

March 22, 2016

Portland City Council  
1221 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Portland Commissioners,

Cully Association of Neighbors wishes to express strong community support of the proposed NE 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue Local Improvement District (LID) at Whitaker Ponds Nature Park and the Cully communities appreciation for the exemplary efforts by PBOT, Parks, Metro, the Watershed Council to find creative ways to approach the funding and implementation of critically needed transportation infrastructure projects in the Cully neighborhood.

The Cully community is looking forward to this much anticipated and long awaited infrastructure improvement that will finally bring a continuously connected safe and accessible route for bicycles and pedestrians around the perimeter of the Whitaker Ponds natural area, a destination for school children and kayak enthusiasts from all over the city.

The 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue LID's unique funding model will also improve safe access to Cully's most utilized green spaces while improving access for freight carriers to multi-modal transportation hubs to the north, all without creating a financial burden that would negatively impact small business owners within the investment area.

There is also great potential of this project to serve as benchmark for the efficient, effective and equitable use of public resources in the creation infrastructure improvements that create transit, pedestrian and bike friendly connections from the underserved areas of NE Portland to both recreational areas and commercial corridors where community members may enjoy access healthy outdoor recreation and local living wage jobs.

The cumulative effects of this novel approach to an LID reach far beyond the creation of a single street improvement by providing long term collateral benefits in terms of community livability, recreational facilities, safe pedestrian, bike and transportation routes and vitally important connections to local median wage jobs.

Cully Association of Neighbors wishes to acknowledge the exemplary spirit of cooperation between the PBOT, Parks, Metro, and Columbia Slough Watershed Council in concert and enthusiastic support from a broad range of community advocates and supporters that clearly demonstrates the unique opportunity being presented by the 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue LID.

Respectfully,



Tristan Markwell, Chair  
Cully Association of Neighbors

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