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Sent: Tuesday, June 27, 2017 9:16 AM
To: Planning and Sustainability Commission <psc@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Oppose R/W #8073 on June 27 PSC Agenda

Commissioners,

Please vote to deny vacating the right-of-way along an environmentally valuable segment of the Columbia Slough. This land, stretching for nearly eight blocks on the south side of the slough, has significant public access and environmental values and should remain in public ownership.

I am surprised that the staff recommendation failed to:

1. Require ongoing public access to the Slough, as requested by both Parkrose Neighborhood Association and the Columbia Slough Watershed Council (see page 6 of the staff report);
2. Focus on just the portions of the ROW directly relevant to the LID, which are primarily on Marx Street, leaving the environmentally sensitive land along the Slough in public ownership.

Please vote to protect the environmental and public access values of the land along the Columbia Slough by denying the street vacation. We should not sell public land with significant conservation values to private interests.

At a minimum, please require a conservation and public access easement on all of the right-of-way adjacent to the Slough.

Thank you for the consideration.