

Dear Portland City Council,

We are pleased to present you with this petition affirming this statement:

**"We believe it is in the best interest of the city, the community, and visitors, to maintain Congress Square Park as public and to proceed with a redesign of the park. The option to sell the park to a private developer should be taken off the table completely."**

Attached is a list of individuals who have added their names to this petition, as well as additional comments written by the petition signers themselves.

Sincerely,  
Frank Turek

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David LaCasse  
Portland, ME 04101  
May 13, 2013

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M.S. Davis  
Portland, ME 04102  
May 4, 2013

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suzanne hunt  
portland, ME 04102  
Apr 5, 2013

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Lets retain and improve this lovely Central Park!

Sadhbh Neilan  
Portland, ME 04101  
Apr 4, 2013

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wendy graham  
Portland, ME 04101  
Apr 4, 2013

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Carol Capomaccio  
Portland, ME 04102  
Apr 4, 2013

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We need to do more public activities to bring more people into Congress Square. We do not need to get rid of it. It is in the center of downtown/uptown. It is too valuable as open space.

Barb Wood  
Portland, ME 04102  
Apr 4, 2013

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Thomas Connolly  
Portland, ME 04102  
Mar 28, 2013

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MaryKay Gudkova  
Portland, ME 04102  
Mar 21, 2013

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john bennett  
portland, ME 04103  
Mar 20, 2013

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I grew up in Portland and lived across from it on Deering St. for a couple of years. I loved hearing the musicians and even seeing movies there in the summer. It's a great place to sit and relax and perhaps eat a packed lunch and not have to go so far away from downtown.

Andy Groff  
Raymond, ME 04071  
Mar 20, 2013

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Every major city has a space designated for outside rest or entertainment, amongst its shopping district. We should not limit the visitors of Congress Street to only storefronts. A place to relax and re-energize, before continuing shopping is a great idea! Also, more frequent entertainment in the Congress Square Park would also work to support the small businesses in the area.

Deborah Groff  
Portland, ME 04103  
Mar 19, 2013

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Sid Tripp  
Portland, ME 04102  
Mar 19, 2013

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virginia collins  
Portland, ME 04101  
Mar 19, 2013

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Betsy Carson  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Mar 19, 2013

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Public space for civic purpose should always trump commercial interest.

Jack Safarik  
Portland, ME 04102  
Mar 16, 2013

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Patrick Rumuli  
Portland, ME 04101  
Mar 15, 2013

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Jodie Lapchick  
Portland, ME 04102  
Mar 9, 2013

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Jenny Tremblay  
Richmond, VA 23223  
Mar 8, 2013

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Gregory Bussiere  
Portland, ME 04101  
Mar 7, 2013

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Cait Vaughan  
Portland, ME 04101  
Mar 6, 2013

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Ian Jacob  
Portland, ME 04101  
Mar 6, 2013

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Cathcirne Shepard  
Portland, ME 04103  
Mar 6, 2013

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Lynne Rowe  
Portland, ME 04101  
Mar 5, 2013

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Elena Schmidt  
Portland, ME 04101  
Mar 5, 2013

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Cecilia Ziko  
Portland, ME 04101  
Mar 5, 2013

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John Etnier  
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107  
Mar 5, 2013

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Cristine McMurdo -Wallis  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808  
Mar 4, 2013

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Michael Heathers  
Portland, ME 04101  
Mar 4, 2013

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Green space, parks, public spaces that allow people to interact, spaces for public art and possibly the occasional pop-up or food truck are essential to our vibrant city!

Kim Simmons  
Cumberland, ME 04021  
Mar 4, 2013

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Nickola Cole  
Portland, ME 04102  
Mar 4, 2013

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I am a frequent visitor, I spend money in Portland. Do not sell any downtown open space to private concerns--every little park counts. Be creative, it can and has been done. Show them that Portland can!

Paul Sheridan  
Northport, ME 04849  
Mar 4, 2013

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thomas Glendon  
south portland, ME 04106  
Mar 4, 2013

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Teresa Telander  
Portland, ME 04101  
Mar 4, 2013

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Sherrye Gibbs  
Portland, ME 04101  
Mar 4, 2013

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Shoshannah  
Portland, ME 04102  
Mar 4, 2013

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Oren Stevens  
Portland, ME 04101  
Mar 4, 2013

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Marcia pitcher  
Portland, ME 04101  
Mar 4, 2013

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Emily Baer  
Portland, ME 04101  
Mar 4, 2013

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Lita Semrau  
Portland, ME 04102  
Mar 4, 2013

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Please keep the park!!!

David LaGraffe  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Mar 4, 2013

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james chute  
Freeport, United States 04032-6712  
Mar 4, 2013

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Jason Ryan  
Portland, ME 04103  
Mar 4, 2013

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George McGinty  
Cumberland Ctr, ME 04021  
Mar 4, 2013

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dan stevens  
West Gardiner, ME 04345  
Mar 4, 2013

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Congress Square needs to be a public square. It is neither a place for a ballroom nor a place for a park. It is a place for a public plaza, like Monument Square at the other end of the Arts District. The entire square is one place. The park area should be blended in with the surrounding panorama of historic buildings. Its major failure as a park has been that it has been looking inward, ignoring its place. It is a part of Congress Square first, and can be used as an event space as a secondary, alternate use.

Don Elliot  
Portland, ME 04103  
Mar 4, 2013

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While you're at it, add some shrubbery.

Tristan F.W. Rolfe  
Portland, ME 04103  
Mar 4, 2013

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Malachi Tekur Whitten  
Portland, ME 04101  
Mar 4, 2013

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I went to the Redesign Committee meeting that struck this down initially. Please respect that decision and keep Congress Square public!

Nigel Stevens  
Portland, ME 04101  
Mar 4, 2013

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Dylan Chestnutt  
Portland, ME 04102-3729  
Mar 4, 2013

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Christopher Wright  
Portland, ME 04101-3110  
Mar 4, 2013

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Chris Darling  
Portland, ME 04103  
Mar 4, 2013

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Another building we do not need. We need places for people to sit and relax, to have music and meet others.

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carolyn keller  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Mar 4, 2013

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Danielle Hatch  
Newtonville, MA 02460  
Mar 4, 2013

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Allyson Merrill  
Yarmouth, ME 04096  
Mar 4, 2013

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Lynn Clarkson  
Portland, ME 04103  
Mar 4, 2013

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We now have a fence dividing the park. And this year the city has stopped plowing the grounds. The citizenry opposes losing this park but I wonder if our elected officials have already made the corporate decision to the contrary. The park is surrounded with low income housing. This is the only outdoor respite for these neighbors.

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Palma Ryan  
Portland, ME 04202  
Mar 4, 2013

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Christine Lomaka  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 28, 2013

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Charles Swerdlow  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 27, 2013.

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Vivianne Swerdlow  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 27, 2013

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The park is an important part of what makes Portland "Portland" for me. I eat my lunch there, I watch movies in the summer, I watch the birds there. Please keep it a park.

Victoria Swerdlow  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 27, 2013

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david martin  
portland, ME 04101  
Feb 27, 2013

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Heard about this on WMPG, Chris White's show. Thanks, Phranque!

Ruth Elkin  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 27, 2013

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Jay L. Blagdon, Jr.  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 26, 2013

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Joe Tacka  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 26, 2013

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I fully support keeping Congress Square a public park!

Sage  
Portland, ME 04112  
Feb 25, 2013

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Bryan Emerson  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 25, 2013

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Aura  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 25, 2013

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Ronald Hager  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 25, 2013

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Yvette Pratt  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 25, 2013

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meg hirayama  
portland, ME 04104  
Feb 25, 2013

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Portland needs as much open space as it can get! Please keep this area available to the public, plant a few more trees, and make it more safe and attractive for everyone in the city.

pamela murton  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 25, 2013

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Barron Stallman  
Portland, ME 04105  
Feb 25, 2013

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Stefanie Simpson  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 25, 2013

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Robert  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 25, 2013

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Jessica Sobey  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 25, 2013

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Lisa Agnew  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 25, 2013

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Alla I. Shuper  
Portland, ME 04105  
Feb 24, 2013

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John Murton  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 24, 2013

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Cheryl Van Allsburg  
Bar Mills, ME 04004  
Feb 24, 2013

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Kate  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 24, 2013

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Sally Nelson  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 24, 2013

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Heather H.  
Standish, ME 04084  
Feb 24, 2013

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Jonathan D Allen  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 24, 2013

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Kayla Harvey  
Robins AFB, GA 31098  
Feb 24, 2013

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Jane Parise  
Westbrook, ME 04092  
Feb 24, 2013

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Robert Swerdlow  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 24, 2013

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Louisa  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 24, 2013

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Aidan Bowe  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 24, 2013

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Charlotte Nicklas  
Portland, ME 04105  
Feb 24, 2013

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Jennifer Nguyen  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 23, 2013

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Victoria Szatkowski  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 23, 2013

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Elizabeth Schoch  
Portland, ME 04105  
Feb 23, 2013

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Maddie Foster  
Standish, ME 04084  
Feb 23, 2013

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Definitely keep the park in place and do not delete it! Stefani Nice

Stefani Nice  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 23, 2013

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Benjamin Weimont  
Portland, ME 04107  
Feb 23, 2013

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Mary Follo  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 23, 2013

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Chiarar Moran  
Portland, ME 04108  
Feb 23, 2013

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eric bruns  
gray, ME 04039  
Feb 23, 2013

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Let's keep the park and use the park, ice skating in the winter and music in the summer. If you want a ballroom, rent the space and have an outdoor gala.

Jennifer Rose  
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107  
Feb 23, 2013

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Dave Ellis  
Yarmouth, ME 04026  
Feb 23, 2013

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prudence barry  
south portland, ME 04106  
Feb 23, 2013

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Nicole Manganelli  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 23, 2013

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Karen Campbell  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 23, 2013

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Sharon Hill  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 23, 2013

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Catherine Cook  
ME, ME 04103  
Feb 23, 2013

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benjamin beatty  
falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 23, 2013

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Keep the park available to everyone

Maureen Calinan  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 23, 2013

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don't be irrational here

Wilson cramp  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 22, 2013

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joshua mcCrillis  
buxton, ME 04043  
Feb 22, 2013

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Celia Faux  
Urbana, IL 61801  
Feb 22, 2013

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This is a valuable space which is nice for eating and relaxing in the middle of town. This also serves as a great idea for fundraisers, mini festivals, speeches, and small shows. Without it that area would be crammed and disproportionate as well. The hotel space is not fitting with the unique architecture of each of the smaller buildings on that part of congress.

James Meliota  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 22, 2013

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Melanie A Collins  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 22, 2013

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Ashley  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 22, 2013

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makes me sad to say i was born and raised in Portland Maine keep the park public!!!!!!!!!!

Jonathan MacConney  
Warren, OH 44485  
Feb 22, 2013

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Norman Estes  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 22, 2013

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KIM GROOTHAND  
PORTLAND, ME 04101  
Feb 22, 2013

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Rocco DiDonato  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 22, 2013

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Frankie Dailey  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 22, 2013

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Kyle Richards-Connolly  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 22, 2013

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joanne demariano  
portland, ME 04103  
Feb 22, 2013

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Please, keep the park for all of us. Many thanks!!!

Kevin Gallagher  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 22, 2013

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Allison Craigue  
Casco, ME 04015  
Feb 22, 2013

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Douglas Collins  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 22, 2013

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Pamela Richards  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 22, 2013

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Nina Sasser  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 22, 2013

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We need that open space.

Jennifer Read  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 22, 2013

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alan lovell  
portland, ME 04103  
Feb 22, 2013

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Bobbie Chalou  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 22, 2013

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kevin piccone  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 22, 2013

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Donna Doughten  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 22, 2013

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Having a park across from the Art Museum is very important to the sense of creative vitality and aesthetics of downtown Portland

linden thigpen  
so portland, ME 04106  
Feb 22, 2013

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While I am not a resident of Portland, my family and I enjoy the open public spaces of the city when we visit and we have many friends who are residents and utilize these parks regularly. The city council should not consider approving this!

Ian MacEachen  
Poland, ME 04274  
Feb 22, 2013

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donna stevens  
standish, ME 04084  
Feb 22, 2013

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Dawn Maron  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 22, 2013

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Marjorie Emma Heath  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 22, 2013

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Congress Square... A Great place for a tourist info booth AND outdoor sculpture exhibit space, NOT a private ball room.

nancy Foss  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 22, 2013

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Rev. Priscilla Dreyman  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 22, 2013

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edward kurasz  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 22, 2013

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Brigitte Paulus  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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John Newton  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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jane ludwig  
nobleboro, ME 04555  
Feb 21, 2013

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Stephanie Eliot  
Portland, ME 04108  
Feb 21, 2013

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Marjorie McKeon  
Hiram, ME 04041  
Feb 21, 2013

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david m. conley  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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Adam  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 21, 2013

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This park belongs to the Portland public!

Sarah Waite  
Portland, ME 04103-2771  
Feb 21, 2013

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Leticia plate  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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Nancy Nickerson  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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Sonia B. Robertson  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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Roy Germon  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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susanne willard  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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Julic Goell  
Peaks Island, ME 04108  
Feb 21, 2013

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Cecile Hay-Arthur  
Albion, CA 95460  
Feb 21, 2013

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James Bourke  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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I lived on Congress St. for 18 years and would love to come back as soon as these business developers start hiring local again. Don't let them take the square!

Viki Brothers  
Mishiwaka, IN 46545-1333  
Feb 21, 2013

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Ellen Klain  
Falmouth, ME 04105-2447  
Feb 21, 2013

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Bettina Pearson  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 21, 2013

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Keep it open as a public park.

Gary Ameika  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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Save Open Space Parks !!!

Sam Swenson  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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Ann Cannon  
Peaks Island, ME 04108  
Feb 21, 2013

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kate mann  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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Susan Ashley  
Peaks Island, ME 04108  
Feb 21, 2013

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I grew up in Portland and lived there for many years, raised my sons there. I hope the park will stay as a public place for the locals as well as the visitors to enjoy.

Wendy Stebbins  
Wales, MA 01081  
Feb 21, 2013

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Carlisle Blind  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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Elizabeth Marcus  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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Christina Morrill  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 21, 2013

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Dolores Vail  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 21, 2013

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I grew up in Portland, it would be a shame to lose the park.

Cheryl Beking  
Sarasota, FL 34243  
Feb 21, 2013

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Naomi Kronlokken  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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Colette Bouchard  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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Jon Beking  
Westbrook, ME 04092  
Feb 21, 2013

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Eugene Rochow  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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We are lucky to have an open space in the middle of town. True, it needs a bit of a redesign, but do not relinquish this valuable space to a private developer, please! Charlotte Maloney

charlotte maloney  
portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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Lori Eschholz  
Portland, ME 04101-2142  
Feb 21, 2013

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John Krasowski  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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arthur Turner  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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Alfred R Lambert  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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Peter Darling  
Capc Elizabeth, ME 04107  
Feb 21, 2013

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Joyce Dolley  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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Jean T. Wilkinson  
Portland, ME 04110  
Feb 21, 2013

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Zoe Ryan-Humphrey  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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paula gates  
south portland, ME 04106  
Feb 21, 2013

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Barbara Hager  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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Sara Leonard  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 21, 2013

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Jeanne Handy  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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please leave the little amount of public space alone.

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Gabrielle Broche  
portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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carol lohman  
portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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Kathryn Baker  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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Matt Campbell  
Portland, ME 04102

Feb 21, 2013

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Annette Elowitch  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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Constance Dayton  
Portland, ME 04105  
Feb 21, 2013

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Christopher Hunt  
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107  
Feb 21, 2013

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David Noyes  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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Robert Cornett  
Portland, ME 04107  
Feb 21, 2013

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Sarah Yanni  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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kathleen sullivan  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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Portland is a little city with a wonderfully big personality. Portland's public spaces are part of its unique character. Congress Square is a pivotal location that showcases Portland's art and diversity. Keep it public!

Penny Altman  
S. Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 21, 2013

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Leyli Johnson  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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Please! We here in East Deering are trying to increase precious green space/park areas! Please preserve parks in the City of Portland!

cheryl juniewicz  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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Maddox  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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Eric Matheson  
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107  
Feb 21, 2013

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jerri blatt  
Peaks Island, ME 04108  
Feb 21, 2013

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Anne B. Zill  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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Elizabeth Rainbow  
Peaks Island, ME 04108  
Feb 21, 2013

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Deb Fields-Graham  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 21, 2013

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Belinda Ray  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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Anne Stanley  
Portland, ME 04105  
Feb 21, 2013

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The problems with Congress Square park all have to do with the design put in place. It's an absolutely necessary public space that will blossom with a redesign. Do not sell this valuable public space!

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Jeffrey Stevensen  
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107  
Feb 21, 2013

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Cynthia Cushing  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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We love the park as a public space. Waite Maclin.

Waite Maclin  
Portland, ME 04104  
Feb 21, 2013

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Private ownership is a bad idea!!!

Susan Pastore  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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David Crosby  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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stephen halpert  
portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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Nancy A Montgomery  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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Laurie Hacklander  
Portland, ME 04104  
Feb 21, 2013

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Anna  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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Jennifer Denbow  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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Anna peplowski  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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Al Sheehy 218 Virginia st Portland, ME 04103

Al Sheehy  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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Mary McVey  
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107  
Feb 21, 2013

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Lisa Trusiani  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 21, 2013

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Muriel Kruppa  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 21, 2013

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Marilynn Vander Schaaf  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 21, 2013

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Michelle Bosquette  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 21, 2013

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Lauren Kehoe  
Portland, ME 04105  
Feb 21, 2013

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Ann DiMella  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 21, 2013

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eric blumrich  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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Gillian McArthur  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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Sylvia Federico  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 21, 2013

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Paula A Klimek  
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107  
Feb 21, 2013

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Roger Long  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 21, 2013

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Nancy and george Rallis  
United States 04107-1343  
Feb 21, 2013

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Small parks in cities allow the entire population to enjoy space within cities. Once developed the land will never again be for the entire public. There should be no privatizing of land that is special for all.

Joan S. Leitzer  
portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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We need MORE green spaces, not fewer.

Linda Lois Nutter  
Portland, ME 04105  
Feb 21, 2013

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Michael Mastranardi Cyr  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 21, 2013

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Angela Kelso  
Portland, ME 04108  
Feb 21, 2013

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nicholas heller  
portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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Susan raye  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 21, 2013

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Thats public property. For the people of Portland. Don't sell out to corporate interests.

Scott Murray  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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Richard  
Portland, ME 04112  
Feb 21, 2013

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Eria Witham  
portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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David Karl Roberts  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 21, 2013

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Terrence Martzial  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 21, 2013

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MICHAEL J WELCH  
PORTLAND, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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David Little  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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Amber Rhinehart  
South Portland, ME 04116  
Feb 21, 2013

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Sarah Speare  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 21, 2013

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Can't you leave some open space in downtown Portland? Does everything have a price only in dollars?

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Robert Goldman  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 21, 2013

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Alexis  
portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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Lewis Richards  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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If the Park needs to be reconsidered, it is essential to reconsider it as a park for all of Portland's residents, very few--if any--of whom would use a ballroom or part of a hotel. It would become space for guests, not all of us. The greatness of Portland--and also its attraction for guests--is precisely in its wonderful spaces for the public. Please do not waste this public land or the opportunity to address a need for redesigning it. Thank you, Nancy Gish

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Nancy Gish  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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Susan Howe  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 21, 2013

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Dana McDaniel  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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please save this park for the public to use and enjoy....

F.R. Vance  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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William Ciccarone  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 21, 2013

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Joanne Ogden  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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alicia graef  
portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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Susan Hall  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 21, 2013

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William Irish  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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christian schoewe  
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107  
Feb 21, 2013

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David Whitten  
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107  
Feb 21, 2013

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Alex Lehnen  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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Ann McRae  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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Mark Smith  
Falmouth, ME 04105

Feb 21, 2013

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Melanie Trafton  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 21, 2013

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Adam Frederick  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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Janice Kendrick  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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Richard Renner  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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Robert Mallar  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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Tony Rieger  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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Tricia  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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Kori Handwerker  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 21, 2013

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Katherine Follayttar  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 21, 2013

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Benjamin Schnapp  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 21, 2013

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Brian O'Toole  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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Doris Ortiz  
Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 21, 2013

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In our densely developed downtown we need open, public space where people can gather and activities can happen that are accessible to all.

Laura Faure  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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Lisa Savage  
Solon, ME 04979  
Feb 21, 2013

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Frankie E. Plymale  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 21, 2013

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Eunice Bentley  
Westbrook, ME 04091  
Feb 21, 2013

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Kristin Rofr  
Gorham, ME 04038  
Feb 21, 2013

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karen Waiberg  
Bath, ME 04530  
Feb 21, 2013

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Please keep the park public.

Brian Kent  
Litchfield, ME 04350  
Feb 21, 2013

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too much of this city is being privatized and squandered on cooperate interests.

Evan McVeigh  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 20, 2013

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that which we value and hold in high regard should not be for sale to the highest bidder

jenny gray  
wiscasset, ME 04578  
Feb 20, 2013

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Jill Osgood  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 20, 2013

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Seth  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 20, 2013

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sharon ultsch  
portland, ME 04103  
Feb 20, 2013

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We need open, accessible community space for a vibrant, livable city. Commons = community. Keep Portland fabulous!

Shannon Rooney  
Hollis Center, ME 04042  
Feb 20, 2013

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Brigitta Kunz Wiesel  
East Baldwin, ME 04025  
Feb 20, 2013

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Donna Jones  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 20, 2013

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Christina Astrachan  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 20, 2013

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Congress Square is too valuable resource to give up. Though we need to figure out how better to use this space, giving it up for private development is not the answer.

George Clark  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 20, 2013

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alison hildreth  
falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 19, 2013

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Mary Jane Ferrier  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 19, 2013

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Nancy S. Grayson  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 19, 2013

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It is the parks and trails in Portland which make it a more personable city.

Ellen Farnsworth, NP  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 19, 2013

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anne rand  
portland, ME 04101  
Feb 18, 2013

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Keep Congress Square Park Public!

Stephen Simons  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 18, 2013

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Public use of this space is needed in the Arts District. Properly maintained this park is a real asset to downtown Portland. Its location across from the Art Museum adds green space to this area.

Walter Voitasek  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 18, 2013

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sid thaxter  
Brooklyn, NY 11213  
Feb 17, 2013

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Design can solve this problem. Keep it public.

Michael Belleau  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 17, 2013

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Jamie Moore  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 17, 2013

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Tom O'Donnell  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 17, 2013

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Stephanie Hicks  
Gorham, ME 04038  
Feb 17, 2013

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Bernadette O'Donnell  
Bangor, ME 04401  
Feb 17, 2013

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Patricia Bredenberg  
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107  
Feb 17, 2013

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Stephen Demos  
Portland, ME 04108  
Feb 17, 2013

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Susan Cromwell  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 17, 2013

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Nancy O'Hagan  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 17, 2013

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William Lohman  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 17, 2013

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This OUR community's property. I don't know whose hands are in whose pockets, or what they are scratching--forgive my mixed metaphor, it feels apt, nevertheless --but this stinks of cronyism, just a stone's throw away from corruption. I will be watching to see who votes on this.

Holly Kidder  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 16, 2013

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Mary Leigh Hanson  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 16, 2013

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Zach  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 16, 2013

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In every civilized society, since the time of ancient Greece, public places have been set aside where people can come to relax, to talk, to bring their children. Let us maintain this PUBLIC place.

Maureen Hyslop  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 16, 2013

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Mark Schwartz  
S. Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 16, 2013

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Wherever one goes in the this country or in the world, its the public square that inspires, humanizes and invites you back. Don't give up such a valuable community asset.

Steve Simonds  
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107  
Feb 16, 2013

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Elizabeth Roberts  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 16, 2013

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Charles reid  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 16, 2013

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Roberta Musc  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 16, 2013

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Claudia Hughes  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 16, 2013

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Dottie Maheux  
Westbrook, ME 04092  
Feb 16, 2013

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I live in Portland and we need more public space!

Heather Sellars  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 16, 2013

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Keep the park public. Yes!!

Caroline Loupe  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 16, 2013

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Of course it should stay public !!!

Patsy Messier  
Wiscasset, ME 04578  
Feb 16, 2013

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Brennan Howe  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 16, 2013

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robert s zimmern  
portland, ME 04101-2874  
Feb 16, 2013

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Maxomozz Miki  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 16, 2013

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Glen  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 16, 2013

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Joel Pelletier  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 16, 2013

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Charles W. Weber  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 16, 2013

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Elizabeth Wheeler  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 16, 2013

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Alan  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 16, 2013

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Mary Murphy  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 16, 2013

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WL Chapkis  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 16, 2013

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Jeremy Culberson  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 16, 2013

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Pat O'Donnell  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 16, 2013

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Dawna Bemis  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 16, 2013

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Patty Morris  
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107  
Feb 16, 2013

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John Riley  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 16, 2013

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Amanda Hollander  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 16, 2013

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Steven Biel  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 16, 2013

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Jim Hanna  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 16, 2013

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r b  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 16, 2013

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Craig Williamson  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 16, 2013

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David Phillips  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 16, 2013

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Joseph F. McHugh  
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107-1253  
Feb 16, 2013

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04102

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elaine riesenberg  
portland, ME 04102  
Feb 16, 2013

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Darrell Taylor  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 16, 2013

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I totally agree with this.

CECILE  
PORTLAND, ME 04103  
Feb 16, 2013

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Darryl  
Norway, ME 04268  
Feb 15, 2013

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Cathleen Dillon-McHugh  
Portland, ME 04107  
Feb 15, 2013

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As Portland continues to grow, it's important to retain as many open, public spaces as possible.

Laura Henderson  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 15, 2013

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It was great to see people use the space for ices skating in the winter and it was a wonderful spot to sit and enjoy the sunshine year-round.

Caitlin Purinton  
Richmond, VT 05477  
Feb 15, 2013

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Public spaces like Congress Square Park are essential in building a sense of community in a neighborhood. I lived in that area for five years. I bought art from students in the park on First Fridays. Met friends there to drink coffee and get advice. I've people watched, and heard the stories of strangers who turned out not to be so strange after all. It is my opinion that we could use more, not less of these public meeting spaces in our city.

Rebecca Leclerc  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 15, 2013

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This belongs to the people and the people deserve to have a vote on whether or not it can be sold. It's not as if we have a surplus of open space downtown. Basically, we have none. It would be one thing if the developers could provide alternate space, but they can't and they haven't even offered to do anything to replace what they propose to take away from the public. The Downtown District should be ashamed!

David Garrity  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 15, 2013

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Cheryl Joseph  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 15, 2013

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Timmi Sellers  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 15, 2013

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Nathan Broaddus  
Gorham, ME 04038  
Feb 15, 2013

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As a former resident of Portland and current one of NYC I see the what the loss of public space can be like and how difficult it is to get back. People need outside space near their homes.

Jules Corkery  
Astoria, NY 11102  
Feb 15, 2013

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Kelly Worster  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 15, 2013

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travis cyr  
van buren, ME 04785  
Feb 15, 2013

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Jed  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 15, 2013

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David Beane  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 15, 2013

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This is an important public space that should be redesigned and renovated. We don't need another ballroom. The Eastland's current ballroom is beautiful and functional.

Elizabeth DellaValle  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 15, 2013

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Linda Ford  
Portland, ME 04102-3462  
Feb 14, 2013

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William H. Slavick  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 14, 2013

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Destry Oldham-Sibley  
South Portland, ME 04106

Feb 14, 2013

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Lorraine Lowell  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 14, 2013

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E. Colleen Callahan  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 14, 2013

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Always been Public don't change it now!

Katherine  
Orrs Island, ME 04066  
Feb 14, 2013

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Selling Congress Square Park would be like selling Central Park in New York City. A city needs open spaces; recommend to proceed with a redesign of the park.

Shirley Rosen  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 14, 2013

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Of course, it would never appear that the city officials would look @ using a creative aspect for what little public space we have, especially in "the arts district." Just another sign of bureaucrats siding with business.

DOUG EMERSON  
Portland, ME, ME 04101  
Feb 14, 2013

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I don't live in portland but I spend an awfully lot of time there. The square is important to many. Please preserve it

Catherine Hickson  
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107  
Feb 14, 2013

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Let's hope the people of Portland will embrace this petition!!

A. L. Tanner  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 14, 2013

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Sally Herr  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 14, 2013

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Jessica Yandell  
South Portland, ME 04106

Feb 14, 2013

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Seth Amoroso  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 14, 2013

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Sharie Peacock  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 14, 2013

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Thomas Henley  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 14, 2013

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Deborah J. Dagnan  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 14, 2013

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Karen Bala  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 14, 2013

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Jenna Goldstein-Walsh  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 14, 2013

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Go, Frank!

Karen Sumner  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 14, 2013

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We need parks not buildings!

Ken Swanberg  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 14, 2013

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We must keep public parks, locally owned by the government. We cannot continue to deteriorate ownership of public spaces by sale to the private sector.

Ellen Fraser  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 14, 2013

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Samuel Peluso  
Worcester, MA 01610  
Feb 14, 2013

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Alison Truesdale  
Yarmouth, ME 04096  
Feb 14, 2013

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I support keeping and redesigning Congress Square Park. Thank you.

Maura Flaherty  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 14, 2013

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As a published writer on Recidivism and reform issues in Maine I find we need a place to live after we get out of The Maine State Prison

Harold Sanford Carter III  
Brewer, ME 04412  
Feb 14, 2013

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catherine crute  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 14, 2013

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Reed Altemus  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 14, 2013

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J. Hoffman  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 14, 2013

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Redesign! rebuild!

leslie harlow  
ellsworth, ME 04605  
Feb 14, 2013

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Don't let this be one of those things we take for granted until it's gone.

Lynn Friar  
York, ME 03909  
Feb 14, 2013

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Please keep the park

Sue Yandell  
Me, ME 04101  
Feb 14, 2013

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Let this be the vital precedent the people who reside and make their lives in the city need: our designated and lessening public spaces cannot be for sale. Do the right thing, folks!

A. A. Schechter  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 14, 2013

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Holly seeliger  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 14, 2013

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Antonina Bcrube  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 14, 2013

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Katy Phillips  
West Bath, ME 04530  
Feb 14, 2013

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Rachel Lyn Rumson  
new gloucestee, ME 04260  
Feb 14, 2013

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Public property should not be transferred to private corporations for their private gain.

John Littlefield  
Dayton, ME 04005  
Feb 14, 2013

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Kevin Dube  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 14, 2013

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SUSAN LAVIGNE  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 13, 2013

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Jacob Lowry  
PORTLAND, ME 04102  
Feb 13, 2013

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Whenever I think of Portland (and Maine as a whole) I think of fresh air and green space, where even in the city there are places to go to experience nature. This is part of what makes Portland a unique and beautiful city. Don't let a hotel developer ruin what makes Portland so wonderful and special!

Ashley  
Nyc, NY 10025  
Feb 13, 2013

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In an age where we spend most of our time in the private sphere, where communication is increasingly indirect, and where economic forces have limited many people's recreational opportunities, open public non-commercial spaces where people can gather, linger, exercise, break bread, interact and experience community are even more important to Portland and the common good than in years past. Please don't give away one of the only spaces in Downtown Portland where these opportunities are possible to a for-profit interest dangling some nebulous promises. Keep the park public!

Amanda St. John  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 13, 2013

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Sometimes the best "development" - is NO development!

Bob Klotz  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Feb 13, 2013

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Jon Lecke  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 13, 2013

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We need to keep the Congress Square Park space for the people!

Jacqui Deveneau  
Old Orchard Beach, ME 04064  
Feb 13, 2013

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David Intrator  
Nyc, NY 10016  
Feb 13, 2013

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Barbra Whitten  
West Rockport, ME 04865  
Feb 13, 2013

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This park is a critical park for Portland's Heart and soul. Do not allowing building on this area- but invest in a real re-design- I can help!!

Jeanne Paterak  
Portland, ME 04102

Feb 13, 2013

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Former Portland resident. Kennebunk High School and Colby College grad.

Robert F Underwood  
Brooklyn, NY 11217  
Feb 13, 2013

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Chrys Demos  
Wells, ME 04090  
Feb 13, 2013

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Cynthia MacKay  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 13, 2013

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we absolutely need to maintain as much open space as possible as our wonderful city grows and develops

suzanne laberge  
portland, ME 04101  
Feb 13, 2013

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Lucie scholz  
Falmouth, ME 04105  
Feb 13, 2013

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Rose Marasco  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 13, 2013

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Edward Gibbs  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 13, 2013

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Yes!

Sarah Woodard  
Freeport, ME 04032  
Feb 13, 2013

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Ellen Jones  
Kennebunk, ME 04043  
Feb 13, 2013

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Sindee Gozansky  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 13, 2013

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The park belongs to the people of Portland and is not for sale. Once you lose public land it is gone forever. No deal.

Ginger Raspilier  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 13, 2013

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I have danced tango in Congress Square Park, watched movies, and protested war and economic disparity. My office is right next door to Congress Square Park. Congress Square Park is a vital part of our community.

Jennifer Lunden  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 13, 2013

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Beth Taylor  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 13, 2013

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Kate Kaminski  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 13, 2013

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Geraldine Powell  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 13, 2013

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Sarah Dill  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 13, 2013

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Selling the park escapes the problem, which is cultural and civic and public and should be so addressed. The park is for the public and should be utilized by the public and administered by the city for the benefit of all. Civil cooperation is not without effort. It requires patience, understanding, and constant attention.

Don Ogier  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 13, 2013

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Greta Bank  
Hollis Center, ME 04042  
Feb 13, 2013

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Kate Cox  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 13, 2013

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Kristine Jenkins  
Portland, ME 04103

Feb 13, 2013

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I totally agree!!!

Sara Schrock  
Windham, ME 04062  
Feb 13, 2013

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Caroline Evans  
Harpwell, ME 04079  
Feb 13, 2013

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dawn york  
south portland, ME 04106  
Feb 13, 2013

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Samara Yandell  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 13, 2013

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mary leeke  
portland, ME 04103  
Feb 13, 2013

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David Wagner  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 13, 2013

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Jon Farr  
Hollis Center, ME 04042  
Feb 13, 2013

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Gary Brookman  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 13, 2013

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Kavi Montanaro  
Portland, ME 04102  
Feb 13, 2013

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This park is a needed and valued space and invests in the integrity of the architectural design and balance. It is an open area to the public. Home to art vendors, Music in the Park shows, fashion and other cultural events, as well as bringing life and breathing area to an intersection that instead of feeling congested and claustrophobic, is a piece of art in and of itself and allows for the surrounding buildings to maintain their views and connection to one another. If the park is lost to so called "developers" local business \*will\* suffer the consequences. Downtown Portland is a delight to the eye and brings tourists in part because it is such a lovely and unique city to check out on foot. Ironically, the clock from our much beloved and missed Union Station, torn down in the name of progress, the destruction of which will still bring a tear to many a Mainer's eye and prompted the initiative that now protects local historical sites was relocated to this very park, complete with a plaque, teaching our city's children and visitors about our past. Please, let's not allow the great sorrow brought about by our negligence back then to stand up to "progress" and draw the line when it begins to change the fabric of Portland to the extent that it is no longer distinguishable, or a Portland landmark. Keep the beauty of the rare and endangered open space and a hub of downtown community life.

Jessica Butts  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 13, 2013

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Ian Smith  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 13, 2013

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Marcia Cohen  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 13, 2013

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Don't even think about selling Congress Square Park!

John Capizzo  
Scarborough, ME 04074  
Feb 13, 2013

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Cindi Stevenson  
Portland, ME 04102-3036  
Feb 13, 2013

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Molly Quaid  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 13, 2013

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Once lost, public, open space in Congress Square will never be regained. It is short sighted to divest this valuable asset, especially at this time.

Christopher White  
Windham, ME 04062  
Feb 13, 2013

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Don't sell the park!

Pat O'Donnell  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 13, 2013

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Berry Manter  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 13, 2013

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Some of my first memories of Portland revolve around this space. Having an urban park provides so many opportunities to the community and I hope to see it developed as such.

Alan Platner  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 13, 2013

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Beth Cary  
Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107  
Feb 13, 2013

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Please keep this space a park...we love this spot and walk through it several times a week.

Joel Ellis Brown  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 13, 2013

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Myles Robert  
Pelham Manor, NY 10803  
Feb 13, 2013

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Sandra Donahue  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 13, 2013

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Stephanie Philbrick  
Portland, ME 04103  
Feb 13, 2013

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Don't sell the park.

Name\*Lawrence hayden  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 13, 2013

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Kristina Birthisel  
Cumberland Ctr, ME 04021  
Feb 13, 2013

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Selling this open downtown space for private development will be detrimental to the life of downtown Portland. I would encourage the city to consider redesigning the space to make it more conducive to constructive social life--replace the concrete with "softer" lawn and trees, encourage sidewalk vendors, and perhaps construct a fabric shelter to create a sense of airiness. As a longtime Portland resident I remember very well what that corner was like before the park. While there may be some drunks and undesirables there now, it's surely nothing like what it was. Let's keep tweaking until we get it right. Portland's parks are it's pride, and all effort should be made to preserve and cultivate them. (Portlander temporarily in Urbana Illinois.)

Tom Faux  
Urbana, IL 61801  
Feb 13, 2013

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Lisa Purinton  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 13, 2013

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Victoria Hynes  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 13, 2013

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Emma Holder  
Portland, ME 04101  
Feb 13, 2013

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Frank Turek  
  
Feb 13, 2013