



January 24, 2011

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

Dear County Commissioners:

Our family has owned, developed, and managed property in Portland, Oregon for over 75 years. We believe we have a strong understanding of the needs of this community and endeavor to advocate on behalf of those who seek to fulfill those needs. The health of the central city depends on higher employment and attracting visitors – both local and tourists. The James Beard Public Market is estimated to create in excess of 200 permanent jobs, all for locally owned businesses. But more than jobs, the Market will become an iconic destination that will add vitality to a challenging parcel in an overlooked part of downtown Portland. We see the Market as a catalyst for future development, especially for creating a Market District between the Morrison (Public Market) and Burnside Bridges (Saturday Market).

We have known and respected Melvin Mark Companies for three generations of both of our families. While we at times compete over tenants and projects we also greatly respect and support their efforts, and those of the Public Market, in developing the Morrison Bridgehead. We encourage you to accept their development proposal.

The James Beard Public Market would be an asset to our City and we strongly urge you to support this project.

Very truly yours,

SCHLESINGER COMPANIES

Barry D. Schlesinger  
Partner

BDS:jss