



MEMBER'S MOTION

1. Preservation and Protection of the Green Space at the Corner of Gore and Union

At the Regular Board meeting on September 23, 2024, the following motion was referred to the Committee meeting on October 7, 2024, in order to hear from speakers, followed by debate and decision.

MOVED by: Commissioner Digby
SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

WHEREAS

1. Since 1971 the green space on the east side of Gore Avenue between Keefer and the Union Street bikeway has been a city-owned road right-of-way, with Park Board crews receiving special funding from the city to maintain the space for the benefit of local residents;
2. The green space has been sometimes known locally as everything from "Garbage Park" to "People's Park";
3. In 2024, the City changed the title of this property to give management of it to the REFM department;
4. In the spring of 2024, REFM promptly proposed a rezoning of this green space to be paved and put to use as a temporary fire hall; and
5. Currently, as of September 2024, the city has reportedly postponed this action and is seeking alternate locations for a temporary fire hall in the area, which is recognized by many as an urgent need.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT the Board hereby declares its interest and intent to preserve the green space at the northeast corner of Gore/Union, initially under care and custody of the Park Board, and eventually as a permanent park.
- B. THAT the Board directs staff to report back by Q2/2025 on costs and options for the Park Board to acquire care and custody of the green space at the corner of Gore/Union to maintain it as a public green space; and
- C. THAT a copy of this motion shall be sent promptly to the Mayor and Council for them to arrange ways and means to give effect to this interest and intent.

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