

APPROVE CITY FY 2016-17 BUDGET

IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO CITY COUNCIL, **PRINT** YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND EMAIL.

NAME (PRINT)	ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE (Optional)	Email (Optional)
✓ JOE WAPLE	CITY HALL	—
✓ Lightning	PDX	PDX
✓ Chris Smith	2313 NW Pettygrove 97210	
NO/ CEO Rhodes	1959 SW Morrison	PDX

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Bill Bagnall <bbagnall@aubreyco.com>
Sent: Friday, May 13, 2016 10:35 AM
To: Moore-Love, Karla
Subject: Two documents from May 12th meeting
Attachments: Budget Testimony - BB.docx; ATT00001.htm

Good morning. I spoke last night at the council's budget hearing and neglected to also submit the written testimony for the council members. May I submit these to you? If so, I've attached them to this e-mail. If I should submit to someone else, please let me know.

Thank you for your time.

Budget Testimony
May 12, 2016

Mayor Hales and Commissioners,

My name is Bill Bagnall and I am speaking on behalf of Friendly Streets, a nonprofit organization focused on livability issues across the City. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

There are numerous competing priorities when creating a City budget and it is understandably often difficult to decide which take precedence. I wish to speak in support of several budget items that critically impact livability and quality of life in our communities:

ONI

ONI provides essential services relating to outreach, livability and quality of life in our city. We urge you not to make cuts to core programs such as neighborhood grants, graffiti abatement services and the crime prevention specialist position.

We further urge supporting a budget to include the following:

- Retention of one time funded positions for mental health specialists working on the houseless crisis.
- A “New Portlanders” program specialist.
- Office support for noise control and liquor licensing programs.
- Neighborhood and community grants programs including growing the neighborhood grants program, small grants to community organizations of color and youth action grants.
- Accessibility fund to restore the ability of Neighborhood Associations, Diversity and Civic Leadership (DCL) grantees, and ONI programs to overcome barriers to participation by providing support for language interpretation and translation, childcare, transportation and ADA accessibility.
- Staffing additions supporting ONI admin and grants admin, Public Involvement Advisory Council support, Multnomah Youth Commission support, and Crime Prevention admin support.
- Additional funding for District Coalitions, Diversity and Civic Leadership organizations and Resolutions NW to work together to create and implement a robust public involvement effort around the City’s Housing State of Emergency and to provide timely information from other involved parties, including the Housing Bureau, Mayor’s office and A Home for Everyone.
- Strategic budget planning for one-time process for ONI’s Budget Advisory Committee to develop a strategic budget plan and strategy for addressing inequities in our civic engagement programs.



Friendly Streets, 1031 NW 11 Ave., Portland, OR 97209

www.friendlystreets.org

GRAFFITI INVESTIGATION UNIT

We have serious concern about the staffing of the Police Bureau's Graffiti Investigation Unit which has recently been totally disbanded.

As a part of the Neighborhood Response Team at Central Precinct, the two-person Graffiti Investigation Unit in the past functioned very effectively in processing graffiti reports City-wide, even when called upon at times to provide support for special events. Graffiti in Portland was kept under relative control, but today has become rampant across all areas of the city.

The job of graffiti investigation is one of a number of essential ingredients to maintaining Portland's quality of life and keeping neighborhoods livable. The failure to properly enforce our graffiti laws encourages an influx of taggers from all over the country and leads to many other insidious activities. The ever increasing deterioration of Portland in this regard is unacceptable. Portland in the past was a progressive national leader in graffiti enforcement along with other quality of life matters. The failure to allocate appropriate resources to livability issues is akin to deferring street maintenance of which we face the consequences today.

As you consider the budget for the next fiscal year, we strongly urge that funds be allocated to restoring the GIU.

Thank you for your consideration of all these important items.



Friendly Streets, 1031 NW 11 Ave., Portland, OR 97209

www.friendlystreets.org

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Washington, Mustafa
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2016 3:09 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Subject: FW: Portland Business Alliance letter re: city budget
Attachments: Mayor Hales.city budget.05_10_16.pdf

From: Sandra McDonough [mailto:SMcDonough@portlandalliance.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2016 10:10 AM
To: Hales, Mayor <mayorcharliehales@portlandoregon.gov>
Cc: Dietz, Susan <Susan.Dietz@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Portland Business Alliance letter re: city budget

Mayor Hales,

Attached please find a letter from the Portland Business Alliance regarding the city budget. Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sandra McDonough

Sandra McDonough
President & CEO
Portland Business Alliance
200 SW Market Street, Suite 150
Portland, Oregon 97201
(503) 552-6762 (direct)
(503) 224-8684 (general)
(503) 323-9186 (fax)
www.portlandalliance.com

connect with the Alliance on:



and on the PBA [Blog](#)

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May 10, 2016

The Honorable Charlie Hales
1221 SW Fourth Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Mayor Hales:

The Portland Business Alliance (Alliance) represents nearly 1,900 member businesses in the Portland area; approximately 80 percent of our members are small businesses. The Alliance has long raised the unique negative impact of the Business License Tax (BLT) on businesses, especially small businesses, operating in the city of Portland and Multnomah County. The proposal to increase the city BLT by 14 percent moves in the wrong direction and the Alliance strongly opposes this increase.

Except for Multnomah County, no other jurisdiction in the metro area has anything remotely similar, resulting in higher operating costs to do business in the city and creating a competitive disadvantage for many businesses. The Alliance recently contracted with EconW to evaluate the relative cost of doing business in Portland versus other jurisdictions in the metro area. Whether it be manufacturing, wholesale, retail, healthcare and social assistance or computer system design, the costs of doing business in Portland is higher due to the BLT. Further, especially in dealing with hyper-local taxes like the BLT, economic research shows there is a negative impact on employment in areas with a higher local tax burden.

Notwithstanding the above impacts to business operating costs and competitiveness, which alone warrant grave concerns about increasing the BLT, there is no compelling reason to increase this tax in this environment. The city of Portland has a large budget surplus this year, as it did last year, largely due to increased receipts from business taxes. Without any increase, the city's discretionary budget is the largest it has ever been. Ongoing additional revenues are forecast for the future.

Not only is the city's budget higher than it has been, the timing of this proposed increase comes as businesses are trying to absorb previous policy decisions that will increase costs, as well as a plethora of other potential cost increases, including the minimum wage increases, paid sick leave, TriMet payroll tax increase, city gas tax, gross receipts tax, affordable housing bond and a Portland Public Schools bond, to name a few. It seems unwise, to say the least, to further penalize one of the major drivers of this revenue growth to the city when the city's resources are already up significantly.

We do agree that prioritizing housing affordability and homelessness is critical, as well as bolstering the Portland Police Bureau staffing to meet demands throughout the city and investments to ameliorate the continuing degradation of city streets. With additional forecasted resources based on existing sources and an effort at prioritization, this could be accomplished.

Greater Portland's Chamber of Commerce

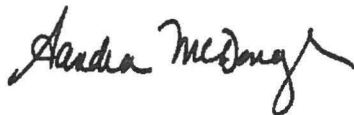
However, rather than celebrating the windfall in this year's revenue, the conversation now turns to what should not be funded in the Mayor's proposed budget.

With such a quick turnaround between the release of the budget and scheduled comment, the Alliance has not had an opportunity to review each line item. We urge Council to slow down and work together to develop a budget within existing city resources. We understand Commissioner Novick has already proposed some ideas for cost savings which should be considered. Undoubtedly other commissioner could suggest efficiencies as well.

For example, Commissioner Novick has suggested that the \$1,466,538 designated in the Mayor's budget (but not requested by the Bureau of Transportation) for adding a protected bike lane on Naito Parkway be reallocated. Replacing an auto lane with a bike lane on Naito has not been properly studied and is out of context with the city's plans to undertake a multi-modal plan in downtown. Given important priorities like homelessness and housing, it makes no sense to rush this project forward before its potential impact is known.

The Alliance would have preferred to have a discussion about tax increases before your proposed budget was released, but since that did not happen we submit this letter to register our strong opposition to the proposed change in the BLT and to reiterate that the city could and should develop a plan to live within its means given the protected record revenues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandra McDonough". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sandra McDonough
President & CEO

City of Portland Mayor Charlie Hales
Commissioner Nick Fish
Commissioner Amanda Fritz
Commissioner Steve Novick
Commissioner Don Saltzman

May 14, 2016

URGENT is the
Key word when
life and lives
are stake—

Dear Mayor and Commissioners:

As you all know, I like to think that we Portlanders, who are active participants in the process that makes Portland a leader, are trying to do, and get things right when it comes to livability and above all, Public Safety.

So without too much verbage here, I strongly urge the City Council to unanimously pass a tax resolution to create funding to hire replacement police officers and that all the citizens participate in that funding, not just businesses, but home owners and others as well. We all need to support our police, and at the same time, assure their safety and ours!

To me, this is an everybody in situation! There is no free pass. The police need us, and we need them. No short cuts and no endangering, because we citizens and our government did not get this right.

Sincerely, Ron Clemenson 840 SE 156th
(503) 252-3383 Portland OR 97233

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Washington, Mustafa
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2016 11:13 AM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Subject: FW: Coalition urges City Hall to use CET as intended: for more affordable homes

From: Jessica Larson [mailto:jes@welcomehomecoalition.org]
Sent: Friday, May 13, 2016 12:08 PM
To: Hales, Mayor <mayorcharliehales@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Saltzman <dan@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Fish <nick@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Fritz <amanda@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Novick <novick@portlandoregon.gov>
Cc: Israel Bayer <israel@streetroots.org>; Singleton, Shannon <ssingleton@joinpdx.org>
Subject: Coalition urges City Hall to use CET as intended: for more affordable homes

Dear Mayor Hales,

Respectfully, we write to urge you and City Councilors to pass a budget that both fully funds emergency housing and homelessness programs identified through A Home For Everyone **AND** set aside the Construction Excise Tax as it was intended: to fund affordable housing. We can and must address both the urgent needs our community members suffering in this housing crisis **AND** its root causes.

Thank you for your dedicated work and sincere consideration. Coalition Letter attached.

 CETvsBUDGET to Mayor Hales 5.12.16.pdf.pdf

Jes Larson
Welcome Home Coalition Director
[503.442.9905](tel:503.442.9905) (cell)

welcome
HOME



Moore-Love, Karla

From: Washington, Mustafa
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2016 10:25 AM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Subject: FW: PGNA strongly supports the Lents Stabilization and Job Creation Project
Attachments: PGNA supports Lents Stabilization.pdf

From: Powellhurst Gilbert [mailto:pgnaboard@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, May 13, 2016 11:44 AM
To: Hales, Mayor <mayorcharliehales@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Fish <nick@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Fritz <amanda@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Novick <novick@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Saltzman <dan@portlandoregon.gov>
Cc: Annette Mattson / Jeff Reardon <rep.jeffreardon@state.or.us>; Walkiewicz, Marie <Marie.Walkiewicz@portlandoregon.gov>; PEIRCE Nicole M <Nicole.m.peirce@odot.state.or.us>; Matthiessen, Andrea <Andrea.Matthiessen@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: PGNA strongly supports the Lents Stabilization and Job Creation Project

Dear Mayor Hales and Commissioners Fish, Fritz, Novick, and Saltzman,

The intent of the attached letter is to convey the Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood Association's strong support of the Lents Stabilization and Job Creation Project, and to encourage you to ensure that funding for this innovative project is maintained as you build the coming year's budget.

Thanks in advance for your consideration!

Richard Dickinson

Chair, Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood Association



Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood Association

East Portland Neighborhood Office,
1017 NE 117th Avenue, Portland, OR 97220

pgnaboard@gmail.com

May 13, 2016

Dear Mayor Hales and Commissioners Fish, Fritz, Novick, and Saltzman,

The intent of this letter is to convey the Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood Association's strong support of the Lents Stabilization and Job Creation Project, and to encourage you to ensure that funding for this innovative project is maintained as you build the coming year's budget.

During our most recent general membership meeting on May 9th we had the opportunity to learn more about the Lents Stabilization and Job Creation Project from State Representative Jeff Reardon, Marie Walkiewicz from the Bureau of Environmental Services, Nicole Peirce with the Oregon Department of Transportation, and Andrea Matthiessen from the Bureau of Housing and Community Development. After a forty-five minute presentation and question and answer period our assembled members voted unanimously in favor of the City of Portland providing funding to continue the next steps in this collaborative endeavor.

We were most impressed that various bureaus and individuals are working together to solve complex systemic issues that don't have easy resolution when viewed on their own. This project has the potential to mitigate flooding of Johnson Creek, increase neighborhood stability through the reduction of homeowner flood insurance costs, and create jobs by enhancing industrial site readiness in an area of the city that desperately needs greater employment opportunities. In short, by establishing a floodplain mitigation bank and engaging homeowners through a willing seller program, the project would trade storm water retention in one part of our area for the opportunity to build up the level of land so that light industry would be willing to invest in greater infrastructure near the area of Foster and I-205. Concurrently the project would undertake measures to reduce flood insurance costs through better management of the flooding, offer technical support to homeowners to make their properties more defensible, and ultimately help homeowners in the Lents and Powellhurst-Gilbert neighborhoods from being displaced by rising costs.

We also believe that the whole-systems approach that the Oregon Solutions process is undertaking has the potential to be a model or a blueprint for other projects throughout our region and state. Albert Einstein believed that we can not solve our problems with the same thinking that created them, and our neighborhood association's assembled members believe that this collaborative and integrated approach to solving local issues is on the right track. Please lend your support and funding to the Lents Stabilization and Job Creation Project.

Sincerely,

Richard Dickinson
Chair, Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood Association

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Chris Smith <chris@chrissmith.us>
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2016 4:37 PM
To: Hales, Mayor; Commissioner Saltzman; Commissioner Fish; Commissioner Fritz; Commissioner Novick; Council Clerk – Testimony
Cc: Alpert, Josh; Finn, Brendan; Schmanski, Sonia; Crail, Tim; Shriver, Katie; Anderson, Susan; Armstrong, Michael
Subject: Smart Cities/Open Data budget decision package

Mayor Hales and members of City Council,

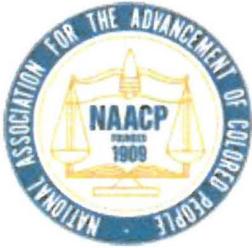
I'm sure you know that I was disappointed by the decision to significantly amend the Open Data policy in the Comp Plan.

However, I'm excited by the proposed budget package to include development of Open Data policy in the Smart Cities work plan. I believe this is the next best opportunity to move this important topic forward.

I urge you to support this decision package and hope to join you for your hearing on Wednesday.

Thank you for your continued interest in this topic.

Chris Smith
2343 NW Pettygrove St., 97210



NAACP Portland Chapter 1120B
P.O. Box 12333
Portland, OR 97233

Jo Ann Hardesty, President
James Posey, 1st Vice President
Cynthia Harris, 2nd Vice President

Maileen Hamto, 3rd VP
Mellissa Lang, Asst. Secretary
Bryant Enge, Treasure

May 13, 2016

Mayor Charlie Hales
Commissioner Amanda Fritz
Commissioner Steve Novick
Commissioner Dan Saltzman
Commissioner Nick Fish

Dear Mayor & Commissioners:

I understand that one of your budget considerations is whether or not to include money in the budget to purchase body cameras for Portland Police Bureau.

I respectfully disagree that this should be a budget priority for this budget cycle. There are many unanswered questions surrounding the purchasing and implementation of this tool. While the state legislature passed base legislation each local policing agency has the ability to improve on the very basic legislation that passed in Salem.


Portland Police Chief Larry O'Dea conducted 3 community meetings last year seeking public input on this important issue. Each step of the way the police bureau has assured the public we were a long way from purchasing these cameras and the public and the police union would have ample opportunity to weigh in on the when, how, who and under what circumstances the public have access to the data are all outstanding questions.

This legislative role can only be address through a public policy deliberation and vote, ultimately by this city council before we invest the huge resources necessary to outfit Portland police with body cameras.

I find it troubling that you are considering false choices in this budget process. Homeless services, housing services and a real analysis of how many services Portland police currently provide that are outside of their lane and areas of expertise.

Until all Portland police officers who are physically able are working rotating shifts on the street and a full accounting of how many police officers do things other than policing has been ascertained I just don't see how you can sell this huge need for incentive pay when its already a living wage employment opportunity. Money is not the reason people don't want to be Portland Police officers. The internal survey conducted by the COCL speaks volume to the needs of the officers on the street yet, that is not reflected in the proposed budget.

My advice is don't buy cameras but continue broad outreach on the policy that needs to be approved by the public and needs to be part of the next Portland police association contract negotiations. The contract expires in Jun 2017, so what's the rush?

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Hensley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Moore-Love, Karla

From: steve trujillo <stevetru@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 13, 2016 1:05 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Subject: Advocating For Police and Homeless Service

Dear Mayor and City Commissioners,

My name is Steve Trujillo, I'm the senior pastor of Father's House City Ministries, a church that has served the central city for over a decade, I'm also the director of justice ministries for the Transformation Network, a nonprofit with programs for those who are ho are either the targets of sex traffickers and people experiencing homelessness.

Today I want to remind you that the primary role of government is to insure the safety of the public it serves. For the over 15 years the Portland Police has experienced budget cut after budget cut. It's obvious now that all those cuts have resulted in diminished service by the Bureau to the public. In my community organizing work as a public safety advocate, I am hearing an ever growing frustration with how long it takes to get a response to calls for service, if there is a response at all.

I believe the Bureau is doing its best to serve even though it's been cut to the bone. Well, it's now time to place meat back to the bones of the Bureau. Please approve the add-ons that Mayor has put on the budget for our police and first respondents, we must resource those who put their lives at risk to keep us safe, and to give them more options to innovate in their policing work. Part of that innovation is the ability to divert people from the criminal justice system into a system of accountability, support, and care that will help them move forward, out of addiction, criminality and houselessness.

I came to this city as a child with my family having nothing; we were political and religious refugees fleeing tyranny and oppression. It was the kindness of the people of Portland and innovation of programs available to my family that allowed us to flourish so that now all three of us who grew up in this city live a life of service to others.

Today our city is full of a new kind of refugee, economic refugees; those who have lost it all, who have no place to call home. They are not from other nations but from our city and our nation. They are those who have fallen into cycles of poverty or are under the affliction of abuse, be it from self or others. If these folks are not helped, many could end up in the criminal justice system, costing us much more than diversion. It's time to

innovate, time to create more options, more pathways for people to succeed out of poverty, addiction and even criminality.

At some time in the future, all of you will end your time of service to our city. It's up to you what legacy you leave behind. I hope it's a legacy that says; the public safety of all our people was not neglected but enhance during my watch. And the safety net for the vulnerable and those needing help was strengthen, made more equitable and effective. So please, support the Police budget, and support the budget for expanded services for those experiencing homelessness.

Thank you and God bless you all,

Steve Trujillo

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Washington, Mustafa
Sent: Friday, May 13, 2016 11:47 AM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Subject: FW: CAT's Support for Housing in Portland's Budget
Attachments: CAT Budget Support Letter 5.12.16.pdf

From: Justin Buri [mailto:justin@oregoncat.org]
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 3:25 PM
To: Hales, Mayor <mayorcharliehales@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Fish <nick@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Fritz <amanda@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Saltzman <dan@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Novick <novick@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: CAT's Support for Housing in Portland's Budget

To Mayor Hales, and Portland City Commissioners,

My name is Justin Buri from the Community Alliance of Tenants. Please find the attached letter, stating our support for housing-related items in the 2016-17 City Budget, currently under consideration.

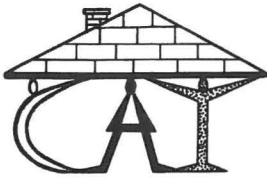
Thank you,

Justin Buri
Executive Director
Community Alliance of Tenants
Office Line 503.460.9702 ex. 1
My gender pronouns are: he/him

Tenants! Please share your views and experiences with housing issues such as evictions, discrimination, rent increases and repairs. [Click here](#) to take an important survey about your experience with housing in the Portland Metro Region.



Tenant Education + Organizing + Advocacy = Tenant Power!



Community Alliance of Tenants

2710 NE 14th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97212

To Mayor Hales and City Commissioners:

My name is Justin Buri, Executive Director of the Community Alliance of Tenants, a statewide renters rights organization that educates and empowers Oregon tenants to demand and obtain safe, stable and affordable rental housing.

There is no doubt that we are in the midst of a housing state of emergency, and we need all the resources and tools possible to address the problem and keep Portland residents safely in their homes. With this proposed budget, we see one of the strongest investments in housing and homelessness that this city has ever seen. We want to thank the Mayor and the Commissioners for your support in these investments, but also recognize that we are not done yet. We need more resources, policies and protections to adequately address this crisis, in this next budget cycle and beyond.

The Community Alliance of Tenants supports these programs related to housing stability, habitability and affordability:

- More funding for tenant education and tenant protections
- Legal services and rental assistance for low-income tenants at risk of displacement
- The Rental Rehabilitation Program
- Efforts to save the Oak Leaf Mobile Home Park

We also want to express our strong support for the Office of Neighborhood Involvement's Housing and Homelessness Outreach proposal. This housing crisis is a complex problem that cannot be solved by government alone. Community members, whether they are housed, unhoused or at risk of displacement, all need to be included in the conversation and decision-making process, as we identify and implement solutions to this housing disaster.

The Office of Neighborhood Involvement and its community partners are uniquely situated to engage communities who are impacted by the housing crisis, leveraging its longstanding partnerships with Neighborhood Coalitions, Diversity and Civic Leadership organizations and other housing advocacy groups. These efforts will include outreach, communication and coordination between the City and community members, with a specific intent and focus towards marginalized and underrepresented communities. Additionally, this proposal will help build capacity among some of the many groups working on these issues, to develop leadership skills among people impacted by homelessness or at risk of displacement, so that they can advocate on their own behalf and meaningfully participate and contribute to the solutions we need.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin Buri". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Justin Buri
Executive Director
Community Alliance of Tenants

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Washington, Mustafa
Sent: Friday, May 13, 2016 11:22 AM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Subject: FW: Support for Parks for New Portlanders Program
Attachments: MR PFNPortlanders City Council Testimony 051216.docx; ATT00001.htm

From: Mike Rosen [mailto:michaelrosen503@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 7:35 PM
To: Commissioner Novick <novick@portlandoregon.gov>; Hales, Mayor <mayorcharliehales@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Fish <nick@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Saltzman <dan@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Fritz <amanda@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Support for Parks for New Portlanders Program

Mayor Hales and Commissioners Fish, Fritz, Novick, and Saltzman:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify early tonight. Attached please find my comments. I know you have some tough budget decisions to make but I hope you'll find a way to continue to fund this important and effective program.

Best of luck completing this process.

Regards,

Mike
Portland School Board, Zone 7

Mike Rosen

Parks for New Portlanders

5/12/16 Testimony to Portland City

I'm Mike Rosen, 6005 SE 20th Avenue, Portland, and a member of the Portland Public School Board, but here to speak on my own behalf.

Mayor Hales and Commissioners I encourage you to continue to fund the Parks for New Portlanders Program. In only a year it has hit the ground running and has been shown to be highly effective with a large return on a modest investment.

As a newly elected official who is now participating in my first budget process, I know you have a difficult job to do because there is always more worthy need than dollars available.

As I navigate through this process I am trying to keep two principles in mind: seek ways to address challenges as far upstream or as close to the source as possible, and look for collaborative investments. I believe this is the best way to make limited dollars go farther. Some collaborations are planned, such as the City, PPS, and Trimet

jointly funding transit passes for students. While others, like Parks for New Portlanders are unintentional, yet after they occur, are still vital.

At least 50% of Portland students are from communities of color, a significant percentage are new emigrants, and this number is growing rapidly. Many come from vastly different cultures, are just learning English, may suffer from trauma, and are unfamiliar with supportive government services you and I take for granted – including public schools. Finding effective ways to integrate students and their families into our community, orient them to available services, and help them build trust in our government institutions, is no small task but it is critically essential.

And this is exactly what Parks for New Portlanders does.

For a small investment, they break down barriers and build community by creating culturally relevant summer jobs and sports programs for students, opportunities for families to play and enjoy the outdoors together, programs to help students find and apply for jobs, and tools to connect families to needed services.

This is directly connected to and augments the services PPS provides because Parks for New Portlanders better prepares students for success in school, as well as breaking down barriers that would otherwise prevent their families from participating and providing support as well.

In only a year this program has made 10s of thousands of constructive and meaningful contacts with some of the newest and most vulnerable members of our community, successfully transcending the challenges of race, language, and culture. It has addressed these challenges at their source and cost effectively. And it complements the work of PPS with these communities in important ways that makes similar PPS investments go much farther.

For all these reason I hope you will continue to invest in this important and successful program.

Thank you for consideration of these comments.

Mike Rosen
Parks for New Portlanders
5/12/16 Testimony to Portland City

I'm Mike Rosen, 6005 SE 20th Avenue, Portland, and a member of the Portland Public School Board, but here to speak on my own behalf.

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Thank you for consideration of these comments.

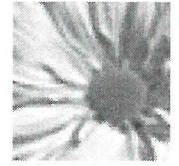
Rec'd 5/12/16
pw

From: Schwab Mary Ann <e33maschwab@gmail.com>

Subject: **City of Portland's Budget Hearing, May 12th.**

Date: May 12, 2016 5:52:00 PM PDT

To: Hales Charlie <Charlie.Hales@portlandoregon.gov>, Novick Steve <Steve.Novick@PortlandOregon.gov>, Fish Nick <nick@portlandoregon.gov>, Fritz Commissioner Amanda <amanda@portlandoregon.gov>, Saltzman Dan <dan@portlandoregon.gov>



Just leaving... friend just arrived.

Let me start by thanking Mayor Hales for maintaining the right budget for ONI, and funding the Buckman Pool.

Yes, I really do Care About the Housing and Homeless crisis in Portland. But at what cost to the PP&R summer programs for children? And their safety when riding bikes on the Springwater Trail? Furthermore the Mayor's 5% budget cuts across the Bureaus should not include the Auditor's Office, or the City of Portland Archives and Records Center.

My take-away attending the Mayor' BCA Q&A, Tuesday, May 2nd?

Mayor Hales, I trust you were active listening when I asked:

1. that your Memorandum of Understanding with PPS, includes concerns expressed tonight from the site's immediate neighbors and business owners,

2. that your Inner-Governmental Agreement will sunset and
3. that your IGA be dated and signed by both parties.

Yes, I wanted to see signatures. Mayor Sam Adams never got around to signing the PP&R and PPS "right-of-first-refusal on the 1.31 acres open field facing SE 14th Avenue and SE Morrison Street due to expire: May, 2017.

Soon the Mayor and PPS will be entering a rental agreement, where City will pay \$1.00 a year, in exchange for High School Student's Trimet tickets... at troubles me?

I want to know who will be held financially responsible to remodel the office building; to install a kitchen, dining hall, plumb in toilets, showers, washer/dryers, bunk beds, bedding to accommodate between 80 to 100 houseless individuals? Least we forget, the Mayor's proposed Navigation Center in the Buckman neighborhood will welcome 80-100 hungry people (and pets), to sunset in three years. To hire a 24-hour concierge... ?

Something to think about prior to approving the Mayor's Budget.

Mary Ann Schwab, Community Advocate

(503) 236-3522

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Michael Roberts <michaelroberts@thunderbolt.net>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 4:51 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Subject: Mark Wells budget

I work with Mark Wells in the Friends of the Pearl Foot Patrol.

He and his Dept are mandatory in going forward to help assist us in every aspect of crime prevention for the Pearl District.

Please add to the budget...do not take anything away or will have to disband.

Thank you,

Michael Roberts

1230 NW 12th Ave # 232

503 334 5998

sent from Android device

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Rob Sadowsky <rob@btaoregon.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 12:43 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Cc: Hottman, Sara
Subject: Testimony to Council
Attachments: BTA Testimony on City of Portland Vision Zero.pdf

Please accept the attached as testimony on today's budget hearing. Thank you.

--
Rob Sadowsky | Executive Director
tel: 503-226-0676 x14 | fax: 503-226-0498

Bicycle Transportation Alliance | btaoregon.org
618 NW Glisan Street, Suite 401
Portland, OR 97209



618
NORTHWEST
GLISAN
SUITE 401
PORTLAND
OREGON
97209
BTAOREGON.ORG
T 503
226
0676
F 503
226
0498

June 16, 2015

Portland City Council
1221 SW 4th Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97204

Dear Mayor Hales and Portland City Commissioners,

I am writing to support the Mayor's Budget, specifically the proposed investment in **making Better Naito permanent**. We believe that this is a key project that will help transform the riverfront for all users, whether they are walking, jogging, bicycling or driving.

Riding along the riverfront on the West side is one of the most difficult obstacle courses in town. People walking complain about fast moving bicycles, people who bicycle complain about people walking not paying any attention to where they are going. Creating a safe and effectively designed Naito that can hold additional bicycle capacity will improve this area dramatically, as we have seen during the demonstration weeks.

The Bicycle Transportation Alliance is a nonprofit organization that creates healthy, sustainable communities by making bicycling safe, convenient and accessible in our work over the last 25 years.

Secondly, we strongly support the additional elements in the proposal to fund efforts in the Vision Zero campaign. We support the City of Portland as it works to pass Vision Zero policy.

Thank you for your continued support to build Portland as a city that looks toward the future with healthy streets filled with healthy people biking and walking.

Sincerely,



Rob Sadowsky
Executive Director





For Immediate Release

Contact: Heather Hoell, 503.477.9648

heather@ventureportland.org

**Proposed Business Tax Increase Concern
Statement: Venture Portland Board of Directors**

May 9, 2016

Venture Portland is the support system for Portland's 50 unique neighborhood business districts. Together, our districts contain 19,200 businesses (98% of which have five or fewer employees) and provide 267,000 jobs. As business owners and business district leaders, we know that, in Portland, SMALL is really BIG. Which is why we are once again highly frustrated by Mayor Hales' decision to announce a business tax increase without contacting us or providing adequate opportunity for our volunteer-run business associations to either take a position or meaningfully participate in the budget process.

As the driving force behind Portland's economy, we know that small businesses create two out of every three new US jobs and locally have provided record-breaking revenue surpluses for the last two years. As committed partners to City Council, we expected to be included in conversations about a tax increase that would have a \$9 million impact on businesses. Following the recession, businesses have been asked to fund new employee benefits (Sick Leave), change hiring processes (Ban the Box, Removing Barriers to Employment), pay more taxes (TriMet Payroll Tax and Gas Tax) and significantly increase employee wages (Statewide Minimum Wage). Adding additional financial burden to small businesses should, at a minimum, require thoughtful public process and a commitment to fiscal responsibility, public safety and the provision of essential City services.

We applaud the proposed Owner's Compensation Deduction increase to \$125,000. Venture Portland has pushed for this increase for almost a decade. We also applaud the Mayor's goals to greatly reduce the lag time between hiring Police Officers and putting them on the street; the 50-officer force deficit and current 2-year hiring process has left our business districts woefully under-served. In addition, the lack of enforcement of the new 'Safe Sleep' policy has made our businesses and business districts vulnerable and greatly reduced the safety and livability of our neighborhoods.

We noted during the extensive debate over the proposed Portland Street Fund that transparency and accountability from our elected officials is critical for earning our trust and support. As City Council continues to work through this rapidly evolving budget process, we strongly encourage Mayor Hales and the other Commissioners to create a budget that adequately funds City priorities and supports neighborhood businesses and business districts.

ventureportland.org

503.477.9648 | 503.477.9641 fax

1125 SE Madison St, Suite 112 Portland, OR 97214

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Wesson-Mitchell, Deanna
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 7:30 AM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Subject: Fwd: Funding request for the Police Bureau

(Sent from my iPhone)

Deanna Wesson-Mitchell
Policy Director
Office of Mayor Charlie Hales
1221 SW Fourth Avenue, Suite 340
Portland, OR 97204
Phone: 503-823-4277
E-Mail: deanna.wesson-mitchell@portlandoregon.gov

----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: Funding request for the Police Bureau
From: "D. Ihor Ambroziak" <maksym1@hotmail.com>
To: "Hales, Mayor" <mayorcharliehales@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Fish <nick@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Fritz <amanda@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Novick <novick@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Saltzman <dan@portlandoregon.gov>
CC:

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

Serving on the Slavic Advisory Council (SAC) has been a great experience personally for me. As an American citizen of Ukrainian descent, I feel that the Slavic/Ukrainian/Russian-speaking community has slowly been "opening up" (so to speak) and becoming more engaged (as a community) not only with the Portland Police Bureau, but also with the Portland city/ Metro government as well. I think that one of the main reasons this partnership has grown and evolved more so recently has a lot to do with the ongoing efforts of the SAC that Police Chief O'Dea organized several years ago. The SAC has made great strides to gain the trust of the Slavic community and help familiarize them with the services that this city can provide for them while also showing and helping them understand the way Portland/Metro government works.

With the help and guidance of dedicated Police Bureau personal, the SAC has gathered a great team of professionals that genuinely have the Slavic community's well-being and safety as its top priority.

I, along with the other members of the SAC, commend and applaud the dedication and the hard work of you, our elected city officials, as well as commending your willingness to reach out to the local Slavic community. We also whole-heartily support the Police Bureau's desire to work hand in hand with the SAC to have better two-way communication and interaction with one of the largest ethnic communities in the Portland/Metro area.

This is why I strongly urge all of you to support Chief O'Dea's request for additional funding to better staff the Portland Police Bureau and so that it also can continue to be able to fund and support all of its diverse community-related activities.

Sincerely,

D. Ihor Ambroziak

Ukrainian community activist and small-business owner

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Wesson-Mitchell, Deanna
Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2016 5:23 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Subject: Fwd: In Support of the Portland Police Bureau 2016-2017 Budget Request

Subject: Fwd: In Support of the Portland Police Bureau 2016-2017 Budget Request

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Patricia Day TenEyck <patricia@namimultnomah.org>
Date: May 11, 2016 at 16:19:21 PDT
To: Commissioner Fish <nick@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Fritz <amanda@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Novick <novick@portlandoregon.gov>, Commissioner Saltzman <dan@portlandoregon.gov>
Cc: "O'Dea, Larry" <Larry.ODea@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: In Support of the Portland Police Bureau 2016-2017 Budget Request

Dear Portland City Commissioners,

I am writing to you today in support of the Portland Police Bureau's budget request for 2016-2017.

The current staffing crisis facing the Portland Police Bureau should be of grave concern to all of us who live, work and love this incredible city. The livability of this beautiful place is at stake as the number of officers drops, so does our feeling of safety and security.

My biggest concern, however, is for those already underserved and disenfranchised here in Portland. As usual, these are the people who will feel the greatest impact from fewer police officers on the streets. Especially, those citizens dealing with mental health issues. They are already some of the most vulnerable people. They are more likely to be the victim of a violent crime than to inflict one on another, and they are overrepresented among those who are involved in police shootings (with 25% or more of people fatally shot by the police having had some type of mental health issue in the country). Here in Portland, we know that many of calls that Portland Police Officers respond to involve someone with some level of mental illness. Successful - nonfatal - outcomes to these calls require training, time and a great deal of patience.

I ask you to think, seriously, about what happens when Portland does not have enough officers to allow for calls that require time and patience? What happens

when officers feel ever increasing pressure to clear calls as quickly as possible, so they can move on to the next? And, think about what happens, not only to the person the officer is trying to work with, how does this situation impact the officers, as well. What happens when Portland's officers are overworked and pressured constantly because they cannot address the calls for service they receive in the way they want to? The unrelenting stress on police officers is already great, think about the impact of fewer officers with ever increasing calls for service. They will be set up to fail in ways that will cost all of us - citizens, officers, families, the community, and the City itself - much more than we should ever contemplate paying - in lives, safety and dollars.

I understand the complexities of creating budgets that try to meet a myriad of needs with a finite resource. It is hard, and causes so many sleepless nights. For me, however, the Police Bureau's budget has to take priority as they are the ones who help make Portland what it is - the most beautiful and one of the safest cities in the country.

Thank you, to each of you, for your service to the people of Portland. And, thank you, for seriously considering the broader, long-term ramifications of not meeting the Portland Police Bureau's budget request. I greatly appreciate it.

Warm Regards,

Patricia Day TenEyck

Executive Director,

NAMI Multnomah

Patricia@namimultnomah.org

(503) 501-2361

For more information, please visit our website www.namimultnomah.org

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Moore-Love, Karla

From: Washington, Mustafa
Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2016 4:13 PM
To: Moore-Love, Karla
Subject: FW: I ask for favorable consideration of the PPB budget request

Hey Karla,

Testimony below.

From: Wesson-Mitchell, Deanna
Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2016 4:06 PM
To: Hottman, Sara <Sara.Hottman@portlandoregon.gov>; Washington, Mustafa <Mustafa.Washington@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: FW: I ask for favorable consideration of the PPB budget request

Can we forward emails to the official Council record?

Deanna Wesson-Mitchell
Policy Director
Office of Mayor Charlie Hales
1221 SW Fourth Avenue, Suite 340
Portland, OR 97204
Phone: 503-823-4277
E-Mail: deanna.wesson-mitchell@portlandoregon.gov

From: O'Dea, Larry [<mailto:Larry.ODea@portlandoregon.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2016 4:03 PM
To: Wesson-Mitchell, Deanna <Deanna.Wesson-Mitchell@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Fwd: I ask for favorable consideration of the PPB budget request

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Mike Alexander <mcalexhog@aol.com>
Date: May 11, 2016 at 15:44:06 PDT
To: "O'Dea, Larry" <Larry.ODea@portlandoregon.gov>, "Modica, Kevin" <Kevin.Modica@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: FW: I ask for favorable consideration of the PPB budget request

FYI

Mike

From: Mike Alexander [<mailto:mcalexhog@aol.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 11, 2016 3:39 PM
To: 'nick@portlandoregon.gov'; 'Amanda@portlandoregon.gov.'; 'novick@portlandoregon.gov.'; 'dan@portlandoregon.gov'
Subject: I ask for favorable consideration of the PPB budget request

Good afternoon Commissioners,

The past several years have been difficult and challenging for the city and many segments of our community as we work to repair and reposition the relationship with the Portland Police bureau. Although thoughts and opinions may vary on the pace and scope of change, few can argue with the direction of the efforts undertaken by Chief O’Dea and his leadership team. It’s clear that they are entering a new budget year with growing strains on their resources and heightened expectation on their performance. I believe that the investment in the funding requested by the Chief and his team will better position them to meet the levels of continued progress that this city and its residents expect and deserve. I want to express my support for their being resourced and funded accordingly.

Sincerely
Mike Alexander



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Moore-Love, Karla

From: serenity@serenityshop.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2016 5:57 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Subject: Homelessness Budget

I am very happy about Mayor Hales Budget and plans to address the homelessness and housing unaffordability in Portland. All people are important and

the people of Portland care about the safety of people and that their basic needs are met. Let Portlanders know how they can help by volunteering time

and materials to help these projects proceed.

Thank You, Judith Wallace
3212 SE Division
Portland, OR 97202

Moore-Love, Karla

From: City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2016 5:15 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Subject: FW: For Public Testimony tomorrow May 11th

FYI

From: Michael O'Connor [mailto:artupdx@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2016 4:31 PM
To: Commissioner Saltzman <dan@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Fritz <amanda@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Novick <novick@portlandoregon.gov>; Hales, Mayor <mayorcharliehales@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Fish <nick@portlandoregon.gov>; City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero <AuditorHullCaballero@portlandoregon.gov>; Beaumont, Kathryn <Kathryn.Beaumont@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: For Public Testimony tomorrow May 11th

Dear City Council,

I will be giving public testimony tomorrow in attempt to get some urgent policy matters involving Last Thursday on Alberta Street put to rest for the year.

My first question will be is registration going to be an enforceable requirement for Last Thursday's 2016 season.

I believe there are liability issues if the City of Portland write themselves an event permit making registration and enforceable requirement without acquiring consent from the private property owners/tenants adjacent to Last Thursday's street closure. In addition, I am compelled as a concerned citizen, to help any event participant acquire legal representation if they get evicted, fined, or arrested for what I believe to be an exercise of their freedom of speech.

Last year, the City of Portland collected people's personal information off of the presumption that registration is going to be a requirement this year.

My second question will be what precisely the City of Portland has in mind when they say, "we are looking for an organization to take over management of the event."

Last year, Artists United received 56 endorsements from businesses inside Last Thursday's street closure. We offered to progressively pay for the public safety expenses starting with portable restrooms in September, and offered to acquire \$50,000 in event sponsorship contracts for this year's Last Thursday event series. The City of Portland said what we were doing didn't matter, wouldn't accept \$50,000 and refused to set any goals or requirements for an organization to take over management of Last Thursday.

I'm still working on a plan that every stakeholder can get behind. It's being piloted in Southeast on their monthly art event, First Friday. Everything is going great, and I think the next mayoral administration and the community of Alberta will be happy with our test results.

If registration is not going to be an enforceable requirement at Last Thursday's 2016 season, I believe it's

necessary you tell everyone it's voluntary. You should also admit you made a mistake by thinking it was going to be a requirement this year.

I hope we can put these urgent issues to bed during my testimony so we all can enjoy our summer without worrying about what's going to happen at Last Thursday this year.

I would appreciate a more in depth response than I was given in my previous testimony.

Thanks.

Michael O'Connor

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Debbie Aiona <mdjaiona@aracnet.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2016 2:59 PM
To: Hales, Mayor; Commissioner Fish; Commissioner Fritz; Commissioner Novick; dsaltzman@portlandoregon.gov
Cc: City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero; Alpert, Josh; Schmanski, Sonia; Crail, Tim; Warner, Chris; Finn, Brendan; Moore-Love, Karla; president@lwvpx.org; Carol Cushman
Subject: League of Women Voters memo: Auditor's Office budget
Attachments: LWV auditor's budget 5-16.pdf; ATT00001.txt

Dear Mayor Hales and Commissioners,

Please find attached a memo from the League regarding the proposed budget for the Auditor's office.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

Debbie Aiona
League of Women Voters of Portland



The League of Women Voters of Portland

618 NW Glisan St., Suite 303, Portland, OR 97209

(503) 228-1675 • info@lwvpdx.org • www.lwvpdx.org

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*Kris Hudson
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DATE: May 10, 2016

TO: Mayor Charlie Hales, Portland City Commissioners

CC: Auditor Mary Hull Caballero

FROM: League of Women Voters of Portland
Margaret Noel, president
Debbie Aiona
Carol Cushman

RE: **Auditor's Office 2016-17 Budget**

The League of Women Voters of Portland has long supported open and accountable government. We highly value the accountability and oversight provided by our independently elected Auditor. Although we see positive elements in the proposed Auditor's office budget, we strongly oppose cuts to Audit Services that will inappropriately reduce the number of audits it can conduct each year.

Auditing city bureaus is vital to identifying improvements that can increase effectiveness and efficiency as well as address inappropriate or unclear governmental practices. Since audits frequently identify opportunities for financial savings and enhanced public services, we recommend allocation of the resources needed to maintain the same number of audits in the upcoming year.

The League is a long-time observer of the Independent Police Review (IPR) Division's Citizen Review Committee. Along with the U.S. Department of Justice and many in the community, we have urged the IPR to conduct more independent investigations of police misconduct rather than relying in the Police Bureau to do the job. We are pleased to see that the proposed budget includes funding sufficient to add two more IPR investigators.

On the other hand, the impasse over how to fund the independent and impartial Hearings Office is of great concern. The office is the place individuals go to exercise their rights by appealing city decisions. It is one way the public can hold the city accountable. The League, along with City Council, supported recent improvements that removed barriers to accessing the hearings process. We do not want to see the Hearings Office have to find another home. The most logical place

"To promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government."

for this function is in the Auditor's office. Furthermore, the Auditor does not believe the proposed cost recovery model will provide a stable source of revenue and the administrative burden to implement that model is excessive in light of the fact that there are only 3.5 FTE in the Hearings Office.

We urge you to take the Auditor's concerns into account and provide sufficient general fund dollars to cover the cost of keeping the city accountable to the people it serves. Indeed, rather than proposing inappropriate budget cuts, the Auditor should have in her budget the additional resources needed to hire a staff attorney and add policy staff capacity. City Councilors have numerous policy staff members who provide the support they need to carry out their duties and explore new initiatives. In contrast, the Auditor only has the people who carry out the work within her office to assist her with those efforts. Furthermore, independent legal counsel is needed because of the inherent conflict between protecting the city from exposure to risk and holding it accountable.

The Auditor's independence is an important and essential feature of Portland's city government and the office should have the resources it needs to insure accountability and transparency.

Parsons, Susan

From: Tyler <tylerbec@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 09, 2016 10:57 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Subject: Mayor's Tax Increase Affects Work From Home Moms

Dear Portland City Council,

Please carefully consider and vote against the Mayor's proposed business tax increase.

We wanted to take a moment to let you know what we face. My wife left an executive level government job to start a family. After starting a consulting business, she was able to find a near perfect balance of being a mom, business woman and school and community volunteer. She works from home and is able to make approximately 55k a year. Customers don't come to our home. Her clients are all out of state.

Our MCBIT tax was nearly \$400.00 this year. Tri-Met was about the same.

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Mary Howell <alwys2busy@msn.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 07, 2016 9:14 AM
To: Hales, Mayor; Commissioner Fritz; Commissioner Fish; Commissioner Novick; Commissioner Saltzman; City Auditor, Mary Hull Caballero; Moore-Love, Karla; City Ombudsman
Subject: Budget Proposal

Mayor, council & staff:

I have questions regarding Monday, May 2nd budget conference. Why were we, **Police Record Specialists**, not mentioned or included at the conference when one of your staff advised us we would be? Are **Police Records Specialist** in your budget for an increase in wages?

It has been documented for some time that the **Police Records Specialist** job is underpaid. We are the biggest Police Records agency in Oregon yet the least paid. We have a huge problem with retention and not enough people to do the job. In 1982, Police Records had *around* 80 people. We now have *approximately* 54 Police Records Specialists. Crime has increased and amount of officers hired has increased but Records employees have been diminishing. **Police Records Specialist** are support staff for our police officers. Our work load has only increased but the number of people has decreased sufficiently. Records has an all-time high back log and complaints are many. This back-log has been due to high employee turnover rate, new records management systems and other issues within the division. The work of **Police Records Specialists** does have an impact upon the community.

We have asked for more money and help to retain employees, but the Mayor and council now sends the message they don't want to even listen to us? It is very dis-heartening that once again the Mayor and his council people pay no attention.

Yes, I am aware we are currently in process of interviewing for Police Records Specialists and a Public Records Unit within Records has been approved to higher one extra person. While this is all appreciated, it still doesn't help the problem of retention and equal pay.

Sincerely,

Mary Howell
Portland Police Records Specialist (34 years)