



CITY OF
PORTLAND, OREGON

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Multnomah County Board of Commissioners
501 SE Hawthorne
Portland, Oregon 97214

Dear Commissioners,

I have advocated for our community's need for sustainable policies at the County and City level for over 18 years. As you know, we have focused primarily on clean energy, reducing carbon emissions, and limiting the waste stream to our landfills. I am proud to have established policies to achieve these goals, from helping create the Office of Sustainable Development to joining with the County to create a Climate Action Plan.

But I'd like to turn your attention for a moment to lesser known issues around food that have a significant impact on the environment and our lives. I supported creating the joint Food Policy Council in order to address the critical issues of food equity and access, urban agriculture, and the imperative for our region's agricultural bounty to serve local eaters regardless of their economic status. I have also joined the board of directors of the James Beard Public Market, a project dedicated to:

- educating the entire community about the health and environmental benefits of regional agriculture;
- providing the economic engine for urban and rural businesses to meet the increasing demand for locally sourced foods; and
- creating up to 250 new jobs within the Market as well as jobs on close-in farms and ranches that will serve as primary examples of the importance of our land use laws.

As you review the responses that you solicited for the Morrison Bridgehead property, I urge you to consider how well this project meets the city's and county's goals for economic development, sustainable business practices, and improving access to healthy, locally-sourced foods.

The capable team of Melvin Mark Companies and SERA Architects has teamed with the James Beard Public Market to meet the unique challenges that purchasing and developing this difficult site requires, and I wholeheartedly support this project moving forward. I will continue to advocate for creating a true public market for Portland, because it not only fits our sustainability goals, but addresses the needs of so many in our community for year-round access to the region's bounty.

Sincerely,

Dan Saltzman