

**From:** [Devon Allen](#)  
**To:** [Wheeler, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Rubio](#); [Commissioner Ryan Office](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Commissioner Mapps](#); [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SPB Master Plan  
**Date:** Saturday, July 3, 2021 9:35:21 PM

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To Portland's City Council and Mayor Wheeler,

I recently learned of a proposal to fell the 50–150-year-old elm trees in our South Park Blocks. At first, I thought this must be an error in communication, But no. This is actually being considered.

Lately, I have wondered if our City government is actively or passively attempting to destroy the beauty of Portland. I no longer go downtown as the last few times I went the smell of human urine in the streets was too powerful to bear; another time my guest visitor from the east coast stepped in human feces on the sidewalk (she will never visit again); and many times I have been accosted by people who clearly have extreme mental disease and are potentially dangerous. Portland has a "hands-off" passive policy regarding the hundreds of mini homeless encampments existing all over town and beyond. Often a pedestrian cannot make their way on the sidewalk as tents and trash block the way. In this regard I would ask the Council, do the tax-paying citizens have any rights? To walk down a relatively clean sidewalk without health hazards, to walk safely without fear of being attacked, to run a downtown establishment without having to hose down the entryway every morning of trash, human feces and urine, etc.? My family is in discussions regarding moving to another city, which we do not want to do. But every park we go to, every city forest, every outdoor venue, every large exit from a highway is a health and/or safety hazard. The people living in these conditions are also at risk. Most have severe drug problems that must be addressed by the City of Portland.

Now it is actually being discussed the razing of these gorgeous trees, which provide us with shade from the heat, beauty, majesty, air-cleaning abilities, and are a huge attractor for PSU, surrounding businesses, tourists, and property owners.

I do not know what to write here. Except to beg the Council to vote NO on the SPB Master Plan.

Thank you,

Deborah DiBiasio

Citizen of SW Portland for 10 years; Citizen of SE Portland for 6 years