From:	Paul Gabriel
То:	Board of Public Works
Subject:	Support Robin Greenway Restoration Phase 2
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Dear Members of the Public Works Commission,

Please support Phase two work for Robin Greenway Restoration, September 20, 2023, Meeting Agenda item 13. (79815).

More than 20 residents living on and around Robin Greenway have engaged for more than a year with City Engineering, Forestry and with our Alderperson, Bill Tishler. After a number of meetings last year, the involved neighbors supported by consensus the Robin Greenway restoration plan. This phase 2 proposal is essential to completing the plan already under way.

This area was in need of significant work for flood control and controlling invasives prior to the June, 2022, storm that took down multiple trees in the Greenway and our utilities. Power was out along Robin Parkway for 5.5 days and its restoration further devastated the Greenway by removing other trees for access and tearing up the Greenway floor. While not perfect (there is no perfect solution), the restoration plan buries utilities, provides the City with permanent access through the Greenway for emergencies, opens the Greenway to public access from Orchard Drive as well as Gregg Road, restores trees and native plantings and ensures much better stormwater/flood control in the Greenway and the Willow Creek watershed.

There is strong neighborhood support for this plan and completing it requires approving Phase 2. We do not enjoy seeing any additional trees lost but serious oak wilt and avoiding a complete takeover by invasives is more important to us, the neighbors.. This is why we supported the long term plan. It's a success story of Bill Tishler and many city officials engaging with residents and the larger neighborhood. Alderperson Tishler, City Landscape Architect Sarah Learner, and City Engineering Vegetation Coordinator Maggie Dumas, among others, have been instrumental in including resident input into this process.

I'm sorry I can't attend the September 20 meeting. Thank you.

Paul Gabriel

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