TESTIMONY

REGULAR AGENDA

BRENTWOOD DARLINGTON SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

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

NAME (PRINT)	ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE (Optional)	Email <i>(Optional)</i>
Joseph WAT		
Magrey		
Chelsea Powers		
Chelsea Powers Stephenie Frederick		
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w.		



brentwood-darlington

neighborhood association

February 6, 2019

Re: Safe Routes to School for Brentwood-Darlington Regional Flexible Funds Intergovernmental Agreement

Commissioners, Mayor Wheeler, thank you for providing us time to speak today. My name is Chelsea Powers. I'm the Chair of the Brentwood-Darlington Neighborhood Association.

I moved to the Brentwood-Darlington neighborhood with my husband and three year old son in 2015. Finally, I thought, I live in an area with walkable parks and easy access to transit! This is the Portland we had dreamed about living in. Then I tried to walk 10 blocks to Brentwood Park with my son in an umbrella stroller. Potholes, mud, inaccessible curbs, utility poles directly in the path, it was a nightmare. I was so exhausted from the journey there, I called my husband to pick the two of us up by car, because I couldn't face the walk home.

One of the first big projects I worked on after joining the neighborhood association was advocating for the Regional Flexible Funds grant to provide safe routes to our neighborhood schools. It was championed by two women who weren't able to be here today, Meesa Long and Lesley McKinley, without whom, none of this would have happened. Brentwood-Darlington amazed everyone by generating a thousand signature petition and more than 300 postcards from local school children. We went door to door, wrote letters, made phone calls, and testified before Metro with small children in tow. The intergovernmental agreement you are voting on today is the culmination of years of work by several dedicated volunteers.

The Brentwood-Darlington Neighborhood Association is actively tracking and supporting this project. We ask that you vote to accept these funds today so we can move on to the next phase and bring much needed infrastructure to our historically underserved portion of Southeast Portland.

Thank you.

Chelsea Powers Board Chair Brentwood-Darlington Neighborhood Association

Mr. Mayor and City Council:

My name is Stephenie Frederick. I reside at 5618 SE Malden Street in Brentwood-Darlington [one block south of SE Flavel Street, a street whose sidewalks will be made continuous if council accepts the ODOT grant under review today]. I am chair of the Land Use & Transportation Committee of the Brentwood-Darlington Neighborhood Association.

I moved here from Fresno California eighteen months ago because I wanted to live in a "livable city." And Portland is that city, with its neighborhood centers, its walkability, its bikeability, its food, its art, its great public transit.

However, I was disconcerted to find that Brentwood-Darlington wasn't as "livable" as most other parts of Portland because of missing sidewalks, narrow bike lanes, unpainted intersections, a lot of unpaved roads (recently graded and graveled – thank you!).

[I had a biking accident where I stopped for a red light, put down my foot as usual to stay upright — but the pavement wasn't there! My foot went into a hole at the scalloped edge of the pavement, and down I went, with my bicycle on top of me, and a motorist slamming on the brakes to come help me!]

It was wonderful to learn that Metro and the City of Portland had responded positively to hundreds of residents who had appealed for sidewalk infill along two major east-west streets, and for a walkable-bikeable greenway through the center of Brentwood-Darlington.

These projects will be an important advance for mobility in our neighborhood. They will support the city's efforts in its Ped PDX and Vision Zero programs. And what I very much like, they will also provide helpful connectivity for residents of neighboring Lents and Mt. Scott-Arleta. So, the benefits are not confined only to Brentwood-Darlington!

I hope that you will accept the grant from ODOT. Together with city funds, the grant will create a greenway and critical sidewalk infill that will be a great start on making Brentwood-Darlington and adjacent neighborhoods part of "livable Portland."

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Moore-Love, Karla

From:

Terry Dublinski-Milton < terry.dublinski@gmail.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, February 6, 2019 12:25 AM

To:

Council Clerk - Testimony

Cc:

Molly Mayo; Reuben Deumling; Chelsea Powers; Newlands, Rich;

mark.warner@porlandoregon.gov; Pearce, Art; Geller, Roger; matchu pancakes;

Stockton, Marty; Susan Gershwin

Subject:

SE Uplift Feb 6 2019 Testimony for Item 108

Attachments:

20161108-Endorsement-of-Brentwood-Darlington-SRTS-Regional-Flexible-Funding

(1).pdf

To: Chloe Eudaly, PBOT

City Council From: SE Uplift

Re: Item 108 SRTS Grant Acceptance

Hello Commissioner Eudaly and City Council,

As the past Chair of the SE Uplift Neighborhood Coalition I am enthusiastic in the hopes you will accept this needed ODOT SRTS Grant. Brentwood-Darlington worked extremely hard to build support for this needed project and deserve these needed safety improvements

Here is a copy of our organization's past support letter for this project. We hope that you and all of council support this contract allowing PBOT to move forward to the design phase.

Thank you for your work,

Terry Dublinski-Milton past Chair SE Uplift 503 867 7733



189376Southeast Uplift 3534 SE Main St Portland, OR 97214

> p: 503 232-0010 f: 503 232-5265

www.southeastuplift.org

MEMORANDUM

Date:

November 8, 2014

To:

Metro

JPACT

CC:

Zef Wagner, Associate Planner, PBOT

From:

Southeast Uplift Board of Directors

Subject:

Endorsement of Brentwood-Darlington SRTS Regional Flexible Funding

The Board of SE Uplift would like to add our name to the list of enthusiastic endorsers of this critical project. Brentwood-Darlington has been historically underinvested in since annexed, yet has recently seen significant infill and development stressing the already limited transportation infrastructure. Many of these new residents have been displaced from our inner neighborhoods as rents and housing costs have skyrocketed in recent years. As one of SE Uplift's most affordable and racially diverse neighborhoods, it is time to invest in infrastructure equity for Brentwood-Darlington.

The safe routes to school sidewalk gap infill will create pedestrian spines through the heart of the neighborhood connecting parks, schools and the Brentwood Community Center for the first time, giving significant local health and safety benefits. The integration to the neighborhoods to the east and west is of regional benefit, including encouraging mass transit to other neighborhood employment and commercial zones. This helps the entire city.

The bicycle elements would be just as transformative connecting the 20's, 50's, 70's and 80's bikeways for the first time this deep south through SE Uplift. Current bike facilities are constructed with narrow bike lanes on busy corridors and include network gaps. This modern all ages facility will also serve as a regional alternative for those uncomfortable riding on the Springwater Corridor further south in inclimate weather or at night; Currently there is no alternative route.

As SE Uplift neighborhoods grow, thus becoming more dense, it is important to give all our residents transportation options. The Knapp-Ogdon greenway will create a southerly east-west spine connection to

multiple facilities including central city access for employment, educational, commercial and recreation opportunities thus mitigating some commuter impacts through our closer in neighborhoods.

With over 1000 signatures gathered, the local neighborhood has shown a depth of support needed for this type of project. Please add our letter as this moves forward through the funding process,

On behalf of the Southeast Uplift Board of Directors,

Robert McCullough

Chair