

— July 8, 2015 —

Good morning. I appreciate this opportunity to speak to you today about my neighborhood park; Pier Park. Since Pier Park is near my home I visit often; walking or biking. It is my local connection to nature and an opportunity for recreation.

I have been a member of Friends of Pier Park(FoPP) since 2002 and currently I am serving as Vice Chair. FoPP has collaborated with Portland Parks and Recreation, SOLV and the Citywide event, Parke Diem. Corporate as well as local firms joined our volunteer efforts removing invasive plants, cleaning up trash, removing graffiti, and painting picnic tables. I only share this to bring to light that the community cares about Pier Park and we are willing to do our part to keep it safe and clean and welcoming to all. We are simply asking the City of Portland to help Pier Park with some basic facilities to accommodate all people.

Which brings me to my point that I would like to focus on: drinking fountains in Pier Park. There are only a total of three drinking fountains in the park, all of which are located in roughly the same area(about 1/4 mile distance between each one). Only one is in good condition which is located near the skate park. Unfortunately the drinking fountain near the children's playground is rusty and has peeling paint. Through most of the park trails, there is not access to drinking water. Some regular users of the park are not even aware of the existence of any drinking fountains in the park. Our city can do better.

A lot of effort and capital, for example created the connecting bridge from Pier Park to Chimney Park. Thankfully, funding helped to complete the ADA path from that bridge continuing around the baseball field finishing near the maintenance building. There is a drinking fountain near that building, but it is also in poor condition and it is not ADA compliant.

Pier Park is a vast **87.43** acres offering many recreational amenities including a World Class disc golf course, basketball courts, softball and baseball and soccer fields, a skatepark (with a full pipe), and an outdoor swimming pool. This is a well used park. More drinking fountains should be installed to support these activities and create a safe place to recreate.

Major development projects are currently in progress in North Portland which will increase housing and retail to the area and increase our density. Change is coming to North Portland. Now is the time to repair Pier Park to prepare for the future.

Pier Park needs safe, clean restrooms with ADA accessibility but it also needs more than one drinking fountain in good condition. It makes sense to install these reasonable accommodations. Pier Park should not be the forgotten park. Thank you for listening.

Kelly Pergande, Vice Chair
Friends of Pier Park

Drinking fountain
at the
children's playground





Drinking fountain by
Maintenance bldg.





Drinking fountain
at the
Skate Board park

Parsons, Susan

From: kelly pergande <kpergande@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2015 12:05 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Subject: Council Communications Reservation

I would like to reserve a Council Communications space for the City Council meeting for July 8th.

Sincerely,
Kelly Pergande
Friends of Pier Park, Vice Chair


Request of Kelly Pergande to address Council regarding Friends of Pier Park
(Communication)

JUL 08 2015

PLACED ON FILE

Filed JUL 02 2015

MARY HULL CABALLERO
Auditor of the City of Portland

By 
Deputy

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz		
2. Fish		
3. Saltzman		
4. Novick		
Hales		