

Research & Strategic Partnerships

Jonathan Fink
Vice President

Mail Code RSP 503-725-9995 tel
Post Office Box 751 503-725-8170 fax
Portland, OR 97207-0751 jon.fink@pdx.edu

February 1, 2011

Multnomah County Commissioners
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Suite 600
Portland, OR 97214-3588

Dear County Commissioners,

Portland State University writes this letter in enthusiastic support of the James Beard Public Market as proposed by the Historic Portland Public Market Foundation. A public market with a downtown Portland location could offer several important opportunities for collaboration between Portland State and the community, including:

- 1.) Research on micro-business development, sustainable supply chains, and the public market as a microcosm of the city, in addition to many other topics in business and social sciences;
- 2.) An economic development link to another “international” institution within downtown Portland, ideally linked to the PSU campus by rail, bus, bike and pedestrian walkways;
- 3.) Using the Market’s ethos of pairing urban development with rural benefits by providing more ways for local producers (most outside of the urban growth boundary) to make a better living;
- 4.) The creation of a great public gathering place centrally located in our city.

The James Beard Public Market would be a wonderful addition to the collection of unique attributes that make Portland the most livable city in the U.S. I hope you will lend your support to this initiative. Please don’t hesitate to contact me should you have any questions about PSU’s support.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Fink, PhD
Vice President for Research & Strategic Partnerships