From: <u>Kathleen Gillette</u>
To: <u>agenda comments</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support Ordinance 967. Please acquire the beach property at the southern end of 27th Ave NW.

**Date:** Monday, May 23, 2022 3:59:59 PM

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## Hello Councilmembers,

I have lived in Shoreline since 1996, and greatly enjoy walking the beach as many do. My comments are in support of the proposed ordinance being discussed under Agenda Item 9(c).

It is great news that the Proposition 1 Parks Bond passed recently. The \$38,000,000 is supposed to be used not only for improving eight specifically named parks and facilities, but also for "acquiring and improving other park and recreational facilities in the City park system." The City should acquire the beach parcel, and use the bond funds if appropriate.

I heard that several years ago there was discussion about maybe putting a gate across 27th Ave NW to stop people from accessing the beach. Even now I have seen some new fencing at the end of the road. I support the City acquiring the beach parcel, and ensuring open access to the beach.

In addition, the City should restore the beach access we once had at the northern end of the road, before the gate there was put up. The City should work with the railroad to provide a dedicated pathway to the beach that bypasses the gate, giving us safe passage to the tidelands in front of Kayu Kayu Ac park. It is well known that at negative tides, this area offers the best spot for tidepooling, the best spot for families to observe all the tide pool creatures. And over the years I have seen many people scramble down the hill beside Kayu Kayu park, cross the railroad tracks, then clamber down the boulder bulkhead in order to access that beach. It would be in the interest of public safety, (not to mention lessening the city's potential liability), to ensure that there is a safe way to access these public tidelands. It is ridiculous to cut off access to public tidelands simply to please the handful of city residents who happen to live on Apple Tree Lane. Please ensure safe beach access for all the city residents.

I and my family wholeheartedly support the City buying the beach parcel. The property is assessed at \$107,000. In the big picture of things, it is a small expense that would acquire and preserve beach access forever.

Thank you,

Sincerely, Kathleen Gillette 2108 NW 199th St Shoreline, WA 98177

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