



Southeast Uplift
3534 SE Main St
Portland, OR 97214
p: 503 232-0010
www.seuplift.org

January 24, 2018

Commissioner Amanda Fritz
City Hall, 1221 SE 4th Ave, Room 220
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Commissioner Fritz:

Today we write to you regarding a survey conducted by Portland Parks and Recreation regarding proposed expense reductions for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

The board of SE Uplift has consulted with the residents of both the Woodstock and Sellwood-Moreland Neighborhoods, and their respective users of community centers. There is a very strong level of support for the centers among all stakeholders. In addition, the larger community centers targeted for cuts enjoy a great deal of support. We strongly recommend that we maintain these service centers for the residents of Southeast Portland and their guests. The cost of these centers relative to the benefits is of a great value to taxpayers.

The threat to close community centers has become a near yearly occurrence. The benefits of the community centers remain the same year over year. We strongly recommend that you leave these properties in the budget, as the facts have not changed since the last time this same process occurred. We strongly recommend that these facilities be removed from any list that contemplates their closure.

As community volunteers, we request that your office engage us early in the process of deciding what is to be cut. As a board that meets once per month it is difficult for us to respond on short notice, forcing us into a reactive, rather than proactive posture. This chain of events undercuts the ability to harness the energy of the residents of our neighborhoods in ways that foster cooperation, and squanders the insight and talent of stakeholders.

Sincerely,

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature is 'Reuben Deumling' and the second is 'Terry Dublinski-Milton'.

Reuben Deumling, Terry Dublinski-Milton
Co-Chairs, Southeast Uplift Board of Directors

cc: Mayor Ted Wheeler, Commissioner Dan Saltzman, Commissioner Nick Fish, Commissioner Chloe Eudaly

Uplifting community advocacy since 1968.

Ardenwald-Johnson Creek • Brentwood-Darlington • Brooklyn • Buckman • Creston-Kenilworth • Eastmoreland • Foster-Powell
Hosford-Abernethy • Kerns • Laurelhurst • Montavilla • Mt. Scott-Arleta • Mt. Tabor • North Tabor • Reed • Richmond
Sellwood-Moreland • South Tabor • Sunnyside • Woodstock