



Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc.

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June 19, 2017

Commissioner Dan Saltzman
City of Portland
1221 SW 4th Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

Re: Local Transportation Infrastructure Charge

Dear Commissioner Saltzman:

In it's May meeting Southwest Neighborhoods Inc. Transportation Committee passed a motion to call on the SWNI Board to "Request(s) that PBOT include Neighborhood and Business Association in decision-making process, prior to assessing an LTIC, requiring building improvements or granting a Waiver". The SWNI Board nearly unanimously supported that motion in a vote at its May 24th meeting. This letter transmits that request.

Members of the Transportation Committee cite as an example of the need for this engagement the handling of a recent development in the Hillsdale Town Center, Case Number LU 16-252045-DZ Vermont Street Duplexes. It is reported during the course of permitting, this project to be build in a designated City Pedestrian District, the builder was initially given the option of paying into the LTIC fund, and that we chose to build the improvements instead.

Based on the experience described, it appears to SWNI members that the City is apparently approaching the administration of the LTIC program in a manner that presents the program as the first option when facing a project requiring street improvements.

However SWNI Board is nearly unanimously convinced, based on the above discussed example and the apparent PBOT practice being implemented, that it must request any decision regarding the program or the projects being allowed to benefit from it, or to the extent legally possible, granting a project a waiver from the application of the requirements that infrastructure on a LTIC payment be made, should only be undertaken following meaningful communication regarding the issue with the impacted Neighborhood and Business Associations. Further they request that this occur as part of a process that allows these association to needed input prior to a decision on the subject.

If the City has or makes changes to any policy or practice regarding the cited example or the program operation we would appreciate written confirmation. Thank you for your careful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

John Gibbon
President
Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc.

Cc: Leah Treat, PBOT
Christine Leon, PBOT
Kurt Krueger, PBOT
Anne Hill, PBOT
David Martin, SWNI Transportation Chair