

From: David <wordpress@save39th.com>
Subject: **[Save 39th Avenue - Portland, Oregon] Comment: "Portland State Daily Vanguard on 39th Avenue: Listen to Portlanders"**
Date: May 21, 2009 7:49:21 AM PDT
To: info@save39th.com
Reply-To: "dpbailey23@gmail.com" <dpbailey23@gmail.com>

New comment on your post #115 "Portland State Daily Vanguard on 39th Avenue: Listen to Portlanders"

Author : David (IP: 76.105.183.248 , c-76-105-183-248.hsd1.or.comcast.net)

E-mail : dpbailey23@gmail.com

URL :

Whois : <http://ws.arin.net/cgi-bin/whois.pl?queryinput=76.105.183.248>

Comment:

39th Avenue is also a major map reference for getting around NE Portland. All numbered streets run N to S, parallel to 39th (which is a major artery). Seems minor, but this comes up at least 2-3 times a week in my dealings.

Broadway and Grand are also up for consideration, but it seems really odd and strange to me to abandon your city's history by arbitrarily changing a street name that has been called that for 100s of years.

And, I do think a monument, park or bridge would be a much more fitting tribute to a great man.

You can see all comments on this post here:

<http://www.save39th.com/?p=115#comments>

Delete it: <http://www.save39th.com/wp-admin/comment.php?action=cde&c=20>

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From: Barbara Beletsky <wordpress@save39th.com>
Subject: **[Save 39th Avenue - Portland, Oregon] Comment: "Commissioner Nick Fish: Where does he stand on renaming 39th Avenue?"**
Date: May 19, 2009 7:25:51 PM PDT
To: info@save39th.com
Reply-To: "beletsky@hevanet.com" <beletsky@hevanet.com>

New comment on your post #101 "Commissioner Nick Fish: Where does he stand on renaming 39th Avenue?"

Author : Barbara Beletsky (IP: 130.94.161.226 , 130-94-161-226-dsl.hevanet.com)

E-mail : beletsky@hevanet.com

URL :

Whois : <http://ws.arin.net/cgi-bin/whois.pl?queryinput=130.94.161.226>

Comment:

I got the same letter back. I maintain that they are all ridiculous, out of touch and strangely political in re this issue. Nick Fish lives on 39th,north of Knott. I dont know know where he or any of the council are coming from, suddenly so blinded by some "rule of law."

You can see all comments on this post here:

<http://www.save39th.com/?p=101#comments>

Delete it: <http://www.save39th.com/wp-admin/comment.php?action=cde&c=19>

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From: bob <wordpress@save39th.com>
Subject: **[Save 39th Avenue - Portland, Oregon] Comment: "The mysterious and unregistered Cesar E. Chavez Boulevard Committee"**
Date: May 19, 2009 2:49:38 PM PDT
To: info@save39th.com
Reply-To: "nobody@nowhere.net" <nobody@nowhere.net>

New comment on your post #131 "The mysterious and unregistered Cesar E. Chavez Boulevard Committee"

Author : bob (IP: 24.20.40.189 , c-24-20-40-189.hsd1.or.comcast.net)

E-mail : nobody@nowhere.net

URL :

Whois : <http://ws.arin.net/cgi-bin/whois.pl?queryinput=24.20.40.189>

Comment:

A latino culture is a relatively recent phenomenon to PDX, it only makes sense that the struggles Mexicans living in America have had to get a voice, PDX seems like virgin territory to make a declaration of a Mexican political agenda by these two folks, however very few people in PDX are fooled by this attempt to name anything that runs through the heart of a white city a positive cultural achievement for the latino...much better suited to a "latino" section of town like Hillsborough or Rock Creek.

You can see all comments on this post here:

<http://www.save39th.com/?p=131#comments>

Delete it: <http://www.save39th.com/wp-admin/comment.php?action=cde&c=18>

Spam it: <http://www.save39th.com/wp-admin/comment.php?action=cde&dt=spam&c=18>

From: bk <wordpress@save39th.com>
Subject: **[Save 39th Avenue - Portland, Oregon] Comment: "City does not follow its own street renaming rules"**
Date: May 18, 2009 4:37:16 PM PDT
To: info@save39th.com
Reply-To: "lovetoblade@hotmail.com" <lovetoblade@hotmail.com>

New comment on your post #141 "City does not follow its own street renaming rules"

Author : bk (IP: 75.145.66.105 , 75-145-66-105-Oregon.hfc.comcastbusiness.net)

E-mail : lovetoblade@hotmail.com

URL :

Whois : <http://ws.arin.net/cgi-bin/whois.pl?queryinput=75.145.66.105>

Comment:

Save 39th Ave from being renamed. If you like it the way it is, I imagine you would support the cause (at least in spirit, not monetarily).

You can see all comments on this post here:

<http://www.save39th.com/?p=141#comments>

Delete it: <http://www.save39th.com/wp-admin/comment.php?action=cde&c=14>

Spam it: <http://www.save39th.com/wp-admin/comment.php?action=cde&dt=spam&c=14>

From: patty martin <wordpress@save39th.com>
Subject: **[Save 39th Avenue - Portland, Oregon] Comment: "Welcome to Save 39th Avenue!"**
Date: May 17, 2009 8:55:58 PM PDT
To: info@save39th.com
Reply-To: "martinorep@yahoo.com" <martinorep@yahoo.com>

New comment on your post #6 "Welcome to Save 39th Avenue!"

Author : patty martin (IP: 24.21.221.159 , c-24-21-221-159.hsd1.or.comcast.net)

E-mail : martinorep@yahoo.com

URL :

Whois : <http://ws.arin.net/cgi-bin/whois.pl?queryinput=24.21.221.159>

Comment:

It is really hard to try to defend your street 39th ave from renaming. i have written letters, gotten signature of opposition for renaming and just want to see cooler heads prevail in the city and city council. patty martin 39th ave

You can see all comments on this post here:

<http://www.save39th.com/?p=6#comments>

Delete it: <http://www.save39th.com/wp-admin/comment.php?action=cde&c=10>

Spam it: <http://www.save39th.com/wp-admin/comment.php?action=cde&dt=spam&c=10>

From: "s.groce" <wordpress@save39th.com>
Subject: **[Save 39th Avenue - Portland, Oregon] Comment: "Send email and letters to City Council saying "Save 39th Avenue""**
Date: May 17, 2009 3:17:03 PM PDT
To: info@save39th.com
Reply-To: "s.groce@comcast.net" <s.groce@comcast.net>

New comment on your post #79 "Send email and letters to City Council saying "Save 39th Avenue""

Author : s.groce (IP: 98.246.115.54 , c-98-246-115-54.hsd1.or.comcast.net)

E-mail : s.groce@comcast.net

URL :

Whois : <http://ws.arin.net/cgi-bin/whois.pl?queryinput=98.246.115.54>

Comment:

AGAIN - LISTEN TO THE CONTROVERSARY - STOP WASTING YOUR TIME AND TAX DOLLARS. STOP ALREADY ABOUT TRYING TO RENAME 39TH STREET OR ANY OTHER STREET. WE NEED PRODUCTIVE CITY EMPLOYEES!!!

You can see all comments on this post here:

<http://www.save39th.com/?p=79#comments>

Delete it: <http://www.save39th.com/wp-admin/comment.php?action=cde&c=9>

Spam it: <http://www.save39th.com/wp-admin/comment.php?action=cde&dt=spam&c=9>

From: "s.groce" <wordpress@save39th.com>
Subject: **[Save 39th Avenue - Portland, Oregon] Comment: "Send email and letters to City Council saying "Save 39th Avenue""**
Date: May 17, 2009 3:15:38 PM PDT
To: info@save39th.com
Reply-To: "s.groce@comcast.net" <s.groce@comcast.net>

New comment on your post #79 "Send email and letters to City Council saying "Save 39th Avenue""

Author : s.groce (IP: 98.246.115.54 , c-98-246-115-54.hsd1.or.comcast.net)

E-mail : s.groce@comcast.net

URL :

Whois : <http://ws.arin.net/cgi-bin/whois.pl?queryinput=98.246.115.54>

Comment:

STOP THE MADNESS-- STOP TRYING TO RENAME 39TH AND OTHER STREETS. YOU NEED TO DO THE "NAMING" WHEN THERE IS SOMETHING NEW TO NAME!!!! STOP WASTING THE TAXPAYERS MONEY AND DO SOMETHING THAT IS PRODUCTIVE. THIS IS REDICULOUS!!! STOP WASTING OUR TAXPAYERS M*O*N*E*Y !!!!!

NAME A NEW DEVELOPMENT OR SOMETHING OR BETTER YET -- READ WHAT C. CHAVEZ WROTE WHEN HE DID NOT WANT SOMETHING NAMED AFTER HIMSELF!!!

You can see all comments on this post here:

<http://www.save39th.com/?p=79#comments>

Delete it: <http://www.save39th.com/wp-admin/comment.php?action=cde&c=8>

Spam it: <http://www.save39th.com/wp-admin/comment.php?action=cde&dt=spam&c=8>

From: "Jeff.Katz" <wordpress@save39th.com>
 Subject: **[Save 39th Avenue - Portland, Oregon] Comment: "Portland State Daily Vanguard on 39th Avenue: Listen to Portlanders"**
 Date: May 16, 2009 11:04:30 PM PDT
 To: info@save39th.com
 Reply-To: "jeff.katz@save39th.com" <jeff.katz@save39th.com>

New comment on your post #115 "Portland State Daily Vanguard on 39th Avenue: Listen to Portlanders"

Author : Jeff.Katz (IP: 67.160.174.160 , c-67-160-174-160.hsd1.or.comcast.net)

E-mail : jeff.katz@save39th.com

URL : <http://>

Whois : <http://ws.arin.net/cgi-bin/whois.pl?queryinput=67.160.174.160>

Comment:

oasispaw - I would hardly call this knee jerk and I hope that I have an opportunity to read many of the posts here and have read what your fellow citizens have said on various outlets.

This is not a small annoyance that gets our "feathers all ruffled about it".

there is a financial impact (that does not take into the account the financial and personal obligations that residents and businesses will have to deal with a street naming change) that will be felt at a time where the city is cutting budgets for critical infrastructure and human services and no sign making will not even come close to making up for that.

This is also about a severely flawed process and elected officials. Poll after poll, survey after survey have indicated a strong opposition to not only not renaming 39th Avenue, but not renaming any major road. And to top that off, the strongest opposition against renaming any street was 39th Avenue.

Marta Guembes cares less about Chavez and more about her own power. We have a new bridge being built without a name. what does Guembes say? "I want a street and only a street" How about the downtown Farmer's market or a park? "I want a street and only a street"

"Years before his death, Chavez was asked by a union member if he wanted to be remembered by statues and public memorials. Chavez replied, 'If you want to remember me, organize!'"

The entire process felt very ceremonial with the end-results already decided much in advanced. While the Planning Commission and the organizing committee do not see 39th Avenue as having much historical value, I can tell you that the sentiment is quite the opposite. 39th Avenue is an integral and historic component of where many of us proudly call home.

You can see all comments on this post here:

<http://www.save39th.com/?p=115#comments>

Delete it: <http://www.save39th.com/wp-admin/comment.php?action=cdc&c=7>

Spam it: <http://www.save39th.com/wp-admin/comment.php?action=cdc&dt=spam&c=7>

From: oasispaw <wordpress@save39th.com>
Subject: **[Save 39th Avenue - Portland, Oregon] Comment: "Portland State Daily Vanguard on 39th Avenue: Listen to Portlanders"**
Date: May 16, 2009 4:49:47 PM PDT
To: info@save39th.com
Reply-To: "oasispaw@gmail.com" <oasispaw@gmail.com>

New comment on your post #115 "Portland State Daily Vanguard on 39th Avenue: Listen to Portlanders"

Author : oasispaw (IP: 216.20.152.177 , 216-20-152-177-dsl.hevanet.com)

E-mail : oasispaw@gmail.com

URL : <http://hardcorefrench.com>

Whois : <http://ws.arin.net/cgi-bin/whois.pl?queryinput=216.20.152.177>

Comment:

i just don't understand the passionate opposition. it's just a number changing the name of an important historical figure. and sure there will be costs associated with it, but it seems silly to get your feathers all ruffled about it. if you think about it, it will create some work in portland for sign makers and printing presses! you know, stimulate the economy?

it seems like more of an honor than a burden to me to have your street named after cesar chavez.

i just don't see any really good arguments against it rather than straight up opinion. a knee-jerk "i don't like it, i don't want it!"

i'm sure this won't make it through moderation because it's a one sided argument here, but i thought i'd try.

You can see all comments on this post here:

<http://www.save39th.com/?p=115#comments>

Delete it: <http://www.save39th.com/wp-admin/comment.php?action=cdc&c=6>

Spam it: <http://www.save39th.com/wp-admin/comment.php?action=cdc&dt=spam&c=6>

From: D P Bailey <wordpress@save39th.com>
Subject: [Save 39th Avenue - Portland, Oregon] Comment: "Commissioner Nick Fish: Where does he stand on renaming 39th Avenue?"
Date: May 16, 2009 10:30:51 AM PDT
To: info@save39th.com
Reply-To: "dpbailey23@mac.com" <dpbailey23@mac.com>

New comment on your post #101 "Commissioner Nick Fish: Where does he stand on renaming 39th Avenue?"

Author : D P Bailey (IP: 76.105.183.248 , c-76-105-183-248.hsd1.or.comcast.net)

E-mail : dpbailey23@mac.com

URL :

Whois : <http://ws.arin.net/cgi-bin/whois.pl?queryinput=76.105.183.248>

Comment:

This is the letter I sent to all of the commissioners and our Mayor:

Hello,

I live in the Northeast and I am STRONGLY OPPOSED to renaming 39th Avenue to Cesar Chavez. Or Grand or Broadway for that matter.

39th is a major map reference for giving and receiving directions for getting around the East side of Portland. Changing its name is not sensible for the City, its citizens or its visitors. It is also a very expensive undertaking at a time when we can barely pay for teachers and school programs.

If you must honor Chavez (who was quoted as saying that he'd never like something like a street named after him,) please rename a park, or a farmer's market. This would make much more sense and save the city money as well. I understand that there is interest in renaming Delta Park to Chavez Park.

You were elected to represent the citizens of the entire city, but this move I feel is serving the "wants" of a few versus the needs of the many.

If you have read this entire email, thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

David Bailey

You can see all comments on this post here:

<http://www.save39th.com/?p=101#comments>

Delete it: <http://www.save39th.com/wp-admin/comment.php?action=cdc&c=5>

Spam it: <http://www.save39th.com/wp-admin/comment.php?action=cdc&dt=spam&c=5>

183000

183000

From: RobertWagner <wordpress@save39th.com>
Subject: [Save 39th Avenue - Portland, Oregon] Comment: "Welcome to Save 39th Avenue!"
Date: May 13, 2009 7:23:21 PM PDT
To: info@save39th.com
Reply-To: "editor@pdxsucks.com" <editor@pdxsucks.com>

New comment on your post #6 "Welcome to Save 39th Avenue!"

Author : RobertWagner (IP: 74.92.163.253 , 74-92-163-253-Oregon.hfc.comcastbusiness.net)

E-mail : editor@pdxsucks.com

URL : <http://pdxsucks.com>

Whois : <http://ws.arin.net/cgi-bin/whois.pl?queryinput=74.92.163.253>

Comment:

Not sure how much time I'd have to volunteer but I'd be more than happy to help spread the word via my blog and internet radio show - not sure how much good it would do but every little bit counts eh? This whole street renaming witchhunt thing has me pretty peeved... such little regard for business owners and what it will cost them.

You can see all comments on this post here:

<http://www.save39th.com/?p=6#comments>

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Spam it: <http://www.save39th.com/wp-admin/comment.php?action=cde&dt=spam&c=2>

TO: Portland City Council
 FROM: John Munson
 RE: Renaming of 39th Avenue to Cesar Chavez Boulevard
 DATE: June 23, 2009

2237 NE Hancock
 Portland 97212

I encourage members of the City Council to change the name of 39th Avenue to Cesar Chavez Boulevard.

1. It honors a great American
2. It recognizes the hopes and dreams of an important part of our community
3. The action is supported by precedent
4. The cost would be minimal

1. It honors a great American.

Cesar Chavez was born in California. He led a movement to protect the rights of workers, American and immigrant. He demanded for farm workers the same rights that other Americans have under the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and our system of laws. His call for justice was bitterly opposed by those who live by exploiting others, and he refused to respond with violence. His call for a boycott of grapes struck a chord throughout American, and, in the end, succeeded to earn increased wages and, more importantly, dignity, for farm workers. But the struggle goes on, in Oregon and throughout the country. Farm workers continue to be among the most poorly paid workers, to work under some of the most hazardous conditions, and to be vulnerable to an immigration policy that is broken and cruel. We all need to remember the legacy of Cesar Chavez. Our children study his life and his accomplishments in school. He is a hero for all Americans, and to honor him by naming 39th Avenue after him would do honor to our city.

2. It recognizes the hopes and dreams of an important part of our community.

Hispanics make up a growing part of our city, yet have for too long lived on the margins. Portland is a city that celebrates diversity. The naming of a major street after Cesar Chavez is a dream of thousands of Hispanics in Portland. The rest of us have no right to say to them, "No, why can't you just be satisfied with naming a building or a farmers marker after Chavez." It is not for us to tell them what is good enough for them. To honor Chavez is to honor every member of Portland's Hispanic Community. To fail to make the change that is being proposed tonight is to say, "No, we do not care about you." to the Hispanic community. I do not want to be part of the sending of that message.

3. The action is supported by precedent.

In recent years Portland has renamed at least three major streets in honor of individuals whose contribution to our community has been great: First Avenue was renamed Naito Parkway; Grand Avenue was renamed Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, and Portland Boulevard was renamed Rosa Parks Boulevard. All of these streets had been known by their original names for

generations. But times changed, and Portland was able to acknowledge and honor that change. It is natural for people to resist change, and every new proposal meets stiff resistance from somewhere. Portland has faced this challenge before and succeeded. It is only right that we do this once again, that we rename 39th Avenue after Cesar Chavez, and that this is not the last time that we will make a change to honor a leader or a cause.

4. The cost would be minimal.

Much has been made of the economic cost of making this change. The costs are minimum. It is not expensive to change a stationary order when a supply of envelopes and letterhead is used up. It is not expensive to change one's address on email or web sites. The cost of changing street signs can be spread over time and is a drop in the bucket of Portland finances.

There are a few arguments against making this change, just as there are always arguments against any and every change. Suffice it to say that the name "39th Avenue" has no historical or sentimental value anywhere in Portland. Travelers will be able to orient themselves to Cesar Chavez Boulevard as easily as they have always been able to orient themselves to 39th Avenue or Broadway, Terwilliger or the Sunset Highway.

In summary, the Council can best serve its citizens, all of its citizens, by adopting Cesar Chavez Boulevard as the new name for 39th Avenue.



The World of BEVERLY CLEARY

Teaching Resources



- * 39th Avenue is part of her literary and actual neighborhood.

My name is Kim McGair. I live in Laurelhurst, on Hazelfern Avenue just a few houses from 39th Avenue. I use 39th Avenue virtually everyday to commute to and from work, take my two small children to school, do my grocery shopping and participate in many aspects of life in my NE Portland community. I previously lived in Hawthorne, just a few blocks from 39th, so my entire adult life has taken place within the neighborhoods affected by the proposed renaming. In describing the impact of losing the numerical designation of 39th, I think the Oregonian editorial board summed it up best today when they said that 39th is significant because people know where it is.

Three Streets.

Portland City Code Sec. 17.93.010 provides that an individual may apply to the City to “rename a City street.” It further provides that “only one street renaming application shall be processed at a time.” Both 17.93.020 and 17.93.030 refer to the “**street**” proposed. The clear intent of the Code is that an application consists of one street. Petitioners offered 3 applications in violation of the Code. Simply put, the Code, allows one application to name **A** street – a singular, not plural term. While the City council can choose to rename the street outside of this code process, the City has taken the position that it is following its code. If the City is going to follow the code, it must follow all of the code, not pick and choose the provisions that it wants. Thus, the petition should be rejected because it fails to comply with the plain language of the City Code.

Chavez’s Committee’s Refusal to Meet or Negotiate

I am particularly bothered by the Committee’s refusal to accept even a single invitation from the neighborhood associations and businesses that will be directly impacted by this change. Their refusal to talk to these neighbors, or look them in the eye and tell them why 39th Avenue, as opposed to the various other options that have been suggested, should not be rewarded. While the Committee told the Historian Panel that they wanted to “work together,” they have rebuffed every single effort made to work together or to show compassion or respect for the people actually effected by this change. It is not in the best interest of the City to reward this divisive behavior and doing so will only hurt community relations in our City.

39th Avenue Should not Be Renamed.

The Code says that the name should not be changed if the existing name is of historical significance OR the street is significant in its own right. 39th Avenue is historic in that it has held that name since 1870. It contains a historic statute of Joan of Arc that was a gift from Dr. Henry Coe in 1925 to memorialize the Americans who fought in World War I. It also borders Laurelhurst Park, an iconic emblem of Portland and the first park to be named to the National Register of Historic Places. To replace 39th with “Cesar E. Chavez Blvd.” will destroy this historical fabric dating back to the early 1900’s.

Anyone who spends anytime on the East side of Portland, where the vast majority of Portlanders live, knows that the street names are a constant navigational aid, especially the major numbered streets like 39th. Thus, 39th is also significant in its own right. The Historian Review Panel, in fact, agreed that 39th was “clearly a significant street.”

It has been reported that some of you want the opponents to explain why the street should not be renamed. I respectfully suggest that desire is backwards. The proponents should first give some explanation to the City and the residents as to why 39th Avenue, in particular and instead of a new bridge, school or park, should be renamed. They have failed to do this.

I urge you to consider naming the new Tri-Met bridge after Mr. Chavez. Naming an individual item like a bridge would be a more significant way to honor him because it could allow for plaques, educational information and even a statute of him. None of that will exist on 39th.

Finally, and most importantly, you are elected representatives of the people. The only thing that is absolutely undisputed in this matter is that the people that you represent don't want to rename streets. The people on 39th don't want it, the neighborhood associations don't want it, the people in the City as a whole don't want it. You should substitute your judgment for the opinion of the overwhelming majority rarely – most notably to protect individual civil rights and liberties of minorities. The renaming of 39th Ave. is not such a circumstance. This is even more true in this case because the Code requires that the effected residents be polled – thus recognizing that the opinions of the public are important and relevant to the question of whether this is in the “best interest of the city.” The people of Portland have clearly indicated that this is not in the “best interest of the city” and I urge you to respect their views and vote “no.”

My name is Shelli Romero and I live in Southeast Portland. I am here to support renaming 39th in honor of Cesar E. Chavez.

I began the early part of my life growing up in rural Oregon wondering, *where is my place in this community?* My parents who grew up speaking Spanish at home and English at school were punished for speaking Spanish in the classroom. So I grew up with English as my first language to avoid punishment. *at school.*

In the first grade, I went to school and saw some of my classmates being discouraged and punished for speaking Spanish, the language of my parents and my grandparents. I was ignored by my home room teacher, made to feel less than and unable to keep pace with my classmates. So painful are the memories that I blocked them out. I am told that at times I was locked in a home room closet by my teacher. Based on this experience, at that time, school was no place for Latinos. But because of my educator parents, I worked hard and continued my education. We studied history, but I learned very little if anything about history from a

Latino perspective. And so I asked then and I ask now, - *where is my place in history?*

Latinos have among the highest drop out rate and yet in Portland, Latinos have no community centers, no youth centers, no gathering places, and no areas that are predominantly or historically Latino neighborhoods. I am faced again with that nagging question, - where is our place? Where do we belong?

Most of the people in this room believe Cesar E. Chavez to be a worthy candidate for renaming and yet what I hear over and over is “Just not my street, just not in my backyard.” And so I again ask everyone in this room to really think about my question: *Where is my place?* The sentiment is “not in my backyard” and yet as a Latino community, we are among you. We are your neighbors, admired for our family values and hard work ethic. We are bus boys, the cooks in restaurants, caregivers, landscapers, the workers in the fields who pick crops and bring food to the tables of millions.

We are union workers, teachers, business owners, public sector employees, doctors, nurses, policy wonks and more.

We are at a critical juncture in American history and in Portland history.

And while we cannot change what is in the past, TODAY, we can MAKE history with your help, your vote. We can educate and learn from one another, we can promote understanding and truly embrace diversity viewing it as an asset to our community. And we can work together to create a sense of place for all people in our City, our community. And so I end with this: I ask you to search deep in your hearts to find the courage to make history and to create a place for the entire community to thrive. This new place, a street that today we call 39th Avenue should be renamed in honor of Cesar Chavez. I ask you to consider the renaming of 39th not as taking away something - but as creating a place for me and for so many more who will call Portland home as well as the future generations to follow. Thank you.

Respectfully Submitted by

Shelli Romero
3830 SE 68th Avenue
Portland, OR 97206
Lachapis3830@yahoo.com

Why a street?
see ~~over~~ my comments

Why a ~~street~~? why not a street?

streets connect ~~and~~ not only our infrastructure, ^{They} ~~they~~ connects our communities.

~~Streets are the backbone~~
~~of the city.~~

People bike, walk, take transit, skateboard + drive our streets everyday. ~~to~~ streets + arterials are deliberate destinations as opposed to visiting a statue, a ~~park~~ ~~area~~.

~~Streets~~ are permanent structures in our communities. We know they are there even when we won't drive them. ~~Streets~~
① Streets like people make up the rich fabric of our ~~community~~ entire community.

And this is why I support a street. Not a bridge, park, statue or anything other than a street. ② Please rename

39th in honor of Cesar E Chavez

~~Driving by a sign~~ ② The city's capital improvement program for infrastructure should also consider + invest in our human capital.
Because this will make us feel that we are truly represented and an integral part of the infrastructure of our city.

My name is Stephen Sasser.

Mayor and Council Members,

I'd like to begin by thanking you for permitting me to share my views.

I'd like to quote from a personal document dated 1968:

You may remember it as the Summer of Love.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Franklin Nance
request the pleasure of your company
at the wedding of their daughter
Sandra Lyn and
Stephen H. Sasser
on Friday, the fourteenth of June
at eight o'clock in the evening

Garden Manor
2715 Southeast Thirty-ninth Avenue
Portland, Oregon

Two years ago, Lyn and I celebrated our 39th anniversary by walking from our home to that same location on 39th avenue and having a champagne-toast on the front portico facing 39th.

If you change the name of this street, you will stealing a precious portion of our personal history.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Franklin Nance
request the pleasure of your company
at the wedding reception of their daughter

Sandra Lyn
and

Mr. Steven Harley Sasser
on Friday, the fourteenth of June
at eight o'clock in the evening

Garden Manor
2715 Southeast Thirty-ninth Avenue
Portland, Oregon

STATEMENT OF REES LLOYD TO THE CITY OF COUNCIL OF PORTLAND IN
OPPOSITION TO RENAMING 39TH STREET FOR CESAR CHAVEZ
(HEARING HELD ON JUNE 23, 2009):

Members of the City Council:

My name is Rees Lloyd. I am a lawyer . Forgive me that.

I reside in Portland. I worked with and for Cesar Chavez for some twenty years, 1973 to his death on April 23, 1993, and beyond as an attorney for the United Farm Workers of America. I oppose renaming 39th Street, as will be explained.

In connection with my testimony. I would like to submit to the Council to be included in the record, along with my oral remarks, a story which I wrote about Cesar which was published by The Record-Gazette Newspaper in the San Geronimo Pass in California. I submit it as it evidences my long association with Cesar Chavez commencing in 1973, when he assisted and mentored me in a truckers strike when I was a long-haul trucker; then when he told me I had to go to law school and got me into law school; and then all the years I served as one of his attorneys. By submitting this newspaper piece, I will not have to use time establishing that background.

I telephoned in and was told I could e-mail the written material.

As stated in that story I authored on him, Cesar Chavez was the greatest man I have ever known, or ever will know.

However, based upon the knowledge I have based upon my long association with Cesar Chavez, I will be testifying in opposition to renaming 39th Street, which I believe is an insult to his memory, and to what he stood for in his magnificent life of service and sacrifice for others.

I have known his son, Paul Chavez, for at least thirty years, and I agree with his comment in the Oregonian that his father would consider the campaign to rename a street in his honor "a waste of time."

I note another quote in the Oregonian of significance, that of a leader of the effort of a leader of the group pushing for the street renaming, who is quoted as saying her group wants the street renaming in order "to honor Cesar Chavez and the Latino community."

Neither that woman, her group, nor this City Council should insult and exploit the name, work, and achievements of Cesar Chavez in order "to honor the Latino community."

Hugo Chavez is a Latino. Cesar Chavez was an American.

Cesar Chavez was at minimum a third-generation American born in Arizona on his grandfather's ranch near Yuma Arizona.

Cesar Chavez was a veteran. An American veteran of World War II. He joined the U.S. Navy at 17 to defend the land of his birth, the United States, not Mexico, and served for the duration of WWII in the South Pacific theatre.

Cesar was an American of Mexican descent; a Mexican-American, if you will, but never an American Mexican.

Despite a great deal of self-serving pressure put upon him to define himself in ethnic or racial terms, Cesar Chavez, in the some twenty years that I worked with him, including as an attorney in which there were uncountable confidential communications, never once defined himself as a "Latino." Or as a "Chicano." And he flat refused to use

the term "La Raza" to identify himself, his cause, or his followers. He told me "La Raza" was a racist term and he wouldn't use it.

Cesar's self-identification was always as an American Labor leader, never a "Latino leader," "Chicano leader," least of all a "leader of La Raza." Indeed, in 1969 Cesar led a March from Indio to the Mexican border, not to protest working conditions, but to protest the INS's failure to seal the border against strike-breaking illegal aliens. Ten years later Cesar had the same position, testifying in Congress for the federal government to secure the border against strike-breaking illegal aliens coming in from Mexico.

Cesar's reality as an American, an American veteran, an American labor leader, should not be stripped from him now by either a self-serving group desiring to appropriate Cesar Chavez for themselves, deny him his American reality, and gain honor for themselves as Latinos by exploiting what he did as a self-defined American Leader. They are exploiting his name and life for their own ends by a street renaming "to honor the Latino community," as one of their leaders told the Oregonian, as surely as the huge agribusiness interests of California exploited him in life.

Nor should this City Council join in that insult and exploitation of Cesar Chavez -- in the name of the people and City of Portland -- in order to kowtow either to racial identity politics nor political correctness, which is to the body politic what cancer is to the body human. Deadly.

And the Planning Commission report which is before you fairly reeks with condescending political correctness, speaking so piously of "diversity" and "inclusion" and "change" and "forward looking" acts. It is utterly insulting to who and what Cesar Chavez was, an American of Mexican descent who never forswore his American birth and heritage and identity and never, ever played racial politics.

You must consider that if you impose this name change on people who have overwhelmingly opposed it, you act in a manner exactly contrary to Cesar Chavez' principles. He touched American hearts not by government-imposed actions, but by persuasion, most often the persuasive example of his selfless service to his cause, the United Farm Workers of America.

Finally, you should consider that Cesar was a man who eschewed all personal celebrity and focused all on his cause. He refused millions in offers for the rights to his life story for films or authorized biographies, saying it was not about him, it was about the cause.

If you want to honor Cesar Chavez, then do it as he would have -- by persuasion, not governmental imposition. Do it in the way that the people most affected want it done.

Do not join in what is, in my opinion, an insult to Cesar Chavez' name and life, using him in his death for a political purpose, a racially divisive political purpose.

The committee advocating this name change has refused any compromise, saying because they have followed the rules, this time, and worked at it for two years, then the entire community should bow to their demands. If it is the street name change and nothing at all, as they have insisted, then let it be nothing.

Then honor him in a way in which the overwhelming majority of Portland's people can support.

Do not insult and exploit his life, his name, and his memory.

REES LLOYD (503-223-8560)

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Print Page



News

Lessons from the life of a great American: Cesar Chavez

By Rees Lloyd
Special to the Record Gazette

I am convinced that the truest act of courage, the strongest act of manliness, is to sacrifice for others in a totally nonviolent struggle for justice. To be a man is to suffer for others. God help us to be men! *Cesar Chavez*

California, and three other states, Texas, Arizona, and New Mexico, will officially recognize by State Holidays the 80th anniversary of the birth of an extraordinary American, Cesar Estrada Chavez, the late founder and president of United Farm Workers of America, an American veteran who served his country in the U.S. Navy in WWII, the first American trade union leader to create a viable union for farmworkers where all other attempts in American history had failed, and an American civil rights leader of Mexican descent who served and enriched his country and the lives of Americans of every race, color, and creed by a lifetime "of sacrifice for others in a totally nonviolent struggle for justice."

Cesar did not merely, speak, but lived those words, and there are lessons to be learned from that well-lived life.

My own life has been enriched and influenced beyond measure by what I learned in some twenty years working with him, starting in 1973 when I was a trucker participating as a leader of the "Truckers For Justice" in a nationwide truckers shutdown in the so-called "Arab Oil Embargo," in which oil companies reaped windfall profits, and including the years I served as one of his attorneys from 1979 until the day of his death on April 23, 1993.

I emphasize that I was but one of thousands who worked with Cesar Chavez through the years, others who did so much more than did I in aid of him, his cause, and the UW; I emphasize that I write these words not to celebrate my association with him, but to celebrate him, Cesar Chavez, and the life he lived.

I will always walk in the shadow Cesar Chavez, a great and humble man who lived his faith, and was the moral heart of the American labor movement in the last half of the 20th Century.



CESAR CHAVEZ and Rees Lloyd of Banning are shown at press conference in 1973 in Tuscon, AZ, announcing the formation of the Alliance of the United Farm Workers of America and the Truckers For Justice, who refused to haul any lettuce or grapes not bearing the UFW union symbol.

Cesar Chavez was born on March 31, 1927, on the small ranch near Yuma, Arizona, that his grandfather had purchased in the 1880's, and which the Chavez family worked and thrived on until 1937, during the Depression, when the bank foreclosed and the giant Bud Antle lettuce corporation based in Yuma took over the Chavez' land. The family, when Cesar was 10, went from being American landowners, to "Mexican" migrant workers, living and working in conditions which appalled America when they became known years later, and which were improved basically because of Cesar Chavez touching America's heart with his non-violent service.

In 1944, at the age of 17, while WWII raged in Europe and the Pacific, Cesar Chavez joined the U.S. Navy. When he came home on a three-day leave, he engaged in his first non-violent civil disobedience: He deliberately sat in the "White" section of the then-segregated movie theatre in Delano. He was arrested; taken to jail; but they couldn't figure out what to charge him with (U.S. Sailor sitting in the wrong place in wartime?). So, they cut him loose with threatening warnings that he should know his place. Cesar returned to Navy duty defending his country, notwithstanding.

Ironically, Cesar's life ended where it began, in Yuma, and in a fight with the powerful Bud Antle Corporation, largest lettuce grower in the world, which had taken his family's land back in 1937..

That is, Bud Antle sued Cesar, and the UFW, in the Yuma, AZ, courts, claiming Bud Antle had been grievously damaged by the "Lettuce Boycott" which Cesar led -in California. Bud Antle sought millions in damages, which would break the UFW.

Bud Antle's lawyers called Cesar as a witness. When his examination by Bud Antle's lawyers was complete, Cesar, following his custom, went to the home of a UFW member where he was staying. (Cesar's practice was to stay in the modest homes of members, and not incur hotel or motel bills.)

After supper, he went to his room, kicked off his shoes, lay on the bed, and began reading a book concerning entrepreneurial projects which could aid the poor, particularly Native Americans.

Cesar Chavez died peacefully in his sleep that night, April 23, 1993.

Those who entered the room when he did not respond to their knock, said his shoes were off, but he was still dressed, as if having dozed off while reading. They said there was no evidence that he had suffered any pain or distress. Indeed, the book he was reading still rested on his chest, undisturbed. Further, they said it appeared that Cesar had a small, serene smile on his face.

"God came and took him," observed an elderly farmworker, as heads nodded and crosses were etched in common assent.

The court was informed of Cesar's death and a motion was made for a mistrial, since Cesar had testified under questioning by Bud Antle's attorneys, but died before UFW could elicit his testimony.

Motion denied, said the judge, stating he would give the UFW ten days to bury Cesar, and the trial would resume as if nothing had happened. He rapped his gavel, a fitting exemplar of the judiciary.

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More than 50,000 people made the pilgrimage to Cesar's funeral in Delano, where Cesar had first gone in 1962 with his wife, Helen, and their eight children, to organize what would ultimately become the United Farm Workers of America.

The trial resumed in Arizona under the same berobed autocrat who had denied a mistrial. I was honored to be one of the attorneys defending the UFW and Cesar as the trial continued, my role to write motion after motion to the great discomfort and distress of the jurist who makes obscene the command that we address judges as "Your Honor."

As expected, the jury found for Bud Antle (surprise, surprise), the biggest employer in the Yuma area, and against Cesar and the UFW for the boycott against lettuce staged not in Arizona, but in California. They awarded some \$3.5-million to Bud Antle, enough to bankrupt the UFW.

But the UFW was born of Cesar Chavez and it had learned one of the primary lessons his life taught: Never give up, never surrender in the fight for justice. Ultimately, after years of litigation, the UFW won; the judgment was thrown out by higher courts. Bud Antle, the rich and powerful corporation, lost everything to Cesar Chavez, who would not give up.

Cesar's son, Paul, once said to me of his father's persistence: "Did you have one of those little cars when you were a kid that you wind up, and it takes off and, when it hits a wall, it bounces off then hits the wall again, and again, and again? Well, my Dad reminds me of that little car. It won't quit. But the difference is, with my Dad, the wall falls down."

I have remained a civil rights and workers attorney to this day, and proudly now represent primarily my fellow veterans in The American Legion. I think of Cesar daily in those efforts, and remember daily the great lesson he taught back in that truckers strike in 1973 when it appeared I would not be able to prevent violence from erupting as we had 253 truckers blockaded in a truck stop for two weeks.

Cesar, who was my mentor in that strike, admonished me so loudly and emphatically, that I had to hold the phone at arms length away from my ear, but I heard, and remember, every word:

"Rees, if there is violence, it is your fault: It is a failure of creative intelligence; a failure of creative intelligence."

At the time, I said, not to him but to myself, in a huff: "What does he know? I'm the one here, I'm the one with the problems."

But later that day I picked up the newspaper, and spotted a story saying the Tucson blood bank had run out of blood and needed help. I called a meeting, pointed out that we were getting lambasted by the media over our strike, and, if we gave blood to the people of Tucson, maybe we would be seen in a different light. The truckers voted to give blood, and I called the media.

The next day, we loaded up the trailers of two eighteen-wheelers with strikers and drove to the blood bank. With television cameras running, out of the trailers came the Truckers For Justice, cowboy-hatted, cowboy-booted, walking John Wayne-tall, to give their blood to the people of

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Tucson, true Knights of the Road.

The atmosphere completely changed. The media began telling our story, and the people of Tucson began taking truckers into their homes for the duration of the strike. The threat of violence evaporated. Although there was violence all over the country, there was none in our strike in Tucson - thanks to Cesar Chavez.

We created an Alliance of the United Farm Workers and the Truckers For Justice in the aftermath of that strike. Cesar Chavez told me then that I needed to go to law school so that I could better serve; it was his recommendation that later opened the doors of law school to me. After graduation and passing the State Bar in 1979, I became one of the volunteer attorneys for the UFW, and Cesar..

In my work as a civil rights, workers rights attorney, including proudly representing my fellow veterans in The American Legion, whose cause in defense of our veterans memorials and cemeteries against fanatical secular-cleansing attacks to remove all religious symbols I believe to be a major civil rights issue of this era, I am guided to this day by the lessons taught me by Cesar Chavez.

Not the least of those lessons is to never to surrender in the cause of justice, to act with audacity, but always remember that "violence [is] a failure of creative intelligence."

I am infinitely grateful to Cesar Chavez for these lessons, and, most of all for the lesson, and example, of his life.

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Cesar E. Chavez Blvd. Hearing – 6/23/09
Testimony – Nate Waas Shull

My name is Nate Waas Shull, and I live in southeast Portland. I'm here representing myself and my family, and our message tonight is simple – we are going to be so proud of our city when we name a major street for Cesar E. Chavez, one of America's civil rights giants.

In Portland, if you happen to be a school kid, *and* you happen to be Latino, your chances of graduating from high school are 39%. *Thirty-nine percent*. Take ten Latino kids and have them stand in a row. Ask for half of them to step forward, and then tell one more to join them. Then take the six of them off to the side and tell them that they should go ahead and start getting ready for years of poverty wages, poorer health and a life of struggle for themselves and their future children. This city has miles to go before we reach our destination.

Still, what if today we had a chance to tell our Latino youth something different? What if our city found a way to say 'you belong here'? To say 'this is your home'? To say, 'your culture and your contributions make this city a better place for *all* of us'? I've worked with Latino youth in Portland for years and I can tell you, this community sends a lot of very clear messages to Latino kids – but they don't too often sound like that.

Today we have an opportunity before us. We have the power to send that message of pride and hope and inclusion to every kid who hops a bus, does a search on Mapquest, or gives directions to Fred Meyer to his cousin who's visiting from out of town. Yes, *street names* matter. Park names do too, and community centers, but today we're here to talk about Portland's streets – streets that overwhelmingly bear the names of white folks.

As a white Portlander I look forward to Cesar E. Chavez Blvd. as a concrete, daily reminder that white people *alone* do not own Portland's past – or its future. I look forward to driving down 39th Avenue, in my neighborhood and remembering exactly why I love this city so much – a city that's not afraid to look at its past, then look at its future, and decide *today* exactly what kind of a place we want to be.

Thank you.

June 22, 2009

To the Portland City Council

Re: Street naming for Cesar Chavez

The city of Portland has a history of honoring diversity and in recent years one of the best and most visible ways to do that is with street naming. By naming a street after Cesar Chavez we are honoring diversity in our city as we did when we named streets for Martin Luther King, Rosa Parks and Bill Naito.

The volunteers of the Cesar E. Chavez Boulevard Committee entered into negotiations with the City in good faith meeting every requirement set before them even after the process was changed in mid stream. While the Hispanic community in Portland and Oregon is the fastest growing minority group and plays an increasing important role in our cultural and economic life, honoring Chavez is particularly important to Portland's children.

Providing strong visible role models can make a huge difference in the lives of our youngsters. I have had the good fortune to work closely with people from a variety of Portland's diverse cultures – through the Chinese Garden, the sister city program and recently with the International School. I have seen time and time again, our children learning to embrace other cultures when barriers are not put in their way. I also know that people who are not given a chance to learn about others often find refuge in fear and hatred.

My view of the world, my sense of fairness, my understanding of discrimination and bigotry was greatly impacted by people like Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King and by Cesar Chavez. Chavez inspired a whole generation, not just Latino, with his work for civil rights, worker rights, and food safety. His portrait stands in the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C. and a US stamp was created to honor him. He is a genuine American hero and he has strong ties to Oregon.

This is not an unreasonable request. As a citizen of Portland, I would be very proud to have 39th Avenue named for Chavez.

Phyllis Oster
2630 SW Nevada Court
Portland, OR 97219

PORTLAND CITY COUNCIL HEARING, JUNE 23, 2009
PUBLIC TESTIMONY BY KATHY ROMERO

Good evening. My name is Kathy Romero. I'm a retired elementary school teacher and a member of the César E. Chávez Blvd. Committee.

I would like to share with you why having 39th Avenue renamed in honor of César E Chávez matters a great deal to me, my family, and my community.

Our entire family is among the many here who have been lifelong supporters and advocates for farm workers and César Chávez's La Causa (The Cause). Our family has had the honor and privilege of knowing him and meeting with him on several occasions when he visited Oregon. His untimely death on April 23, 1993, was a tremendous loss to us and to the world. Although he has been gone for 16 years, his legacy lives on. This humble, courageous, and peace-loving leader touched our hearts and inspired us to follow his footsteps on the path of service to others and the struggle for peace and justice. We became active participants in César Chávez's La Causa in the late 60's, after our return from Peace Corps duty in South America. This was a family affair—our three children participated with us on the picket lines and had never eaten grapes until the boycott ended. It was no coincidence that my husband, Jose, decided to work for Colegio César Chávez in Mt. Angel, Oregon in the early 70's, and that most of his career years in education were spent working in Migrant Education programs. I, too, worked at Colegio César Chávez, and have devoted years of volunteer work as Chair of St. Anthony's Church Migrant Ministry, delivering food, clothing, household goods, and friendship to farm workers in migrant camps.

Many people who don't know who we are have questioned and/or criticized the César E. Chávez Blvd. Committee about our commitment to community service activities. Several of our CECBC members sit on various organizations' boards, including the César E. Chávez Latino Student Leadership Conference which has been held annually for the past 19 years. This conference brings some 1400 students together every year from the Portland Metro area for a day of inspirational speakers, leadership workshops, a college fair, and a party at the end of the day. Scholarships are awarded annually at the annual dinner/awards event. Again, the founders and organizers were inspired by our Latino community's greatest hero and role model, César E. Chávez.

As a former school teacher, I can attest to the fact that children need role models that look like them, and with whom they can identify. Having 39th Avenue renamed after César E. Chávez would give our children and grandchildren a wonderful role model, and forever honor his legacy. It will also honor all those who have gone before us, and those who will come after us. I pray that you will find it in your hearts to vote in favor of renaming 39th Avenue in honor of César E. Chávez. Thank you very much.

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Print

Subject Support Cesar E. Chavez Avenue

From: <alanism@pdx.edu>

Sent: Jun 21, 2009 10:07:27 PM

To: Samadams@ci.portland.or.us, rleonard@ci.portland.or.us, Amanda@ci.portland.or.us, Nick@ci.portland.or.us, dsaltzman@ci.portland.or.us

Dear Mr. Mayor Sam Adams and Portland City Council Commissioner Members
Randy Leonard, Amanda Fritz, Nick Fish, and Dan Saltzman:

As a Portland community member, I am asking for your support in renaming the 39th Avenue as Cesar E. Chavez Avenue. I have been part of the Portland community for more than 45 years and one of the faculty members of Colegio Cesar Chavez in Mount Angel. I have the honor of meeting him when he came to Oregon.

A visible street named in honor of Cesar E. Chavez would not only pay tribute to the work of the late activist but will also be a tangible symbol to the broader community that Portland values its diversity and recognized the contributions of the Latino community.

Cesar E. Chavez, the renowned farmworker labor leader who gave his life to advocate for poor farmworkers taking up such causes as the right to union organize, fair wages, improved living conditions, environmental justice and more. He gave his life to help improve the lives of others. His legacy of non-violence, humility, persistence and generosity should serve as an example that thrives within each one of us and within our communities

The naming of a street is part of a greater vision to recognize the achievements of Latinos in our community, educate the public of the contributions, and encourage community service, activism, and service in the name of Cesar E. Chavez. Support the renaming of 39th Ave to Cesar E. Chavez

Thank you so much for your support

Maria Alanis Ruiz
503-317-7290

Cesar E. Chavez Street Renaming Issue

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Testimony presented to Portland City Council, June 23d, 2009, regarding the renaming of 39th St. to Cesar E. Chavez Boulevard.

The following Resolution was proposed and passed unanimously (with one abstention) at the May 26th, 2009 Laurelhurst Neighborhood Association General Membership Meeting:

“The Laurelhurst Neighborhood Association finds that 39th Avenue is historically significant in its own right and opposes the City Council renaming 39th Avenue.”

Issues noted during discussion at the general membership meeting against renaming:

1. Renaming Process - “railroading”, unfair focus on “streets only” policy
2. Negative impacts on business.
3. Policy is NOT representative of the city.
4. “Significant in its own right”, never was defined during the process.
5. 39th has historic significance and presence, i.e., Coe Circle and Joan d’Arc statue.
6. Minimum \$200,000 impact on city budget, probably more before fully implemented
7. Respondents to City Auditor poll along 39th strongly oppose.
8. 39th is a key navigational marker
9. There is a historic, as well as practical significance of the “grid” street numbering system.
10. No relation of 39th to Cesar Chavez.
11. Not in best interest of the city, and will divide Portland further.

NOTE: A continual theme mentioned numerous times during the meeting was seemingly universal support for the city to recognize Cesar E. Chavez in some very significant way other than renaming a street.

Attached to this document is a copy of an email invitation extended by then President MJ Coe of the Laurelhurst Neighborhood Assn., to the co-chairs of the Cesar E. Chavez Boulevard Committee asking them to attend a Laurelhurst Neighborhood Assn. General membership meeting on May 26th, 2009 to address the community’s questions and concerns regarding the 39th Street renaming issue. Their reply is highlighted toward the top of the page.

Respectfully submitted by:



MJ Coe
Immediate Past President
Laurelhurst Neighborhood Association
June 23, 2009

183000

Subject: Re: Invitation to Cezar Chavez Boulevard Committee to speak to Laurelhurst Neighborhood Assn
From: Kathy&Jose <elcochito21@verizon.net>
Date: Wed, 20 May 2009 17:59:56 -0500 (CDT)
To: mj@mjsunderground.net
CC: guembes@yahoo.com, cmontes1@pps.k12.or.us, doretta@doretta.com, lachapis3830@yahoo.com

Mr. Coe. Thank you for the invitation to address the Laurelhurst NA. Due to previously made plans, I will be out of the state until May 28, 2009. May I suggest you contact Dena Marshall at (503) 740-7123 or Kurt Krueger at (503) 823-6964. Both of these persons may be able to contribute, if available. Perhaps at another time. Jose Romero. Co-Chair, CECBC

May 19, 2009 11:17:15 PM, mj@mjsunderground.net <<mailto:mj@mjsunderground.net>> wrote:

MJ Coe
President, Laurelhurst Neighborhood Assn.
43 NE Meikle Place
Portland, OR 97213

503-233-1911

To: Cesar Chavez Boulevard Committee
Co-Chairs Guembes and Romero

Dear Marta Guembes and Jose Romero:

My name is MJ Coe, and I am the President of the Laurelhurst Neighborhood Association. I, and the LNA Board of Directors would like to extend an invitation to your committee to join us at our next bi-monthly general membership meeting to discuss the renaming of 39th St. to Cesar Chavez Boulevard. We felt it was important that we have a representative from your committee that would help to further inform our neighborhood on the issue.

Our neighborhood has shown great interest in the renaming process. As you know, 39th St. is a major thoroughfare that splits our neighborhood in half, and will effect many of our members. We feel this is a great opportunity for you to share your perspective, and address some of the concerns that have been expressed by our members.

Our next bimonthly general membership meeting is scheduled for Tues, May 26th, 7 p.m. at All Saints Church cafeteria. I will be happy to give you more details and directions pending your reply.

I apologize for the lateness of this invitation, but we truly hope that your organization can be represented, and speak about the issue to our community. I look forward to a favorable reply.

Kind Regards,

MJ Coe
President, Laurelhurst Neighborhood Assn.
503-233-1911

Mr. Mayor, Council Members, ~~Senora Guembes~~

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First let me congratulate Senora Guembes and her committee for educating all of us as to what Senor Chavez accomplished in his lifetime - if that has been your target you have succeeded admirably, while adhering to all the legalities required with regard to re-naming a Portland Street.

I would like to ask some questions of all of you -- Does anyone remember that I-5 was originally called 'The Baldock Freeway' or that I-84 was once known as 'The Banfield Freeway' or that the Herbert Hoover Highway is the way to the coast. Do many grade school children, or adults for that matter, know who John Charles Fremont was (the Bridge and the Street were named for him); how about William Overton, Asa Lovejoy, Francis Pettygrove or John Heard Couch or Rodney Glisan - (whose names are consistently mispronounced). These are just a few of the Pioneers who settled Portland and whose history and accomplishments have been lost over the years.

Does anyone remember who John L. Lewis was (he saved the miners from their slavery in the mines); or who Walter Reuther was (he orchestrated the auto unions to work for the benefit of the workers) - I don't think there are very many people who could identify any of these men, or the names of the men and women who saved children and immigrants from slaving in sweat shops.

For that matter, how many people know that 39th Avenue was once known as Thaxter Avenue before the 1920 Council decision to change all North/South Avenues to sequentially numbered Avenues. And who is to say that some future Council will decide to revert to the simplicity of sequentially numbered Avenues, thus eliminating the name Chavez from Portland history.

I use all the above to illustrate just how fleeting fame is no matter what the accomplishment of their namesakes. There is another question I would like to ask Senora Guembes and her Committee - why are you so inflexible and adamant that a street name be used to honor Senor Chavez.

Why not a fountain or a statue in a section of the Rose Garden; or the Rhododendron Gardens or any Portland Park Garden, where thousands of people stroll, all of whom would take the time to read about him as they do about Beverly Cleary in Grant Park; or an obelisk in the downtown Portland Mall; or a Square with the Mexican and American Flag and a plaque detailing Senor Chavez' biography and his accomplishments; or the name of a Park; a Garden; a Market; a Bridge all so much more permanent.

We have lived on N.E. 39th for almost 50 years and have great pride in our street even though the Oregonian claims that 39th Avenue is 'insignificant' -- Rossmere, of which we are a part, was a Land Grant given to one John Quinn in 1866 by President Andrew Johnson. and there is a lot of history connected to all the street names -- Brazee, Thompson, Hancock etc. for those who want to take the time to research it -- is anyone even aware of this bit of history?

Most of the Hispanic people I have talked to about this street name change have responded with a shrug and say they don't care one way or another - acting embarrassed by the controversy that has arisen. Senora Guembes' with your organizational talent you could easily gather a group who would work together to achieve the erection of a statue, a fountain or an obelisk, or any of the suggestions that have been offered, and I'm sure there are many in the Anglo community who would also support this effort, thus relieving the City of the expense in this period of recession.

To the Council, I strongly urge you to consider all the options that have been placed before you rather than spending our tax dollars that are so badly needed for the Portland Public School System, the Police Department and other City Departments -- all the while adding to this unnecessary controversy and building more resentment towards the ~~Latino~~ community.

CHICANO

Prepared Statement of Eric Fruits, Ph.D.

before

Portland City Council

Agenda Item 860-2:

Authorize the Renaming of 39th Avenue
Within the City of Portland to César E. Chávez Boulevard

June 23, 2009

Mayor Adams and City Commissioners:

My name is Dr. Eric Fruits and I oppose renaming Historic 39th Avenue.

I am an economist and a Portland business owner.

With more than 1 in 8 people in Portland unemployed, now is the absolute worst time to needlessly heap additional costs on the City's struggling homeowners and businesses.

To many, this street renaming will bring financial pain with no financial gain. In fact, no one has identified a single business that will be better off if Historic 39th Avenue is renamed.

In addition to being an economist, I am the President of the Laurelhurst Neighborhood Association which has joined many other neighborhoods in opposition to renaming Historic 39th Avenue.

Many of us are offended that we must justify our opposition to renaming the street we identify with. Why must we justify our opposition to something that clearly benefits others at our expense?

At the same time, proponents have not answered the key question: Why is renaming Historic 39th Avenue the only acceptable way to honor Mr. Chávez?

Our opposition has grown stronger in the face of flawed laws and a flawed process that seems designed to produce a pre-determined outcome.

These flaws are well known and well documented, so I will only highlight a few of them.

- Every panel at every step of the process has acknowledged flaws in the City Code and the process itself.
- The application with 3 candidate streets for renaming was an obvious attempt to pit street against street and divert attention away from any single street.
- Not a single signature on the petitions was verified to determine whether the person named on the petition actually signed the petition.
- The Historian Panel was stacked with members who admitted themselves that they are not “actual historians.”
- Both the Historian Panel and the Planning Commission through out a key piece of City Code that forbids renaming significant streets.

We have been told over and over that next time, the process will be better or more fair. But we are not living in next time. Justice delayed is justice denied. The costs imposed on households and businesses today will not be any lower because of promises that next time the process will be fair.

Because of the many flaws at every step, what began as an effort to honor Mr. Chávez as a tireless peacemaker has turned into a divisive and sometimes ugly process.

And it has turned ugly because of a lack of leadership and engagement. On countless occasions regular citizens and taxpayers have begged someone—anyone—to show leadership and craft a winning compromise.

Even so, all along the City has hidden behind the shield it calls “process.”

When the process began, the Chávez Committee said it was their priority to meet one-on-one with affected neighborhoods. It was such a priority, that the promise is printed in bold capital letters on their website.

Instead, they flat-out refused every invitation and every good faith effort to join together in a winning compromise. The worst of it came when the Committee voted unanimously not to meet with anyone about finding an alternative to renaming Historic 39th Avenue.

Now that we are here, I urge you to vote against renaming Historic 39th Avenue.

I hope in the near future, the City will form a Committee to Honor Mr. Chávez in an appropriate way that does not force homeowners, businesses, and taxpayers to incur the wasteful costs and burdens of a street renaming.

Toward that goal of crafting a compromise, I would like to offer to the Chávez Committee this one-of-a-kind portrait of Mr. Chávez as a gesture of goodwill in hopes we can find a solution in which everyone wins.

Thank you.

June 23, 2009

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Dear Commissioner Fritz,

Please do not change the name of 39th Avenue. It will hurt and disappoint many people. This is not what you should choose for your citizens.

The majority of owners on 39th Avenue have stated that they don't want their street changed. I have talked with many of them. Their reasons vary, but whatever the reason, their feelings should be honored.

As for myself, last summer, after extensive consideration of other properties my husband and I bought a building to house his business. We chose the one we did in large part because of its location on 39th Avenue. We both work very hard and will be paying off our building for a long time and we don't want to have that be any harder than it needs to be.

Proponents of changing the name of the street made light of this issue at one of the hearings, by saying, it's only buying some new business cards. This is a gross oversimplification of the costs and the potential loss of business due to loss of location identity that we and all owners on 39th Avenue will bear.

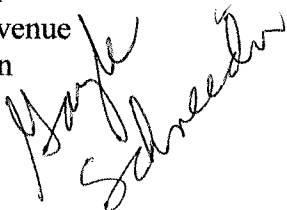
There have been repeated accusations that all who oppose the renaming of 39th Avenue are racist. This generalization is untrue and unfair. The accusers know nothing about me for example. They don't know anything about people that I have hired and promoted at the large, local, public educational institution where I work. They don't know with whom I worship and celebrate and perform community service. Please don't succumb to an emotional appeal based on erroneous charges.

I am very familiar with Mr. Chavez and his extraordinary legacy. I understand why people would be passionate about wanting more people to know of this legacy. I do not, however, believe that changing the name of 39th Avenue is the best way to accomplish this.

A member of the Planning Commission said something along the lines of "sacrifices will have to be made" for the Cesar Chavez Blvd. Committee to achieve their desired result. WHY?? Why must the residents and businesses on 39th Avenue have to suffer? This is not a life or death situation like straightening out a road to reduce fatalities and there is only one course available. This is about teaching people about a saintly man who would want his supporters to model his behavior. A compromise -- choosing an alternative naming opportunity (a park, a bridge, a school) -- would be more in line with Mr. Chavez's philosophy and could provide a better educational opportunity similar to the recently opened Walk of the Heroines located at Portland State.

Please do support an alternative option to teach people about Cesar Chavez in a way that is a win/win. Do not rename 39th Avenue. Thank you.

Gayle Schneider
4316 NE 49th Avenue
Portland, Oregon

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Gayle Schneider", is written over the typed name and address.



May 8, 2009

Honorable Sam Adams, Mayor
 Honorable Nick Fish, Commissioner
 Honorable Amanda Fritz, Commissioner
 Honorable Randy Leonard, Commissioner
 Honorable Dan Saltzman, Commissioner
 City of Portland
 1221 SW 4th Avenue
 Portland, Oregon 97204

Re: **Renaming 39th Avenue as "Cesar E. Chavez Boulevard"**

Dear Mayor Adams & City Commissioners:

On behalf of Basic Rights Oregon, an advocacy, educational and political organization dedicated to ending discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, I write to support community efforts to rename 39th Avenue as "Cesar E. Chavez Boulevard."

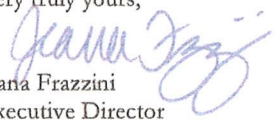
As founder of the United Farmworkers Union (UFW), one of our country's leading labor organizations, Cesar E. Chavez championed the cause of equality for Latinos and inspired generations with his courage. Chavez was also the first major civil rights leader to support gay and lesbian issues, speaking out on behalf of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people in the 1970s. In 1987 he was a keynote speaker at the National March for Gay & Lesbian Rights in Washington, DC, where he said, "Our movement has been supporting lesbian and gay rights for over 20 years. We supported lesbian and gay rights when it was just a crowd of 10 people."

Chavez also said, "The love for justice that is in us is not only the best part of our being, but it is also the most true to our nature." This confidence in the ability of people to overcome injustice endures today, even as we face those in our community who marginalize immigrants, deprive them of due process, and deny them equal opportunity. By honoring Cesar E. Chavez in this way, the City of Portland will be sending a message that this is a community of justice and inclusion, not exclusion and intolerance.

To the 11% of Oregon's population who are Latino, Chavez is a symbol of their struggle for justice. Currently, there are no public monuments to American Latino leaders in Portland. It is time to remedy this inequity.

Basic Rights Oregon strongly encourages you to support and pass a resolution renaming 39th Avenue as "Cesar E. Chavez Boulevard."

Very truly yours,


 Jeanne Frazzini
 Executive Director

Cc: Marta Guembes
 Jose Romero

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tel 503 869 1139 mailing address PMB #296, 4110 SE Hawthorne Blvd. Portland, OR 97214 web leadershipcenteredsolutions.com

TESTIMONY ON STREET RENAMING
CITY COUNCIL MEETING 6/23/09

Dear Mayor Adams and City Council Commissioners:

Educational, economic, and social research indicate long-standing historical disparities in experience, access, and outcomes across racial groups with the dominant White culture as racially advantaged and Communities of Color as racially disadvantaged.

This supports the fact that race permeates everyday experiences (with or without consciousness of it); We take for granted that race impacts access and equity. Or in another words, what makes life, livable. Moreover, power, historically, has been rooted in race. Power determines policy, the rules of engagement. Another qualifier of life.

The street naming issue is not a case of clash of values as the local newspaper reported recently but rather a case shifting the structures of power.

Today, you must consider these structures and cease from solely investing in Whiteness as the presumably neutral and/or assimilated human experience and acknowledge the voices of difference. Throughout this process, you have heard examples characterizing what it means to be White and what it means not to be White in this City.

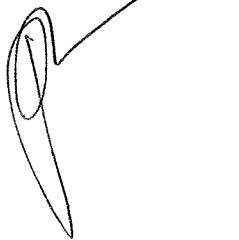
This action will inconvenience those who have knowingly or unknowingly benefited from a system of White privilege. Literally and philosophically. Social justice is inconvenient. Social justice is also responsibility for the Common Good. We have proof of this in our history.

My hope from this experience is that we will enter into more authentic dialogue. A dialogue which would allow us to examine and understand differences in experience along the Color Line outside the confines of individual racial prejudice or bias. The key is being willing to recognize the important question: "What are we doing everyday in order to support a socially-just society?"

Moving towards a just society is the right thing to do, Portland. Creating safe and affirming environments for everyone is our balance due to future generations. I affirm the name change from 39th Avenue to Cesar Chavez Blvd.

Thank you,

Patricia Martinez



June 22, 2009

Mayor Sam Adams
City of Portland
1201 SW Fourth Ave.
Portland, Oregon 97204

Dear Mayor Adams,

I am writing in support of the street name change – changing 39th Avenue to Cesar E. Chavez Boulevard. To honor a man who gave his life to help improve the lives of others would send a clear message to the greater community that Portland is truly committed to becoming an inclusive and welcoming city to all people. Mr. Chavez demonstrated the qualities of a man who stood for non-violence, persistence and generosity, a man who devoted his life to secure rights for fair wages and improved living conditions for all people in the farm worker industry.

Changing the name of 39th Avenue to Cesar E. Chavez Blvd will show how Portland recognizes that the Latino population is growing quickly each and every year, and it is important to honor community leaders that represent all of the people of Oregon. Mr. Chavez advocated not only for the rights of the Latino community, but for the rights of everybody. As a native Oregonian, it is important to me that we honor those who have made a true difference in our lives and who serve as a role model for all of us. Thank you in advance for your advocacy on this subject and for your consideration and support of this project.

Sincerely,


Juan Martinez
Basic Rights Oregon
Development Director



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**Testimony in Support of Renaming 39th Avenue as
"Cesar E. Chavez Boulevard"
Portland City Council
June 23, 2009**

Good evening Mayor Adams and City Commissioners. Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you on this important issue. My name is Jeana Frazzini, and I serve as the Executive Director for Basic Rights Oregon. Basic Rights Oregon is the statewide advocacy organization for the gay, transgender and allied community. We represent tens of thousands of Oregonians from every corner of this state.

Portland is a city that prides itself on being a champion of justice and equality and a leader for reform in those areas. A prominent street named for Cesar Chavez honors the life and contributions of an advocate and leader dedicated to these values.

As founder of the United Farm Workers Union (UFW), one of our country's leading labor organizations, Cesar E. Chavez championed the cause of equality for immigrant farmworkers and inspired generations with his courage. Chavez was also the first major civil rights leader to actively support gay and lesbian issues, speaking out on behalf of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people in the 1970s.

The legacy of Cesar Chavez endures today. When his granddaughter, Christine Chavez, joined Basic Rights Oregon for our 2007 Day of Action she made it clear that the LGBT and immigrant communities share a common goal: ensuring that no one lives under laws that say they are less human.

We must face those in our community who marginalize immigrants, deprive them of due process, and deny them equal opportunity. To the 11% of Oregon's population who are Latino, Chavez is a symbol of their struggle for justice. To every other Oregonian, he is a symbol of courage and commitment to the dignity of all people. Currently, there are no public monuments to American Latino leaders in Portland. It is time to remedy this inequity.

We all benefit when we see our community reflected positively in public spaces - whether it is a prominent street named for a Latino leader, a film heralding the contributions of a gay elected official, or a statue honoring leaders of the civil rights movement.

As a member of Portland's LGBT community and an ally to all who struggle for visibility and acceptance, for dignity, and for an honored place at the community table, I am proud to urge your support for renaming 39th Avenue as "Cesar E. Chavez Boulevard." By honoring Chavez in this way, the City of Portland will be sending a message that this is a community of justice and inclusion, not exclusion and intolerance.

Thank You.

Petition to Stop the Renaming of 39th Ave.

We Support the Naming of the New Light-Rail Bridge or Renaming Delta Park for Cesar Chavez

Print Name	Signature	Address
1. Donetta Hagebusch	Donetta Hagebusch	10432 NE 6 th Drive Portland, OR 97211
2. Sing Xin Lee	Sing Xin Lee	8447 S.E. Lafayette Apt 570
3. Le Lun	Le Lun	6449 SE CLATSOP ST PORTLAND OR 97206
4. ANDY WONG	Andy Wong	6449 SE CLATSOP ST Portland OR 97206
5. Bradley Harris	Bradley Harris	4414 NE 1st Portland
6. Loren STRODE	Loren Strode	7504 SE Woodstock Portland OR 97206
7. Donna Strode	Donna Strode	7504 SE Woodstock Portland OR 97206
8. Carol Specht	Carol Specht	4320 SE 45 th Ave Portland OR 97206
9. DAVE SPECHT	Dave Specht	4320 SE 45 th AVE PORTLAND, OR 97206
10. Sergie Bure	Sergie Bure	646 S.E. 43rd Dr Troutdale OR 97060
11. Chris Cook	Chris Cook	7624 SE. 17 th Portland OR. 97202
12. Bob Wilkins	Bob Wilkins	910 SE 17 th Troutdale OR. 97060
13. DA. R. E. Washi	DA. R. E. Washi	5119 N.E. 57 th Avenue
14. BARRY WILKINSON	Barry Wilkinson	4931 SE FAVEL DR PORTLAND OR 97206
15. Carmen L. Bravo	Carmen L. Bravo	646 SE 43rd Dr Troutdale OR 97060
16. JANATHAN HANSON	Janathan Hanson	4211 SE 39 th Ave, OR 97202
17. SARAH GILBERT	Sarah Gilbert	" " "
18. CHUNG YUN NG	Chung Yun Ng	5147 S.E. 86 th Ave PORTLAND OR. 97266
19. SHIU TING LOO	Shiu Ting Loo	5147 S. E. 86 th AVE PORTLAND, OR 97266
20. LINDA Jirschele	Linda Jirschele	2820 SE 31st Ave Port. Or. 97202

Please return petition to Save 39th Ave. at 1935 NE 39th Ave., PDX, OR. 97212 by _____.

21 Chris Harris

Chris Harris

4817 SE Harrison St. Portland 97215

RE-NAMING OF 39TH AVENUE

We, the undersigned, oppose the re-naming of 39th Avenue in Portland, Oregon. We believe a new project, such as the proposed new Willamette River Bridge, is a much better way to honor the memory of Cesar E. Chavez

NAME

ADDRESS

Paul Clark

4122 NE Broadway.

1505 HALLIWAN, LK. OSWEGO, OR

DON PILGRIM

1505 HALLIWAN ST. LAKE OSWEGO, OR 97034

Shawn H. Pilgrim

52628 NORTH ROAD, SCAPPOOSE, OR. 97056

D.P. Behannon

1009 NE 179 AVE, PORTLAND, OR 97230

[Signature]

15835 NE SCHUYLER ST. PORTLAND, OR 97230

John A. Curran
[Signature]

14258 SW 132ND. R. TIBBARD, OR 97224

James W. Presley Jr

15420 NE Knott St., Portland, OR 97230

John J. Jarrow

20238 S. Mattoon Rd Estacada OR 97023

Jim Whaley

3106 SW Beaverton Hwy. PORTLAND, OR 97239-1138

[Signature]

2349 SE 157 Portland OR 97233

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NAME

ADDRESS

Dennis C. Gould

3045 NE 45th, Portland

C & Bishop + Barb Bishop

433 SW 7th Gresham & 2023 SE 140th Portland

David Simmons

6575 Larry D R Westlun

David Rodewald

8764 N. Tyndall Ave Portland OR 97217

Robert Steele

3919 NE Tillamook St Portland, OR 97212

Bevan Pilgrim

2625 NE 20th Ave 97212

Broel Hochhalter

10956 SW 63rd Ave Portland, OR 97219

Bart Whalen

7528 SE 29th avenue Portland OR 97202

Greg Nogle

3349 NE Multnomah street + Portland OR 97232

Norm ALEXANDER

2605 NE 34TH AVE. PORTLAND, OR 97212

Tim Norwood

PO Box 18007, Portland, OR 97218

David G. Kunkel

PO Box 11 Shedd, OR. 97377

LYNN MARTIN

5374 SE FRANCES CT, HILLSBORO OR 97123

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NAME

ADDRESS

Zachary Hastings

814 S.E. 58th Ave. Portland, Oregon 97215

Lori E. Devany

7307 SE 133rd Pl. Portland OR 97236

Laura Murphy

10788 SE Alexander Drive Happy Valley 97086

William S. Arthur

11946 N.E. Eugene St Portland, OR, 97220

Noeman Hale

911 NE Hazelton Pl, Portland OR 97232

RE-NAMING OF 39TH AVENUE

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NAME

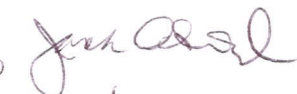
ADDRESS

Mark Halvorsen
Mark Halvorsen

3520 NE Broadway

Bill Stout

4212 NE Broadway

JACK ALVORD, Jr. 

6915 N.E. SACRAMENTO, PORTLAND, OR 97213

Gretchen L. Kennedy
Gretchen L. Kennedy

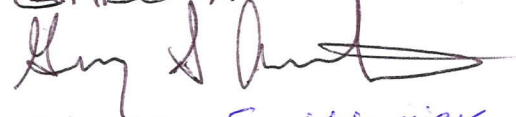
3518 NE 81st Portland, OR 97213

KARL BURRINGAME

3518 NE 81st PTLD, OR 97213

GREG ARNTSON

2000 N.E. 42 PORT OR 97213



Gloria Settlemier
Gloria Settlemier

2451 NE 28th Portland, Oreg 97212

Frank M. Mahshie

3110 NE Alameda Ter. 97212
Portland

Sandy Woolverton

1777 NW 143rd #46 Portland OR 97229

ARND SCHNITZEN

3926 SE. 47th AVE PDX 97206

Margarite Schnitzen

3926 SE 47th Ave PORT 97206

183000