

Council members and Mayor Wheeler,

My name is Bryan M. Vance, and I am a homeowner on SE 89th Avenue. My girlfriend and I bought this 800-square-foot home, our first, in November 2021.

Our house sits across from Berrydale Park and the Creative Sciences School. Living on this street, we've experienced first-hand the problems caused by poor public infrastructure on SE 89th Avenue. We've spent thousands of dollars to prevent stormwater from flooding our driveway. While walking our dog, we've had many close calls with cars driving by due to the lack of sidewalks. We watch students and parents vie with those same cars every day as they enter and leave school. Something needs to change.

I want to be very clear: We need safe sidewalks on our street. I am a disabled person. My sister is a disabled person. I grew up with direct knowledge of the unfair fight disabled people must put up to get even basic needs met. Often, we're forced to make due with what others decide is best for us. Those decisions are usually made without our input.

That is why this LID project the city is forcing on our street is so frustrating. We did not ask for this. The people of color, immigrants, and pensioners who own homes on this street get almost no say in how this project happens. And due to a city-owned park being involved, this very Council can overrule what little say we have. We are being told we have no choice but to go along. And as Mr. Andrew Aebi has made clear, the city's policy is: Don't like it? Move.

But where are we supposed to move? We settled in East Portland because it was one of the only places we — a couple made up of a then nonprofit worker and an immigrant — could afford. Much of East Portland deals with similar issues to what we experience on SE 89th Avenue.

But the lack of safe, modern infrastructure is actually a city-wide problem. Portland contains more than 55.1 miles of unpaved streets. Similar numbers about streets lacking sidewalks are hard to come by, but we all know the rate is far from acceptable. Portland makes it difficult for people to safely move about. Even streets with sidewalks often lack ADA-compliant curb ramps.

I am in agreement with you all that we need improved public infrastructure. People are dying on our streets as a direct result of the sorry state of our roads. We need to fix this. But that is where my agreement with Portland's leadership ends.

This city, for decades, has failed to make systemic, fair changes to address these problems. Now, rather than using tools — such as public works bond measures to raise the funds necessary to improve all of our roads — that could make a more meaningful impact in a more equitable way, the city is forcing myself and my neighbors to foot a hefty bill to pay for past civic mistakes. To pretend this is the only way forward is dishonest. To force citizens to pay directly for costly public infrastructure projects to the tune of \$24,000, plus interest, per household is inequitable. It's poor leadership. And it creates a patchwork solution to a systemic problem.

As I've already stated and as Mr. Aebi has made abundantly clear, we likely have little to no say in this project getting approved. But I'd highly encourage you to consider how you can best serve ALL of Portland by taking a smarter, more fair approach in the future. We could fix our streets city-wide. We lack the initiative at the leadership level to do so.

Thank you,
Bryan M. Vance
SE 89th Avenue homeowner

P.S. To clarify, I am opposed to this project as it currently stands. This old-school way of handling public works is exactly why only richer neighborhoods have sidewalks & safe streets. This is an unfair burden to put on residents. I implore you to actually lead on a more equitable systemic solution.

*- Bryan M. Vance
1303 SE 89th Ave.*

From: [gini chin](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: SE 89th Ave and Taylor St Local Improvement District (C-10072)
Date: Wednesday, November 30, 2022 9:03:01 AM

Hello City Council Members,

I live at 8825 SE Hawthorne Blvd, 1 block south of the proposed LID. I am in support of this project.

Our neighborhood, between the filth of 82nd and I-205, has been forgotten by the city. It's a no-man's land. I call it purgatory.

1. As a professional dog walker in the neighborhood, I have to walk dogs in the street or on the muddy shoulders. I'm forced to dodge speeding cars or try not to slip in the mud. The elderly and children are at even greater risk.
2. Water pools deeply across the entire width of 89th at Main St. When it rains it's impossible to walk through it and even dangerous to drive through it. There is absolutely nowhere to walk except in deep mud on either side of the street.
3. I believe sidewalks would discourage homeless car-camping on 89th where there is a lot of room to camp and dump garbage. Sidewalks would force them to park on the street which is not nearly as private.
4. Sidewalks will improve the walkability score for our neighborhood and raise property values.
5. Why put over a million dollars into a project that people can't even walk to safely?
6. 4 years ago I researched the cost of dividing my lot and learned it I would have to pay \$110,000.00 for street improvements. The cost proposed now for these sidewalks is a deal.

Sincerely,
Gini Chin
503-260-9396

From: [Cara Peterson](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Lid SE 89th/Taylor LID
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 4:27:55 PM

Hi,

I previously submitted a remonstrance against the SE 89th/Taylor LID. After reviewing the amendments posted on 12/5/22,(paying \$0 for the project). I am in support of a project which includes the proposed amendments to amend the LID boundary and exclude the properties on SE 89th and only construct frontage improvements for Berrydale Park and 9020 SE Taylor St.

Cara Peterson

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Best Regards,

Cara

<https://caralpeterson.wordpress.com/>

From: [Dr. David Whitlow, DC](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: LID Amendment on SE 89th Avenue
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 4:34:14 PM

I previously submitted a remonstrance against the SE 89th/Taylor LID. After reviewing the amendments posted on 12/5/22, I am in support of a project which includes the proposed amendments to amend the LID boundary and exclude the properties on SE 89th and only construct frontage improvements for Berrydale Park and 9020 SE Taylor St.

Thanks!

David Whitlow
1115 SE 89th Avenue
Portland Oregon 97216

From: [Jill Godici](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: 89th &taylor LID
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 4:47:19 PM

I previously submitted a remonstrance against the SE 89th/Taylor LID. After reviewing the amendments posted on 12/5/22, I am in support of a project which includes the proposed amendments to amend the LID boundary and exclude the properties on SE 89th and only construct frontage improvements for Berrydale Park and 9020 SE Taylor St

Jill Godici
1165 se 89th ave
Portland OR 97216.

From: [Doug Voigt](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: LID Project
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 5:28:55 PM

I previously submitted a remonstrance against the SE 89th and Taylor LID. After reviewing the amendments posted on 12-05-2022, I am in support of a project which includes the proposed amendments to amend the LID boundary and exclude the properties on SE 89th and only construct frontage improvements for Berrydale Park and 9020 SE Taylor St. Sincerely,
Douglas O. Voigt

From: [Bryan M. Vance](#)
To: [Aebi, Andrew](#); [Commissioner Hardesty](#); [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Testimony against SE 89TH Taylor LID
Date: Monday, December 5, 2022 8:16:11 PM

Commissioner Hardesty, Mayor Wheeler, and the rest of the Portland City Council,

It is with the utmost respect that I write in to formally acknowledge my opposition to the LID project for SE 89th Avenue and SE Taylor Street as it's currently written. Also, I would like to formally lodge a complaint about Mr. Andrew Aebi's handling of this entire project.

Due to Mr. Aebi having an inaccurate address listed for where to submit remonstrance as recently as Nov. 20 (well into the project's existence), I inadvertently sent my letter to the wrong Portland city address. His failure to keep the relevant documentation updated led to my and my partner's voice not being heard on this issue. Our rights as Portland voters were trounced upon.

Further, Aebi has not communicated openly with us or our neighbors about this project. Information has had to be gathered through media reports and individual requests to Aebi by our neighbors. He did not proactively reach out to affected property owners following the first Council hearing. No one from the city did. If not for some diligent neighbors, I and most of my fellow 89th Avenue residents would not have known when the next hearing was happening.

A Willamette Week article by Sophie Peel was the first time my neighbors and I were presented with Aebi's proposed costs for this project. He has been disrespectful and dismissive of the real economic impact this project, as he has defined it, will have on the very East Portlanders he claims to be working to help.

It is with the utmost respect and sincerity that I urge you to not approve this LID as it's currently defined. Decades of poor leadership and management at the County and City level created the situation playing out on SE 89th Avenue (and streets across our city). A lack of the political ambition to do what's right and address the systematic inequities and dangerous conditions those very mistakes perpetuated leads to a continuing patchwork process to fixing our streets, and unduly puts the financial burden on low and middle income residents.

If the city is serious about utilizing the economic power of economies of scale, why limit this project to such a small area? Why not tackle all the problem streets in the 97216 ZIP code with a bond measure and federal grants? Why not get serious about creating a safer city for all Portlanders today? Why not dream bigger?

Again, I urge you to dig deep and find the political courage to do what is right here. Vote against the LID proposal as it currently stands. Encourage Aebi to serve all Portlanders, and to do so with respect, compassion, and competency.

Thank you,
Bryan M. Vance
SE 89th Ave. homeowner

City Council Meeting - Wednesday December 7, 2022 9:30 a.m.

Agenda No.	First Name	Last Name
1000-01	Tracy	Zapf
1000-02	Reena	Clements
1000-03	Sara	Buxton