

July 8, 2015  
735

To the Portland City Council:

My name is Joanie Beldin and I live at 10223 N. Hudson St – three houses away from Pier Park. Living next door to an 80 acre park filled with large trees was the deal breaker for buying our home. I don't know how many of you have ever come to Pier Park, but for those of you who haven't, I'd like to give you a brief introduction. For me, it's the park of tree lined walkways and trails. I'm a walker – that's what I love about the park – however, it's much more than that. It's a park widely used by many – by those who love to play baseball or soccer, by bike riders and runners and dog walkers, by teens shooting baskets, and by parents and children at the playground. It's a place to cool off in the pool on these hot summer days, a place to enjoy a family picnic and most famously, a place that provides for world class disc golfing. Pier Park also has a skate board park and a tennis court with unfortunately. an unplayable cracked court.

That's what Pier Park has to offer. Unfortunately, to its users, Pier Park is also famous for what it doesn't offer – which is its lack of basic adequate amenities. Our restroom is sub-standard at best, as are the drinking fountains. There is not one park bench for general users – including one for parents and grandparents watching their children at the playground. I have an 85 year old mother-in-law who loves to take walks and she would love to go for walks in Pier Park but she doesn't, because there is no place by the path to sit down and rest. So she goes to another park instead. All other parks I've been to provide resting benches.

1 ½ years ago Portland Parks built a new ADA accessible path connecting Pier Park with Chimney Park, a part of the developing 40 mile Intertwine Trail. My question is "what good is an ADA path without an ADA accessible bathroom, or an ADA accessible drinking fountain or ADA parking? Pier Park provides none of these.

Portland prides itself in its parks, and there is much to be proud of in Pier Park – but there is also much to be embarrassed by and ashamed of. For those of us who love and use Pier Park, we feel like it's the forgotten park. I'm here today to help you take notice of Pier Park and to ask that it not be forgotten. I'm asking that funding be provided to help us upgrade our restroom and drinking fountain, to provide benches, and to help make it truly a friendly park for ADA users, the disabled and the elderly.

Thank you.

Joanie Beldin  
10223 N. Hudson St. Portland



# Pier Park



*Three playing fields*



*80 acre park with a large network of trails for walkers, runners, & bicyclists*





*Playground*



*Swimming pool*



*Covered picnic area*



*Basketball*



*Disc golf course*



*Cracked unusable tennis court*



*Skateboard park*

**Parsons, Susan**

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**From:** Council Clerk – Testimony  
**Sent:** Monday, May 18, 2015 5:14 PM  
**To:** 'Joanie Beldin'  
**Subject:** RE: Council Communications

NEEDED AMENITIES  
AT PIER PARK.

Thank you, Joan. I'm confirming you for July 8<sup>th</sup>. Please let us know your subject.

Here is further information for you on the Communications portion of the agenda:

- You will have three minutes to address the Council and may also submit written material (please provide seven copies).
- We start the meeting at 9:30 and Communications are the first item on the agenda.
- Please note communications allow the Council to hear issues that interest our citizens, but do not allow an opportunity for dialogue.
- The Council meeting takes place at City Hall, 1221 SW 4th Ave., 2nd Floor, Council Chambers.

Regards,  
Susan Parsons  
Assistant Council Clerk  
City of Portland  
[susan.parsons@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:susan.parsons@portlandoregon.gov)  
503.823.4085

**From:** Joanie Beldin [mailto:joanibldn@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 18, 2015 11:58 AM  
**To:** Council Clerk – Testimony  
**Subject:** Council Communications

Please sign me up on July 8th to speak before the City Council.

Thank you.  
Joan Beldin

Request of Joan Beldin to address Council regarding needed amenities at Pier Park  
(Communication)

JUL 08 2015

**PLACED ON FILE**

Filed JUL 02 2015

**MARY HULL CABALLERO**  
Auditor of the City of Portland

By   
Deputy

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz		
2. Fish		
3. Saltzman		
4. Novick		
Hales		