



SW Trails PDX

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To Steven Novick, Commissioner
1220 SW 4th Avenue
Portland, OR 97208
September 15, 2014

Dear Commissioner Novick

The Board of Directors of SW Trails PDX recognizes that the undeveloped SW Coronado public right-of-way in the Arnold Creek neighborhood is an important transportation asset that offers much-needed pedestrian connectivity with access to public transit along Boones Ferry Road and the west entrance of Tryon Creek State Park. Unlike the main intersections to the north and south, the sight lines are very good at the intersection of SW Coronado Street for pedestrians to safely cross Boones Ferry to access transit and the Park. In fact, it was included in the initial list and map of Potential Pedestrian Routes submitted by the Arnold Creek Neighborhood Association to SWTrails in 1995-98 as we were preparing to develop the SW Urban Trails Plan. (See Appendix A of the SW Urban Trails Plan). It also provides a link to the soon to be completed Urban Trail 6, the Hillsdale to Lake Oswego Regional Pedestrian Trail.

It is our understanding that if SWTrails or another non-profit 503 (C) 3 is permitted by the City of Portland to build the trail, the adjacent property owners will have little or no liability.

SW Trails is very interested and willing to work with the community and PBOT to develop a walking trail in full compliance with City code, and the goals and objectives contained in Portland's Comprehensive Plan and Metro's Regional Transportation Plan, in order to provide area residents with an alternative transportation option to safely access public transit and easily navigate the neighborhood.

SW Trails PDX has an impressive, well-earned reputation with both the necessary expertise and experience in creating and constructing urban trails in the often-challenging topography of SW Portland. We also have a good working understanding of the trail-building process within environmental zones and the permitting process. Please see the attached list of trail projects that we have constructed over the years.

We propose that the encroaching fences be moved back to the property lines, then SWTrails will review the site and flag a proposed alignment for the trail in the existing right of way which we will then invite city personnel to review with us to agree on the alignment for the trail. Once we have the alignment agreed upon, we propose to obtain the necessary permits to build a trail on the site, and once the permits are in hand, to build the trail using our many volunteers. It is our belief that once the permits are obtained, it will be only a matter of days before a well-constructed, sustainable trail will be built.

Once the trail is constructed, SWTrails, supported by Arnold Creek residents, will maintain the trail.

Don Baack, President

CC: Commissioner Amanda Fritz

Commissioner Nick Fish

Commissioner Dan Saltzman

Mayor Charlie Hales

Director Leah Treat

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