Patricia Kepler [patricia@ilr.org]
Sent: Thursday, April 29, 2010 3:58 PM
To: Matasar, Emily
Cc: Kae Seth; Mei Wong
Subject: Registering to speak at May 26 City Council Meeting

Dear Emily:

Please register me to speak at the May 26 council meeting.

name: Patricia A Kepler
address: 5850 SW 177th Ave Aloha Or 97007
phone number: 503-828-5188

Reason for communication:

I work in SE Portland, travelling to and from work each day with the assistance of a guide dog. I am totally blind and dependent upon my dog for safe travel. The dog problem in Downtown Portland has been discussed quite a bit lately, but the overall problem of assaults on our service animals is not being addressed. I have had four guide dogs and three of them have been victims of dog attacks. One while crossing a street near my home, one while walking over my lunch break near my office, and one while attempting to board a Max train at the end of the day. I want to inform the council of just how serious these attacks are and how they impact the lives of people with disabilities. Current Oregon law states that, in order for a person to be held accountable for an assault against my guide, I need to prove intent. I don't think the owners of any of the dogs that have injured mine meant for it to happen. It was due to their carelessness though. We need a law that says that a person who willfully neglects their dog will be held accountable for the harm it causes a service animal.

Sincerely,

Patricia A Kepler
Independent Living Specialist

Independent Living Resources
2410 SE 11th Ave
Portland Or 97214
503-232-7411

<http://www.ilr.org>

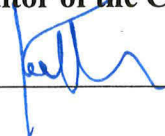
Request of Patricia A. Kepler to address Council regarding assaults on service animals (Communications)

MAY 26 2010

PLACED ON FILE

Filed MAY 21 2010

LaVonne Griffin-Valade
Auditor of the City of Portland

By 

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz		
2. Fish		
3. Saltzman		
4. Leonard		
Adams		