



# City of Seattle

Edward B. Murray, Mayor

## Finance and Administrative Services

Fred Podesta, Director

February 19, 2016

Greetings,

Thank you for contacting the City regarding the Myers Way parcels. The Department of Finance and Administrative Services (FAS) in accordance with City policy as identified in City Resolutions 29799 and 300862, has sent out an initial public notice to neighbors within in 1,000 feet of the property and others for the purpose of seeking input in the potential reuse or disposition of the properties. With your contact information, FAS will include you on future mailings concerning this property. FAS appreciates and values your involvement and the time you took to provide comments on the Myers Way parcels.

Consistent with adopted procedures, FAS will next publish a Preliminary Report, including a summary of public comments received to date, and draft a Public Involvement Plan (PIP), which will outline how additional public input will be solicited, such as a public meeting. Your suggestion of a "robust, transparent and multi-lingual community engagement process" can be included in the draft Public Involvement Plan.

The Preliminary Report and PIP will be circulated for a 30-day public review and comment period prior to a Council briefing on the PIP. After that briefing, we will continue our outreach efforts to obtain further feedback and input about the future of the property.

FAS will continue to track and document public comments throughout the disposition process. As required, we provide a final Public Involvement Report at the time the Council is reviewing proposed legislation on the property so that Councilmembers have a full sense of public perspectives.

You can find more information about this process on the City's website at:

<http://www.seattle.gov/real-estate-services/property-reuse-and-disposition-overview>

For additional information, please contact Hillary Hamilton at 206-684-0421 or

[hillary.hamilton@seattle.gov](mailto:hillary.hamilton@seattle.gov)

Sincerely,

  
Fred Podesta

February 21, 2016

Bruce Colwell  
1160 Park West Drive  
Pittsburg, California 94565  
(510) 409-9338

VIA US MAIL and EMAIL

Daniel Bretzke  
City of Seattle – FAS  
Box 94689  
Seattle, Washington 98124

**Re: Excess Property Notice – January 27, 2016**

Dear Mr. Bretzke:

This is in response to the above notice. We are the owners of the house at 9843 Occidental Avenue South, Seattle 98108. We have owned the house since it was constructed in 1994 and occupied it in February of 1995.

The parcels proposed for sale of PMA 4541 by the city would completely abut our property to the north and west and would potentially destroy the view as it currently exists. Much of the south portion of that parcel is an over-steep hillside, the disturbance of which could destabilize our house, as the soil is apparently glacial deposits. There is a good deal of clay and sand in the hill. Disturbing the hillside would likely cause unforeseen movement to the north.

Further, when we purchased the property, the hillside to the north was rated as environmentally sensitive necessitating a small footprint for the house and requiring that it be set well back from the slope of the hill. Selling the parcel for commercial purposes seems to run counter to that classification or did the land cease to be environmentally sensitive.

When we moved in, the area was the home for fox, pheasants, quail and there were frogs in the wetland at the foot of the hill. At one point during the Nickels administration, the City was fined by the Army Corps of Engineers, for damaging that wet land. If I remember correctly, the city employee responsible was removed, possibly fired. There is not an overabundance of green belts and wetlands within the city and opening the parcels to commercial development will certainly destroy whatever such value remain for those purposes.

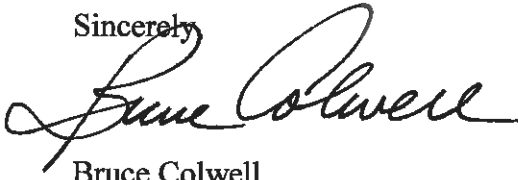
The two parcels east of Myers Way, PMA 4542, will destroy a significant, steep greenbelt between Myers Way and Highway 509. It is hard to imagine that commercial construction on that hillside would not cause Myers Way to be subject of shifting and potentially movement in PMA 4540.

Daniel Bretzke  
February 21, 2016  
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I would urge that the city reconsider the zoning of these parcels, particularly those that encompass the hillsides that abut the remnants of the wetlands. There should be significant setbacks from the wetlands and a restriction on the amount of paving that is allowed.

Finally, I understand that progress is necessary and land is valuable, but all progress is not equal and neither is land. I am not taking the "not in my backyard" position, but I am requesting that the current fragility of the land be carefully evaluated with a thorough environmental impact study.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Colwell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "B".

Bruce Colwell

Cc: Mayor of Seattle  
Seattle City Council



Technical Advisory Group

Community Coalition for  
Environmental Justice

The Duwamish Tribe

Environmental Coalition of  
South Seattle

Georgetown Community  
Council

IM-A-PAL Foundation

People for Puget Sound  
program, Washington  
Environmental Council

Puget Soundkeeper  
Alliance

South Park Neighborhood  
Association

Washington Toxics  
Coalition

Waste Action Project

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*Working to ensure a Duwamish  
River Cleanup that is accepted  
by and benefits the community  
and protects fish, wildlife, and  
human health.*

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210 S. Hudson St., Suite 332  
Seattle, WA 98134  
206.954.0218  
[contact@duwamishcleanup.org](mailto:contact@duwamishcleanup.org)  
[www.duwamishcleanup.org](http://www.duwamishcleanup.org)

February 23, 2016

**Ms. Cass Turnbull**  
**Seattle Green Spaces Coalition**  
**4511 50th Ave SW**  
**Seattle WA 98116**

Dear Ms. Turnbull:

This letter is to support TreePAC and the Seattle Green Spaces Coalition's efforts to stop the sale of the Myers Parcels. Our organization just found out about this sale and is also concerned by the potential negative impacts that this sale would have on Hamm Creek, especially if these parcels are sold for commercial development. The health of Hamm Creek is critical to the health of the Duwamish River, a federal Superfund site in the process of being cleaned up.

Furthermore, we would like time to study this sale further and provide input. We also support a robust and inclusive community engagement strategy prior to the sale of these parcels so that community members, particularly communities of color, low-income residents, and limited English proficiency community members can be a part of the decision-making process.

Finally, the Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition/TAG would like to be included as a party of records by Finance and Administrative Services so that we may be sent copies of any environmental reports related to this sale.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James Rasmussen".

*James Rasmussen*

Coordinator  
(206) 954-0218  
[james@duwamishcleanup.org](mailto:james@duwamishcleanup.org)