

MOUNT: TABOR

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

May 25, 2023

To whom it concerns:

The Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association supports a "Percent for Green" grant towards improvements at the Glencoe Elementary playground.

Glencoe is a cherished neighborhood school, vital green space, and popular recreational area. Its playground serves an important role, not just for students, but in the larger community. At all daylight hours on most days, you can find families, often with preschool aged children, using Glencoe's playground. It is the only one within walking distance for many in our neighborhood. Glencoe is approximately a mile from other playgrounds, including Richmond, Laurelhurst, and Mt. Tabor. And while Mt. Tabor sits near the center of our neighborhood, its playground is difficult to reach due to its elevation. Glencoe is also located on the #15 bus line, making it more accessible to other members of the community who are unable to easily walk, bike, or drive to the school to use the playground.

Glencoe's PTA has been raising funds but needs help. As an example of the positive impact environmental changes can make, we can look to Glencoe's Rain Garden, constructed by the city in 2003. It is regarded as a huge success socially, environmentally, and financially. We believe that, 20 years later, we will judge the site improvements funded by this grant to be just as effective and successful.

Glencoe's playground is part of the fabric of daily life for Mt. Tabor families. It is a shared space for forming social bonds, between children who may or may not go to school together, parents both new and experienced, and any others enjoying the field and facilities. By improving Glencoe's playground, we make an important and prudent investment in the livability of the Mt. Tabor neighborhood and success of our schools.

Sincerely,



Paul Leistner, board member
Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association

2350 SE 57th Ave.
Portland, OR 97215
prleistner@gmail.com