From: Bill Willard

To: Keith Scully; Betsy Robertson; Chris Roberts; Laura Mork; Eben Pobee; John Ramsdell; agenda comments

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Subject line: Ordinance 967 preserves beach access; let"s have no more yelling

Date: Monday, June 6, 2022 10:50:18 AM

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Councilmembers,

I am Bill Willard. I live in Richmond Beach. I am a past president of the Richmond Beach Community Association, which is an association for everyone living in Richmond Beach. As the website says, "For over a century, the Richmond Beach Community Association (RBCA) has been a vital force in maintaining our neighborhood's quality of life by bringing neighbors together at events, keeping them informed and facilitating neighborhood enhancements."

The RBCA should not be confused with the Richmond Beach Preservation Association (RBPA), formed in 2009, which represents just the interests of property owners on 27th Ave NW. Their name seems ironic. Ordinance 967 is about preserving the public's decades-long use of the beach property, yet the Richmond Beach *Preservation* Association, opposes the Ordinance.

I support Ordinance 967.

I enjoy walking across the Richmond Beach bridge and on to the beach. If you pass Ordinance 967, and the City acquires the beach property, that will secure this important beach access spot for generations to come. And it ought to put an end to "yelling incidents" like the one described in this email from a resident to the City sent April 9, 2020:

"My kids and I were on a walk yesterday and there was a sign posted right over the bridge on 27th Ave NW saying "No Beach Access" and then to the left a few houses down there were two more signs saying "No Beach Access, City Road Ends Here". A lady in a home right near the two signs ran out and started yelling at my kids and I about the beach and how the city closed it. I stated we were just on a walk and she continued to yell at us so we turned around as I didn't want my young children subjected to her yelling. My question for you is that street actually private and we aren't allowed to walk on it? My kids and I walk there almost daily and have never seen those signs or been approached like that from a resident down there so I am a little confused about it."

Thank you.

Bill Willard