

February 23, 2016



The Honorable Peter Buckley, Co-Chair  
The Honorable Richard Devlin, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Support for Cully Park Project Funding

Dear Representative Buckley, Senator Devlin, and Members of the Committee:

The Port of Portland is pleased to support the \$750,000 request to assist in the construction of Cully Park in NE Portland. We join many public, non-profit, and corporate partners in support of this funding request for Cully Park, a collaborative economic development project led by Verde and the Living Cully coalition. This support will help to complete the development and construction of 25-acre brownfield into a new public park for Cully Neighborhood, the Port's adjacent neighbor and one of our region's most park-deprived and habitat-deprived neighborhoods.

Since 2012, Verde and the Living Cully coalition have raised \$6.75 million of the \$9 million needed to complete the project. Funds have come from over twenty government, corporate and foundation sources, including funding from the Port of Portland through our Airport Futures Natural Resource Program. The Portland International Airport (PDX) Community Advisory Committee supported this funding request.

The development of this project has been thoughtful and inclusive. Led by Verde, with partners at the Native American Youth & Family Center, Hacienda CDC, and Habitat for Humanity, the Living Cully coalition working to implement this project represents over 100 years of combined know-how in community economic development, education, affordable housing, and green infrastructure. The project includes strong workforce diversity goals for construction and project design, and also received a Brownfields Oregon award as a model of a community-led park development.

The Port has supported Cully Park because it combines so many benefits for the Cully community: health, educational, economic and environmental. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'B Stedman'.

Bobbi Stedman  
Chief Public Affairs Officer

**Mission:** To enhance the region's economy and quality of life  
by providing efficient cargo and air passenger access  
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