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Election: Primary 20	✓ General 20_14 Special
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Order #_ F - 1	Argument in Favor Argument in Opposition
"This information furnished by" (as it sho	uld appear in the Voters' Pamphlet):
Commissioner Amanda Fritz	
Argument paid for by:	
Fix Our Parks, a project of the Conservation	
Name of person or organization paying for argu	
<u> </u>	Work: Home:
Contact information for authorized char	
Amy Ruiz	E-Mail: amy@fixourparks.org 및 그
Name of person authorized to make changes to	Argument CT A FT
Phone: Cell: (503) 929-1036	Work: Home: RECT
Filer checklist for Measure Argument for Cour	nty Voters' Pamphlet (VP).
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Commissioner Amanda Fritz	Signature redacted
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Organization name person(s) is(are) authorized	to represent, if applicable: Fix Our Parks, a project of the Conservation Campaign
Note: If this argument is not being filed by a register with the Secretary of State. Refer to the Campaign For Office Use only:	ed Oregon Political Committee, you may be required to register as a political committee inance Manual for further details.
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Measure #\_26 \_\_159 (Order #\_1

Maximum 325 words/numbers.

"Please join me in voting Yes on the 2014 Parks Replacement Bond.

Measure 26-159 will fix some of our most urgent repair needs, and it

will not increase your tax rate from what it is today."

- Amanda Fritz, City Commissioner

Dear neighbor,

As a mother and lifelong park advocate, I've enjoyed our wonderful parks that were built over the last century with voter-approved bonds. Portlanders last passed a Parks Bond in 1994. That bond expires next year and will be paid off. That means if you vote Yes on Measure 26-159, we can fix our parks' most urgent needs, and it will not increase your tax rate from what it is today.

Parks facilities such as playgrounds, pools, trails and other amenities have finite life spans. The sad truth is, our Parks bureau doesn't have adequate funding to replace them.

**You and I both care about spending taxpayers' money wisely.** That's why if Measure 26-159 passes, it <u>requires a citizen oversight panel and annual reports, as well as audits.</u>

**Measure 26-159 will fund dozens of repair projects**: playgrounds, trails and bridges, and community pools. Removing barriers to access for people with disabilities, worker safety, Pioneer Courthouse Square, restrooms and other urgent major maintenance needs.

If this measure does not pass, we won't have enough funding for major maintenance in parks, which will mean more closures like the ones that have already happened at Couch Playground and the Maple Trail in Forest Park. Our pools and other community facilities will be at risk of emergency closure when equipment fails.

We need to make a smart investment now to keep our parks safe and open.

Over the last century, Portland has created and maintained our parks system through bond measures and levies. Today, as your Parks Commissioner, I ask you to join me in continuing this legacy, without increasing tax rates. **FIND OUT MORE AT WWW.FIXOURPARKS.ORG** 

Please vote yes on Measure 26-159.

Amanda Fritz, City Commissioner

Important! Please read all Instructions before completing this form. This form is to be used when filing a 'Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet' with your County Elections office. Please note that each county produces a separate County Voters' Pamphlet. If the jurisdiction or district is located in more than one county a separate 'Measure Argument for Voters' Pamphlet' form must be filed and the fee paid to each county where the argument is to be printed.

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"This Information furnished by" (as it sho	uld appear in the Voters' Pam	phlet):	
Fix Our Parks, a project of the Conserva	ation Campaign		
Argument paid for by:			
Fix Our Parks, a project of the Conservation		fo@fixourparks.	org
Name of person or organization paying for argu		Home	
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Contact information for authorized char			
Amy Ruiz		ny@fixourparks	.org
Name of person authorized to make changes to			
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Rev 07222014

Measure # 26 - 159 (Order #

Maximum 325 words/numbers

Join the AUDUBON SOCIETY OF PORTLAND, DEPAVE, FOREST PARK CONSERVANCY, FRIENDS OF MT. TABOR PARK, FRIENDS OF TREES, OREGON LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS OREGON WILD, PORTLAND PARKS FOUNDATION, TRACKERS EARTH, THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND, and VERDE.

### **VOTE YES ON Measure 26-159**

# We have fought to protect the health of Portland's environment and community for decades. Measure 26-159

is a critical opportunity to fix our parks—keeping them safe and open for this generation and the next.

#### MAKE A SMART INVESTMENT: SAME TAX RATE

Measure 26-159 is a smart investment. By making critical repairs in our parks now, we can reduce bigger costs later. If we don't act, we risk more closures and safety failures.

What's more, to make sure your tax dollars are spent wisely, Measure 26-159 requires an oversight committee and audits.

Because 26-159 replaces the last parks bond—passed in 1994—we have the opportunity to address critical park needs without increasing the tax rate.

### KEEP PLACES TO PLAY, HIKE, SWIM AND WORK SAFE & OPEN

Every child needs a safe and accessible place to play. But Portland has too many play structures rated in poor or very poor condition that need to be repaired or replaced.

Several of our city's most popular trails are partially or fully closed—or at risk of closure—due to needed repairs.

Many of our pools' mechanical equipment systems are nearing failure.

Two maintenance facilities need to be brought up to fire-life-safety standards to save money and increase efficiency.

#### Measure 26-159 would:

- repair and replace 10 to 20 playgrounds
- repair trails and bridges to preserve access to natural areas
- invest in pools to prevent closures
- increase worker safety through critical repairs at maintenance facilities
- and make many more critical repairs including accessibility upgrades

All without raising the current tax rate.

These are among the many reasons parks and environmental advocacy organizations SAY YES ON MEASURE 26-159.

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Measure # 26 - 159 (Order #\_

Maximum 325 words/numbers.

Teachers and Parents are voting YES on Measure 26-159

Keeping our parks safe and open is good for Portland's youth

Let's preserve our legacy by handing our parks down to the next generation

During recess, after school, on the weekends, and in summer: **Every child needs a safe and accessible place to play**. The Parks Replacement Bond would invest at least \$5M to renovate, replace, and build 10 to 20 play structures that are closed, at risk of closure or deficient—without raising the current tax rate.

Playgrounds identified for repair or replacement so far include:

- ◆Couch
- Creston
- Kenton
- Lents
- Lynchview
- North Park Blocks
- **∢Ventura**

And if voters approve the parks replacement bond, we can ensure Matt Dishman Community Center, Peninsula Park, and Grant Park community swimming pools stay open by updating the mechanical systems and repairing the plaster. Rieke field in Southwest Portland will reopen as a safe place to play soccer. Forest Park's Maple Trail and Lower Macleay trail will be repaired, so families can access all of our open spaces and natural areas. The bond funding would also improve or install park restrooms, and many more necessary projects. Please visit <a href="https://www.fixOurParks.org">www.fixOurParks.org</a> for a list of projects.

And this opportunity is unique—Measure 26-159 will not increase tax rates, because it would replace a bond that will be paid off next year. If we don't approve it, taxes would go down by about \$13 a year for the average homeowner—but without enough parks funding, community spaces like playgrounds and pools would be at risk of closing.

Parks are important places for children and families, and they improve our neighborhoods' livability. Let's fix our parks, and keep them safe and open for everybody—without increasing tax rates for Portland's hardworking families.

#### **ENDORSED BY:**

Portiand Association of Teachers
Friends of Outdoor School
Grant High School PTA
Metropolitan Learning Center PTSA
Ventura Park Elementary PTA
Creston School PTA

Rev 07222014 2 of 2

Word Count (325 max): 158

Review Staff Initials:

Digital copy? O Yes O No

ICVP-03 ORS 251,355
Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet
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Filing Information
Election: Primary 20 General 20 14 Special
Measure # 26 - 159
Order # F-4 Argument in Favor Argument in Opposition
"This information furnished by" (as it should appear in the Voters' Pamphlet):
Fix Our Parks, a project of the Conservation Campaign
Argument paid for by:
Fix Our Parks, a project of the Conservation Campaign  Name of person or organization paying for argument  E-Mail: info@fixourparks.org
Phone: Cell: (S03) 929-1036 Work: Home:
Contact information for authorized changes:
Amy Ruiz E-Mail: amy@fixourparks.org
Name of person authorized to make changes to Argument
Phone: Cell: (503) 929-1036 Work: Home:
Filer checklist for Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet (VP).
✓ Typewritten & signed Measure Argument form and Argument for County VP.   ✓ Fee or certified petition provided.   ✓ (If applicable) Endorsement Statement #:   ✓ Word Count (325 MAX).    Typewritten & signed Measure Argument for County VP.  RECTOR
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Amy Ruiz Signature redacted 9/9/14
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Organization name person(s) is(are) authorized to represent, if applicable:
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For Office Use only:

O County: M4/T
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Required Info? O Yes

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Measure # 26 - 159 (Order #\_\_\_

Maximum 325 words/numbers.

# NEIGHBORHOOD ADVOCATES ACROSS PORTLAND AGREE: Measure 26-159 is worth supporting

"Southwest Neighborhoods Inc. supports the Parks Replacement Bond."
-motion approved by the Southwest Neighborhoods Inc. board on August 27

"We as a **SE Area Parks Committee** join other neighborhood organizations in supporting the Parks Replacement Bond."

- motion approved by the Southeast Uplift Area Parks Committee on August 29

"Northeast Coalition of Nelghbors supports the Parks Replacement Bond." Northeast Coalition of Neighbors
-motion approved by the board on September 3

"The North Portland Parks Committee supports the Portland Parks Replacement Bond."
-motion approved by the North Portland Parks Committee on September 3

"Central Northeast Neighbors supports the parks replacement bond"
-motion approved by the Central Northeast Neighbors board on September 3

"We as the East Portland Parks Coalition join other neighborhood organizations in supporting the Parks Replacement Bond."

-motion approved by the East Portland Parks Coalition on September 4

Plus individual neighborhood associations across Portland. Visit FixOurParks.org/endorsements to see the full list.

ICVP-03 ORS 251.35S
Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet
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Filing Information
Election: Primary 20 General 20_14Special
Measure # 26 _ 159
Order # F-5 Argument in Favor Argument In Opposition
"This information furnished by" (as it should appear in the Voters' Pamphlet):
Fix Our Parks, a project of the Conservation Campaign
Argument paid for by:
Fix Our Parks, a project of the Conservation Campaign  Name of person or organization paying for argument  E-Mail: info@fixourparks.org
Phone: Cell: (503) 929-1036 Work: Home:
Contact information for authorized changes:
Amy Ruiz  E-Mail: amy@fixourparks.org
Name of person authorized to make changes to Argument
Phone: Cell: (503) 929-1036 Work: Home:
Filer checklist for Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet (VP).
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Intake Staff Initials:

Signed? OYes O No

Measure # 26 - 159 (Order #\_\_\_\_

Maximum 325 words/numbers.

### PORTLAND'S PARKS ARE GOOD BUSINESS— VOTE YES ON MEASURE 26-159

Portland's incredible park system makes our neighborhoods vibrant. And vibrant, strong communities are good for Portland's economy, especially our city's small businesses.

#### A SMART INVESTMENT

That's why small businesses are supporting Measure 26-159. The Parks Replacement Bond will fix our parks, taking care of what we already have in a responsible way.

The funds will go to major maintenance needs—the things that are already broken, or at risk of breaking, like playgrounds, pools, and trails. Fixing those things now is a smart investment; Repairs don't get cheaper as time passes.

#### A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

Portland's "general fund" pays for basic operations and day-to-day maintenance, but there's not enough funding for parks' major repairs—playground equipment failures, restroom roof leaks, or pool system breakdowns. So when something gets old, it gets patched, re-patched, and when patching is no longer an option, it's suddenly closed.

Fortunately, Portland voters have built and maintained our parks system through bonds and levies for over 100 years. This November, we have a unique opportunity to continue this legacy, and keep Portland a city of parks without raising tax rates, by replacing a bond that's being paid off. For a list of urgent repairs and access needs that will be addressed, visit fixourparks.org.

#### **GOOD FOR BUSINESS**

We have a wonderful and cost-effective parks system—one that relies more heavily on volunteerism than any other, and one that Portland voters have voted time and again to invest in. Our parks contribute to our City's economy in a positive way—but we have to take care of them.

Let's approve the funds necessary to keep parks safe and open—vote YES on Measure 26-159.

Tom Kelly

**Brian Dibble** 

Noma Hanlon

Owner/President

C.O.O. & Co-owner

President

Neil Kelly Inc.

**Kobos Coffee** 

HB Design

Gail Snow Vice President

**HB Design** 

Justin Yuen President

FMYI, Inc

Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet
Important Please read all Instructions before completing this form. This form is to be used when filing a 'Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet' with your County Elections office. Please note that each county produces a separate County Voters' Pamphlet. If the Jurisdiction or district is located in more than one county a separate 'Measure Argument for Voters' Pamphlet' form must be filed and the fee paid to each county where the argument is to be printed.
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Measure # 26 _ 159
Order # F - C Argument in Favor Argument in Opposition
"This information furnished by" (as it should appear in the Voters' Pamphlet):
Fix Our Parks, a project of the Conservation Campaign
Argument paid for by:
Fix Our Parks, a project of the Conservation Campaign E-Mail: info@fixourparks.org
Name of person or organization paying for argument
Phone: Cell: (503) 929-1036 Work: Home:
Contact information for authorized changes:
Amy Ruiz E-Mail: amy@fixourparks.org
Name of person authorized to make changes to Argument
Phone: Cell: (\$03) 929-1036 Work: Home:
Filer checklist for Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet (VP).
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Fee or certified petition provided.
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Note: If this argument is not being filed by a registered Oregon Political Committee, you may be required to register as a political committee with the Secretary of State. Refer to the Campaign Finance Manual for further details.  For Office Use only:
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### A PARKS SYSTEM...FOR EVERYONE

If you care about making our parks more accessible for children, adults and seniors with disabilities or mobility challenges, please vote yes on Measure 26-159 to fix our parks!

From playgrounds to community centers, and pools to community gardens, there's something for everyone in Portland's park system.

Unfortunately, not everyone has equal access to what Portland's parks have to offer.

A preliminary citywide assessment has already identified more than 20,000 ADA barriers to access in Portland's parks. Examples include:

- 2710 barriers in restrooms
- 493 barriers in play areas
- 691 missing or inadequate handrails
- c 1305 barriers in picnic areas

While significantly more funding is needed to correct all barriers, the Parks Replacement Bond, Measure 26-159, would invest up to \$5 million to remove many, making our parks and playgrounds more accessible to everyone.

Because Measure 26-159 would replace an expiring parks bond, we can make these accessibility improvements without raising the current tax rate.

For our fellow Portlanders who have disabilities, for seniors, and for you, for your family members and friends who have or will have mobility challenges, we urge you to join us in voting YES ON MEASURE 26-159.

A PARKS SYSTEM...FOR <u>EVERYONE</u>. VOTE YES ON MEASURE 26-159.

Bill Gentile, community advocate

Joe VandeerVeer, Chair, Portland Commission on Disability

David Nail, community advocate

Oregon Walks, advocates for every pedestrian, whether in a wheelchair, stroller, or on foot

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Fix Our Parks, a project of the Conservation Can Name of person or organization paying for argument		
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Contact information for authorized changes:		
Amy Ruiz	E-Mail: amy@fixourparks.org	<u> </u>
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Maximum 325 words/numbers.

# COMMUNITY LEADERS ARE VOTING YES ON MEASURE 26-159: safe parks for everybody, same tax rate

"The quality of life in Portland is directly influenced by the availability of the riches our park system offers.

Many of our communities experience and enjoy the bounty of our city parks as places to gather, relax, and play. We have an opportunity this election to fix our parks—keeping them safe and open—without raising tax rates."

-Michael Alexander

"Portland's parks are so important to me, my family, and my community. I'm supporting Measure 26-159 because it's a unique opportunity to protect the parks that we love, keeping them safe and open for families to enjoy for years. And we can do that while keeping the same tax rate we pay today. Join me and vote YES."

-Nichole June Maher

"Parks reflect every community, and they benefit all of the ethnic and diverse communities that Portland serves. Please join me in supporting the Parks Replacement Bond, to address our parks' most urgent major maintenance needs—things that are already broken, or are at risk of closure for safety reasons. And it will not increase the tax rate from what we are paying today."

—Lee Po Cha

"Portland's parks provide us with so many benefits, yet they are burdened by \$365 million in major maintenance needs—and the impact of that list grows each year. Because there is no other source of funds to address needed repairs, our parks are at risk of serious decline and disrepair. Measure 26-159 is strong start toward safer parks."

—Carmen Rubio

"Parks are a place where people can have something enjoyable and fun—at almost no cost. I'll never forget my childhood memories of going to the neighborhood park with my family. Let's fix our parks, without increasing the tax rate, and keep them safe and open for every Portland family."

—Victor Merced

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Fix Our Parks, a project of the Conservation Campaign	<del></del>	
Argument paid for by:		_
Fix Our Parks, a project of the Conservation Campaign  Name of person or organization paying for argument  E-Mail: info@fixourparks.org		
Phone: Ceil: (503) 929-1036 Work: Home:		
Contact information for authorized changes:	<del></del>	
Amy Ruiz E-Mail: amy@fixourparks.org		_
Name of person authorized to make changes to Argument		
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### PORTLAND'S WORKING FAMILIES URGE YOU TO VOTE YES ON MEASURE 26-159

Our parks, trees, and facilities are maintained and repaired by the working men and women of Oregon AFSCME Local 189, PTE Local 17, COPPEA Chapter, Laborers-Local 483, IBEW-Local 48, Machinists and Aerospace Workers-District Lodge 24, Painters and Allied Trades-District Council 5, and seasonal workers, supervisors, and managers. PP&R's Maintenance, Central Services, and Urban Forestry teams take care of the entire 11,546 acre system, from your neighborhood parks to the community centers all Portlanders value.

**VOTING YES ON MEASURE 26-159** would fund needed repairs, replacements and improvements to bring Mt Tabor Yard Maintenance Facility and Urban Forestry workplaces up to fire-life-safety standards, <u>increasing</u> <u>safety and efficiency without raising the current tax rate.</u>

investing in safe, adequate facilities reduces accidents, saves our City money, and increases efficiency.

Urgent major repairs needed include:

- Delta Park's Urban Forestry facility is home base for a team that's on call 24/7 to respond to tree
  emergencies across the city; the buildings are old and in poor condition. VOTING YES ON MEASURE
  26-159 would fund critical safety improvements and replace failing structures.
- The Mt Tabor Yard facility largely dates to the 1930s. It is inefficient, needs safety upgrades, and no longer meets the basics needs of the Parks workforce. VOTING YES ON MEASURE 26-159 would fix or replace leaking roofs and unstable structures.

**VOTING YES ON MEASURE 26-159** give Parks' workers the opportunity to shorten the major maintenance llst at our playgrounds, trails and pools, and do this work more productively and efficiently. This will give Portlanders safe, accessible, and efficient facilities and gathering places, and create safer work environments for workers—all without raising the tax rate.

2 of 2

We're voting YES on 26-159:

AFSCME, Local 189 PTE Local 17, COPPEA Chapter Laborers Local 483

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Name of person or organization paying for argument	
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Contact information for authorized changes:	
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### VOTE YES ON MEASURE 26-159 TO FIX ATHLETIC AND AQUATIC FACILITIES

- Measure 26-159—the Parks Replacement Bond—would fix aquatic and athletic facilities that are already closed, or at risk of emergency closure, for the same tax rate we pay today.
- Reike Regional Soccer Field in SW Portland has been closed since 2012, due to unsafe conditions on the playing surface. The Parks Replacement Bond would fund repairs to reopen the field, restoring hundreds of hours of soccer and lacrosse team use.
- Matt Dishman Community Center Pool is heavily used by local and regional teams, and provides aquatic recreation opportunities for the general public—receiving almost 95,000 visits each year. The plaster surface at this pool is failing, and voids are noticeable beneath the plaster. The Replacement Bond would pay for replacement of the plaster.
- Grant Park and Peninsula Park outdoor community pools receive a combined 120,000 visits each year. Both have old and failing mechanical and filtration systems. The Parks Replacement Bond would fund an overhaul of the pools' mechanical systems, including all plumbing: pumps, motors, pipes, strainer baskets, chemical controllers, sanitation systems (including a new UV system to reduce chlorine use), and sand filters. These projects would ensure Portlanders continue to have access to these fun and invigorating community pools.
- The Springwater Corridor trail and Forest Park's many trails are heavily used by runners, joggers, and cyclists. The Parks Replacement Bond would fully reopen the Maple Trail, repair the Lower Macleay Trail, and repair bridges on the Springwater Corridor Trail, keeping it safe and open.
- Across our parks, restrooms need major maintenance. The Parks Replacement Bond would fun repair or replacement of at least 8 park restrooms.

Join us in voting YES on MEASURE 26-159 for safe and open athletic and aquatic facilities.

**Operation Pitch Invasion Northwest Trail Alliance Portland Aquatic Club** 

Importanti Please read all instructions before completing this form. This form is to be used when filing a 'Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet' with your County Elections office. Please note that each county produces a separate County Voters' Pamphlet. If the jurisdiction or district is located in more than one county a separate 'Measure Argument for Voters' Pamphlet' form must be filed and the fee paid to each county where the argument is to be printed. Filing Information ✓ General 20 <sup>14</sup> Special Election: Primary 20 Original Statement Amended Statement Measure # 26 - 159 Order #\_ 7 -10 \_\_\_\_Argument in Opposition ✓ Argument in Favor "This information furnished by" (as it should appear in the Voters' Pamphlet): Pioneer Courthouse Square, Inc. Argument paid for by: E-Mail: webmaster@thesquarepdx.org Pioneer Courthouse Square, Inc. Name of person or organization paying for argument Work: (503) 223-1613 Home: Phone: Cell: Contact information for authorized changes: E-Mail: jen@thesquarepdx.org Jennifer Polver Name of person authorized to make changes to Argument Home: (503) 235-3706 Phone: Cell: (503) 887-1129 Work: (503) 223-1613 Filer checklist for Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet (VP). ✓ Typewritten & signed Measure Argument form and Argument for County VP. Fee or certified petition provided. (If applicable) Endorsement Statement #:\_\_\_\_\_. ✓ Word Count (325 MAX). By signing this document, I (we) hereby state I Signature redacted Jennifer Polver 09/05/14 Signature redacted Date Printed name of person furnishing argument Stephen Schneider 09/05/14 Signature of person furnishing argument Date Printed name of person furnishing argument Signature of person furnishing argument Printed name of person furnishing argument Organization name person(s) is(are) authorized to represent, if applicable: Pioneer Courthouse Square, Inc. Note: If this argument is not being filed by a registered Oregon Political Committee, you may be required to register as a political committee with the Secretary of State. Refer to the Campaign Finance Manual for further details. For Office Use only: O County: Ma/t Regulred Info? Word Count (325 max): O Cash-recelpt #: 233 4 Signed? Yes Digital copy? O'Yes O No O Check #: 25752 Review Staff InItials: Endorsements? Ves # / Intake Staff Initials:

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## FIX PIONEER COURTHOUSE SQUARE: PORTLAND'S MOST VISITED CITY PARK

Each year, nearly 10 million people visit Pioneer Square. It's where we gather to sing songs, light a tree, enjoy a concert, promote, protest, meet up with friends or catch the MAX. No city park gets more use and more love than Pioneer Square. And it needs your help.

### **FIX PIONEER COURTHOUSE SQUARE:**

#### AFTER 30 YEARS - BROKEN BATHROOMS AND LEAKING BRICKS

This year, Pioneer Square celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> birthday. That's 30 years of wear and tear. The public restrooms are breaking and outdated. The membrane lining underneath a large portion of the bricks is leaking. And brick and columns are chipped, cracked and broken. Electrical and water systems need upgrades.

# FIX PIONEER COURTHOUSE SQUARE: NO TAX INCREASE REQUIRED

The Portland Parks Replacement Bond would provide up to \$10 million to make critically needed repairs at Pioneer Square without raising the current tax rate, because this bond replaces a bond that will be paid off next year.

# FIX PIONEER COURTHOUSE SQUARE: A RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT - LEARN THE FACTS

For 30 years, Pioneer Square has benefited from a public/private partnership. We are a non-profit with a small staff and volunteer board. Every dollar generated through rents, sponsorships and event fees is directed right back into Pioneer Square's day-to-day cleaning, security and daily operations.

As the property owner, Portland's Parks & Recreation Bureau is responsible for major capital projects. Unfortunately tight budgets over the past several years have meant the city has been unable to afford major repairs at the Square, including the membrane lining replacement.

Visit www.thesquarepdx.org to learn the facts.

# FIX PIONEER COURTHOUSE SQUARE: KEEP DOWNTOWN VIBRANT AND SAFE FOR ANOTHER 30 YEARS

As Portland's Living Room, it's critical Pioneer Square remains a vibrant and safe place for our community and visitors to gather for generations to come. Vote yes to fix our parks.

Stephen Schneider
President
Pioneer Courthouse Square Board of Trustees

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Portland's parks, public places, natural areas and recreational opportunities give life and beauty to our city... Portland's residents will treasure and care for this legacy, building on the past to provide for future generations.

-PORTLAND PARKS 2020 VISION

Dear Portlanders,

We have one of the greatest parks systems in America. It's no accident. Generations of Portlanders before us had the foresight to plan and sacrifice so that we could play, relax and enjoy nature in parks across the city. They were committed to creating the community we love.

Now it's our turn.

I had the honor of serving as Parks Commissioner during the Great Recession. With the generosity and hard work of dozens of community organizations, parks-loving businesses and the dedicated team at Portland Parks & Recreation, we weathered that storm. But not without consequences to the system we all treasure.

### ADDRESSING PARKS' NEEDS

Limited City General Fund dollars, grants and partnerships only go so far. That's why parks bonds—large, one-time investments—are a good solution for parks capital needs. Right now, Portland Parks & Recreation has identified \$365 million in necessary replacements and major maintenance projects that need to be completed over the next 10 years.

### AN OPPORTUNITY TO INVEST, WITHOUT INCREASING THE TAX RATE

In 1994 we committed to the last parks bond. In 2015 it will be paid off. Now is not the time to waiver in our generation's commitment to our parks. We can tackle critical park needs without increasing tax rates. We can simply continue to fund parks at the current rate of the 1994 bond. This will raise up to \$68 million to address the most critical needs of our parks system.

My family and I can't imagine Portland without our wonderful parks system—can you? Investing now continues a proud heritage for generations of Portlanders to come.

Please join me in voting YES ON MEASURE 26-159. Find out more at www.fixourparks.org.

Nick Fish	
City Commission	er

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# The League of Women Voters of Portland supports the 2014 Parks Replacement Bond

### We support:

- A visually attractive urban community with a sustainable and healthful environment
- Quality infrastructure and public facilities designed to meet the needs of residents

# Measure 26-159 would help keep parks, playgrounds, pools and trails open, safe and accessible.

Our public parks and recreational facilities are a vital part of Portland's healthful and enjoyable urban environment. They contribute to an improved quality of life for Portland families and attract visitors. The funds from the proposed bonds would be used to

- · repair play structures, outdated equipment, and failing infrastructure,
- · remove barriers to access for people with disabilities and
- prevent closures of facilities and trails, so we all can use them.

#### We believe that:

- Efficient and economical government requires adequate financing.
- City planning goals should be based on consideration of environmental, social and economic impacts of proposed plans and on fair distribution of tax burdens.
- The public should be involved in the planning and oversight of government projects.

# Measure 26-159 is economical, responsible, accountable and fair. It requires audits and citizen oversight.

Because the proposed bonds would replace expiring bonds, the tax rate to finance the bonds is expected to remain at the current rate of less than nine cents per \$1000 of a property's assessed value. After the initial urgent improvements and repairs, additional projects would be recommended through a public process.

An oversight committee made up of Portland residents would review expenditures and report annually to the City Council. The measure requires performance audits to ensure that projects funded by the bonds are consistent with voter intent.

The League of Women Voters of Portland urges you to

Vote Yes on Measure 26-159

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### City Club of Portland recommends YES on Measure 26-159

City Club of Portland's Board of Governors to recommend a **YES vote on Measure 26-159**, the Portland Parks Replacement Bond.

City Club of Portland finds there is an ongoing need to maintain and improve Parks and Recreation facilities. The Parks Replacement Bond will provide up to \$68 million in funds for urgent major maintenance needs, without increasing the tax rate.

City Club of Portland finds that there is no realistic alternative for large scale additional funding for parks facilities.

Portland voters have a legacy of building and maintaining our city's parks through a series of levies and bonds. City Club of Portland's general membership and Board of Governors share a legacy of researching and supporting Portland Parks bond and levy proposals:

In 1938, 1950, 1978, and 1994, City Club of Portland conducted ballot measure studies on parks levies. In each case, City Club came out firmly in support of the ballot measures

Based on this research, the City Club's Board of Governors adopted resolutions in support of an operating levy for parks in May 2002 and November 2002, and now recommends a YES vote for Measure 26-159

City Club of Portland has affirmed its commitment to equity: "Prosperity, health and education should be available to all Portlanders, regardless of who they are, where they come from or how much money they make." To that end, access to parks and recreation should be available to Portlanders regardless of geography.

It is the expectation of the City Club Board of Governors that the Parks Bureau will invest bond resources in a manner that **fosters more equity** in the provision of citywide parks and recreation services.

City Club of Portland is a nonprofit, nonpartisan civic organization committed to making a positive difference in our community. Members encompass all ages and come from a wide range of ethnic, racial and religious backgrounds. Membership is open to all.