

Angora Hiking Club, *Astoria, OR*
Bark, *Portland, OR*
California Alpine Club, *Mill Valley, CA*
California State Park Rangers Assoc., *Bowman, CA*
Chemetans, *Salem, OR*
Chinook Trail Association, *Vancouver, WA*
Contra Costa Hills Club, *Oakland, CA*
Friends of Mt. Hood, *Hood River, OR*
Friends of Nevada Wilderness, *Reno, NV*
Friends of the Columbia Gorge, *Portland, OR*
Friends of the Oregon Caves and Chateau, *Grants Pass, OR*
Great Old Broads for Wilderness, *Durango, CO*
Hobnailers, *Spokane, WA*
Indian Creek Botanical Mission, *Selma, OR*
Klahhane Club, *Port Angeles, WA*
Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center, *Ashland, OR*
Mazamas, *Portland, OR*
Mt. St. Helens Club, *Longview, WA*
Nature Friends, *Mill Valley, CA*
North Cascades Conservation Council, *Seattle, WA*
Obsidians, *Eugene, OR*
Olympians, *Hoquiam, WA*
Olympic Park Associates, *Sequim WA*
Oregon Nordic Club, *Portland, OR*
Oregon Wild, *Portland, OR*
Rusk Ranch Nature Center, *Cave Junction, OR*
Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter, *Los Angeles, CA*
Sierra Club, Kern-Kaweah Chapter, *Bakersfield, CA*
Sierra Club, Mother Lode Chapter, *Sacramento, CA*
Sierra Club, Oregon Chapter, *Portland, OR*
Sierra Club, Loo Wit Chapter, *Vancouver, WA*
Sierra Club, Toiyabe Chapter, *Fresno, CA*
Siskiyou Audubon Society, *Grants Pass, OR*
Siskiyou Field Institute, *Selma, OR*
Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, *Salt Lake City, UT*
Tamalpais Conservation Club, *Mill Valley, CA*
Trails Club of Oregon, *Portland, OR*
Washington Alpine Club, *Seattle, WA*
Whitman College Outdoor Program, *Walla Walla, WA*
Wilderness Watch, *Missoula, MT*
Winter Wildlands Alliance, *Boise, ID*

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FEDERATION OF WESTERN OUTDOOR CLUBS

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Established in 1932 for Mutual Service and for the Promotion of the Proper Use, Enjoyment and Protection of America's Scenic Wilderness and Outdoor Recreation Resources.

To the Portland City Council,

I am Past-President of the Trails Club of Oregon. Our organization suffered severe losses from the wildfire in the Columbia Gorge Fire last fall. We lost acres of old growth forest and several structures. Our new lodge built of stone and the efforts to keep mid-height brush down 50 feet around the building saved this magnificent structure. Prior to the fire some of the members thought all the work to maintain that fire line was a waste of time. However being prepared paid dividends for the lodge.

There are concerns regarding the condition of the fire lanes in Forest Park. They are the primary access to control and fight wild fire within the park. The Gorge fire was the first time I experienced the drastic impact of a wild fire that could not be accessed by sufficient roads to handle fire equipment in the early stages of the fire. To be impacted by such a powerful fire in Forest Park would destroy all the efforts those individuals that created such a beautiful and significant asset for the City of Portland. In anticipation of the possibility of such a fire, the fire roads should to be analyzed, repaired and possibly graveled to the extent they can facilitate the loading and traction for firefighting equipment to intercept a fire before total control is lost. I have been advised that not all fire lanes meet necessary standards for meeting such a challenge.

Secondly, I serve as President of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs (FWOC). The Federation had a significant part in the creation of Forest Park. Several local organizations were involved in that effort under the umbrella of the FWOC and the leadership of Garnett "Ding" Cannon and many other prominent city leaders. The Federation, composed of 42 organizations in seven Western States, has approved a resolution supporting the Master Plan and opposing single track biking within Forest Park.

The Committee of 50 created a quiet and passive use environment that would become of primary importance in the operation of the Park to provide a place for people and wildlife to benefit from their work. Sporting activities were specifically excluded in their expectations for the park. The Committee of 50 anticipated that eventually there would be attempts to have other activities allowed in the park that were different from the passive use philosophy. There needed to be a plan that insured continuation of their intent for the park. The Master plan was created to accomplish this end.

We are not stating there should be no single track biking experience in the city. It has become a very popular sport that several of our family members enjoy. The park was established with a specific purpose and should not have its purpose be altered because it just has a convenient location to the city center. There should be another location with acceptable access for this popular activity to be experienced. People suggested that allowing biking in the park would be a financial benefit to the city. However, we must decide if temporary monetary gain is more important than the valuable heritage Forest Park is, and has been, to the City of Portland. Forest Park was formed to preserve that which once gone, cannot be replaced.

Sincerely,
George Milne
President
FWOC

VAN 24

Parsons, Susan

From: George Milne <milnemasonry@frontier.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2017 6:56 PM
To: Parsons, Susan
Subject: Forest Park

Dear Susan,

I would appreciate the opportunity to address the issues involving single track biking and fire lane deterioration in Forest Park. I would prefer to address the council when Marci Houle and Catherine Thomson are present.

I am the Past-President of the Trails Club of Oregon. Our organization suffered severe losses from the wildfire in the Columbia Gorge Fire this fall. We lost approximately 40 acres of old growth forest and several structures. Our new lodge built of stone and the efforts to keep mid-height brush down around the building saved this magnificent structure. Prior to the fire a lot of people thought all the work to maintain that fire line was not important. However being prepared paid dividends for the lodge.

I am concerned about the condition of the fire lanes in Forest Park that should be the primary access to control and fight wild fire within the park. The Gorge fire was the first time I experienced the drastic impact of a wild fire that could not be accessed by sufficient roads to handle fire equipment. To be impacted by such a powerful fire in Forest Park would destroy all the efforts of our forefathers to create such a beautiful and significant asset to the City of Portland. In anticipation of the possibility of such a fire, the fire roads need to be repaired and graveled to the extent they can facilitate the loading and traction of fire fighting vehicles to intercept a fire before total control is lost.

I am the current President of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs.(FWOC) The Federation had a significant part in the planning for Forest Park. Several local organizations were involved in that effort under the umbrella of the Federation and the leadership of Garnett "Ding" Cannon, President of Standard Insurance. The Federation, composed of 45 organizations in seven Western States, has approved a resolution opposing single track biking within Forest Park.

The Committee of 40 created a quiet and passive use environment that would become of primary importance in the operation of the Park to provide a place for people and wildlife to benefit from their philosophy. Sporting activities were specifically excluded in their expectations for the park. The Committee of 40 anticipated that eventually there would be attempts to have other activities be allowed in the park that were different from the formation philosophy and there needed to be a master plan that insured continuation of their intent for the park. The Master plan was created to accomplish this end.

We are not stating there should be no single track biking experience in the city. It has become a very popular sport that several of our family members participate in. The park was established with a specific purpose and should not have its purpose be altered because it has a convenient location to the city center. There should be another location with easy access from the city for this popular activity to be experienced. People have told me that allowing biking in the park would be a financial benefit to the city. However, we must decide if money is more important that the heritage Forest Park has been to the City of Portland. Wilderness areas were formed to preserve that which once gone, can not be replaced.

Sincerely,

George Milne
President
FWOC
503-572-8512
milnemasonry@frontier.com

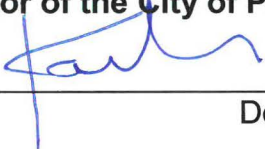
Request of George Milne to address Council regarding single track biking and fire lane deterioration in Forest Park (Communication)

JAN 24 2018

PLACED ON FILE

Filed JAN 16 2018

MARY HULL CABALLERO
Auditor of the City of Portland

By  Deputy

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