# **Documents for Vogel**

# City Council Meeting - Open Forum, March 22, 2017

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- 2. Letter of support from the Board of Directors, The Ambassador
- 3. Letter of support from the HOA and Board of Directors, The Eliot Tower
- 4. Eliot Tower volunteer Pedestrian Traffic Study Madison Plaza

Mary Vogel 1220 SW 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue

I'm Mary Vogel from downtown's West End where I also run my business, PlanGreen. There are some people in the room who have come in support of my comments.

I was distressed to learn that despite a neighborhood General Meeting where nearly every neighbor in attendance<sup>1</sup> asked the **Portland Art Museum** to keep Madison Plaza open with unchanged hours of access, the **Board of Downtown Neighborhood Association (DNA)** voted to express its support for the Museum's **Rothko Pavilion Plan**. In the past, the DNA Board has always supported keeping existing pedestrian plazas a priority, including opposing a proposal to close the Main Street Plaza by Portland 5 a few years ago.

Both the DNA and the Museum have ignored the will of the people of the neighborhood. Although the 9 DNA board members may claim that it will cause **"minor inconveniences to a small portion of our neighborhood"**, that is not at all the case. There are hundreds of residents in adjacent blocks and many city workers and tourists using the Streetcar stops on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Avenues who use the Plaza passageway. One count<sup>2</sup> on May 4, 2016 showed 667 people, including some with disabilities, using it **just when the passage would be closed** by the Rothko plan.

Pedestrian passageways are an integral part of the neighborhood's **transportation plan** and this one is used by residents, workers and visitors to the entertainment district taking public transportation both **early morning and late at night**--hours the Museum plans to close the plaza. In fact, the Central City 2035 Draft plan looks to increase pedestrian-friendliness, not decrease it. The Climate Action Plan sees neighborhood walkability as a prime strategy for reducing demand for fossil fuels. **WHY WOULD WE EVEN CONSIDER FOR A MOMENT CLOSING THIS PASSAGE?** 

Please uphold the current conditions in the Museum's vacation and leave Madison Plaza open from 7AM to 11 PM every day. Please do not erode any further the intent behind the original conditions:

- a) That a **permanent 8 foot wide pedestrian easement** be provided and maintained between SW Park and SW 10<sup>th</sup>
- b) That said easement **not be blocked in any manner** and that it be **adequately illuminated** for use in hours of darkness
- c) That the vacated street area will not be used for any purpose other than an open mall.

**PLEASE DO NOT CREATE A SUPERBLOCK.** Closing the plaza will do just that. Please don't take us backwards. **Request a revision of the Museum's Rothko Pavilion Plan**. Keep our dense, downtown neighborhood walkable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Opponents came from the 1200 Building, Southpark Square Apartments, University Park Condominiums, Eliot Tower, The Ambassador Condominiums, and other downtown residences. I'm also aware of opponents in Rose Schnitzer Tower, Lexington Apartments, Harrison Condominiums, Harrison Apartments, and linc301 Apartments.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Full report attached.

#### Addendum to Mary Vogel testimony March 22, 2017

Despite what the DNA Rothko letter says about two superblocks west of the Art Museum, there is only one—and, to my chagrin, I live on it! But, you can help me change that!

I hope you will help me **create "Madison Walkway" between SW 11th and 12th** to break up that superblock. It will take easements from two property owners: Home Forward (owner of The Jeffrey Apartments at 1201 SW 11<sup>th</sup> Ave.) and Steven Blindheim/Doricourt Limited Partnership, owner of 1126-1134 SW 12<sup>th</sup>).

The Morris Marks House (1134 SW 12th) has been scheduled to be moved for quite some time—possibly making imminent redevelopment of a property where the City will likely need an easement. Home Forward's Jeffrey Apartments has a paved driveway that abuts the Morris Marks House property. So, getting an easement from these two property owners will be critical. I'm including a Snapshot from Portland Maps below to show you the properties in question. I've started some conversation with PBOT about this project.

### Snapshot



AMBASSADOR CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATIO

Portland's Finest Downtown Residence since 1922 1209 S. W. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland, OR 97204

209 S. W. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland, OR 97204 (503) 260-0010



March 17, 2017

To: Mayor Ted Wheeler Commissioner Chloe Eudaly Commissioner Nick Fish Commissioner Amanda Fritz Commissioner Dan Saltzman

From: Board of the Ambassador Condominium Association

Subject: Madison Plaza between SW 10th Avenue and SW Park Street

We would like to register our opposition to any change to the existing Ordinance #156895 that currently requires that the Madison Plaza be open to pedestrians from 7 AM to 11 PM. The Portland Art Museum's Rothko proposal would require a change to this ordinance that would negatively impact pedestrian traffic in the neighborhood.

The pedestrian passage is heavily used by residents on the east side of the South Park Blocks as they connect to the Streetcar system that runs along 10th and 11th Avenues. It also provides connections between the Streetcar system and the Portland5 entertainment district.

We request that the Ordinance remain as it is currently written.

eliot

March 13, 2017

- To: Mayor Ted Wheeler Chloe Eudaly, City Council Nick Fish, City Council Amanda Fritz, City Council Dan Saltzman, City Council
- Subject: Ordnance 1568995 regarding the vacated portion of SW Madison between SW Park and SW 10<sup>th</sup> Avenues.

Ladies and Gentlemen Council members,

This Ordinance provides the purpose of the vacation which is to provide a pedestrian walkway with "open hours" of 7:00 am to 11:00 pm every day. This walkway is a popular oasis in our pedestrian-friendly city and is used hundreds of times every day.

The Eliot Tower Condominium is a close neighbor of this walkway with ~300 residents, many of whom use it regularly. At its annual meeting, the Eliot Tower board of directors and owners voted, almost unanimously, to oppose any reduction of the 7:00 am to 11:00 pm open hours.

We believe the proposed Rothko center can be designed and operated to accommodate the 7:00 am to 11:00 pm open hours.

We request the open hours remain 7:00 am to 11:00 pm.

Thank you for your consideration

Watar E. Weyler

Walter E. Weyler Board Chairman Eliot Tower Condominium Owners Association

enc. Eliot pedestrian traffic study

## Pedestrian Traffic Study

of the

Portland Art Museum Sculpture Mall Walkway May 14, 2016

The Portland Art Museum is planning to connect its two museum complexes with an aboveground structure across the pedestrian sculpture mall.

In 1968, the Portland City Council passed an ordinance that vacated SW Madison Street between SW Park Avenue and SW 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, between properties owned then by the Portland Art Association and the Portland Masonic Temple Association. This section of the street and its sidewalks were combined with the properties of these two associations to create an open pedestrian sculpture mall. The ordinance required that an 8-foot-wide public pedestrian easement, a walkway, be kept open at all times. The Portland Art Association later requested that the ordinance be amended to permit closure of the sculpture area by a gated fence from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. because of sculpture vandalism. This amendment was approved by the Portland City Council.

The Portland Art Museum purchased the Masonic Temple in 1994, now known as the Mark Building. It was refurbished and opened as part of the Portland Art Museum.

An enclosed three-level, glass-walled, roofed structure is one design under consideration to connect the two buildings. Notionally, the enclosed ground floor with sculptures will be accessible as a public space with pedestrian passage through doorways on both sides of this structure. On all three levels, the design will allow museum patrons to easily move between the two buildings. For the security of the extensive art holdings in the museum, the design requires that ground-level pedestrian passage be closed to the public when the museum is closed. Present museum open hours are below:

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	10 a.m 5 p.m.
Wednesday	10 a.m 5 p.m.
Thursday	10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Friday	10 a.m 8 p.m.
Saturday	10 a.m 5 p.m.
Sunday	10 a.m 5 p.m.

Such pedestrian restriction would require an amendment of the vacating ordinance.

A measure of pedestrian traffic through the current pedestrian walkway should be an important factor for the design of the connecting structure. Residents of the Eliot Tower condominiums volunteered to manually tally pedestrian traffic through the walkway. Four days in 2016 were selected: 4 May (Wednesday), 7 May (Saturday), 9 May (Monday) and 13 May

(Friday). The following time periods were selected to coincide with the hours when the museum is currently closed.

4 May 6 a.m. - 10 a.m. & 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. (8 hours) 7 May 6 a.m. - 10 a.m. & 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. (8 hours) 9 May 6 a.m. - 9 p.m. (15 hours) 13 May 9 p.m. - 11 p.m. (2 hours)

Volunteers entered data and completed tally sheets (attached) using the following procedures.

- Print and sign your name and enter your initials.
- Initial the hour you are monitoring the walkway.
- Tally each person that passes your position in the walkway in both directions. Include pedestrians, people on bicycles, people on skateboards.
- Separately tally each person that has an apparent walking disability (cane, walker, wheel chair, electric wheel chair).
- Separately tally each person that is apparently a museum employee.
- Comment on any unusual activity or circumstances relative to people traffic through the walkway (e.g., busload of school children visiting the museum, pickup/delivery blocking the walkway, raining).

Pedestrians were not asked the origin of their walk or their destination, nor the reason for using the walkway. Verbal guidance was passed among the volunteers to tally only people apparently passing <u>through</u> the museum walkway, not people that appeared to be coming <u>to or</u> from the museum, such as for meetings and functions held during normally-closed hours. This was done to the degree possible through observation, not by questioning. Some volunteers made note of such groups on the tally sheets.

For all days and time periods, 2810 pedestrians plus 57 with apparent walking disabilities passed through the walkway, not including museum staff or people coming to/from the museum.

For 9 May, 1392 pedestrians plus 30 with apparent walking disabilities passed through the walkway from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

For 4, 7 and 9 May (combined) 634 pedestrians plus 8 with apparent walking disabilities passed through the walkway from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., and 1241 pedestrians plus 22 with apparent walking disabilities passed through the walkway from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

For May 13, 146 pedestrians plus 7 with apparent walking disabilities passed through the walkway from 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

On the following pages are tabular summaries and graphic displays of observed pedestrian walkway traffic in the Portland Art Museum pedestrian walkway during the days and time periods cited.

May 4, 2016		Museum	Pedestrians
Period	Pedestrians	Staff	w/Disabilities
6am - 7am	22	9	0
7am - 8am	54	9	0
8am - 9am	57	5	0
9am - 10am	97	3	2
10am - 5pm			
5pm - 6pm	162	3	1
6pm - 7pm	108	4	3
7pm - 8pm	115	0	4
8pm - 9pm	52	4	0
Totals	667	37	10

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May 7, 2016		Museum	Pedestrians
Period	Pedestrians	Staff	w/Disabilities
6am - 7am	11	2	0
7am - 8am	28	4	0
8am - 9am	40	5	1
9am - 10am	74	7	3
10am - 5pm			
5pm - 6pm	125	9	3
6pm - 7pm	159	2	2
7pm - 8pm	91	3	0
8pm - 9pm	70	1	1
Totals	598	33	10

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8am-9am	72	\$	0
9am - 10am	97	13	2
10am - 11am	\$\$	11	0
11am - 12pm	107	11	4
12pm - 1pm	159	26	4
1pm-2pm	141	10	6
2pm-3pm	**	5	2
3pm-4pm	\$6	1	2
4pm - 5pm	113	1	2
5pm-6pm	137	0	5
6pm-7pm	72	2	3
7pm-8pm	95	0	0
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### Portland Art Museum Plaza Public Walkway

Pedestrian Talley



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#### Portland Art Museum Plaza Public Walkway

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Pedestrian Talley



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From: Sent: To: Subject: mvogelpnw@gmail.com on behalf of Mary Vogel <mary@plangreen.net> Tuesday, January 31, 2017 3:13 PM Moore-Love, Karla Request to address Council

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Y

Karla,

I'd like to address Council regarding *Reducing Fossil Fuel Demand by making downtown more walkable.* 

How do I get on their agenda for one of those comment times at the beginning of the meeting? Thanks, Mary Vogel

Mary Vogel, CNU-A PlanGreen: K Regenerating Communities

Bringing services nature provides to community design & planning A Woman Business Enterprise/Emerging Small Business in Oregon 503-245-7858 <u>mary@plangreen.net</u> <u>http://plangreen.net</u>

Blog: PlanGreen's Top City Council Priorities for 2017

# Request of Mary Vogel to address Council regarding reducing fossil fuel demand by making downtown more walkable (Communication)

MAR 2 2 2017

PLACED ON FILE

MAR 1 4 2017

MARY HULL CABALLERO Auditor of the City of Portland

Filed

Tanson Deputy Man By

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:			
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1. Fritz			
2. Fish			
3. Saltzman			
4. Eudaly			
Wheeler			