



Grant Park

Neighborhood Association

GPNA Position on Mitigations needed for the Grant Bowl Lighting Project - Approved by Board Vote, Tuesday September 10th, 2024

Over the course of the last 12 months, Grant Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA) has solicited input from the community on Grant Bowl lighting and related impacts in numerous ways. This has included two in-person meetings specifically focused on the Grant Bowl; discussion at regular GPNA board and land use meetings; email input from more than 20 nearby neighbors; and a survey with 87 respondents throughout the community. After synthesizing this feedback, the GPNA board of directors has voted in support of the following position:

GPNA reiterates its support of the project to add lighting to the Grant Bowl, with the following mitigations included in the land use agreement to address livability impacts on immediate neighbors:

Hours of use

- PPS use of lights should end by 9:30pm, with lights off by 10pm, in line with the land use agreement for the Grant High School Upper Field.
- Permitted public use of lights should end by 9:00pm, with lights off by 9:30pm, in line with the land use agreement for the Grant High School Upper Field.
- Exceptions to hours of lighting should be few, but could include lighting to minimize vandalism on holidays with high potential use of fireworks (e.g., July 4, New Years Eve), as well as extenuating circumstances during GHS games (games should not be regularly scheduled to extend beyond 9:30pm but if there are weather delays or overtime play, lights may stay on later).
- The lights should automatically shut off at 10pm each night to ensure that use of lighting conforms to hours of use stated in the land use agreement, with an override available for extenuating circumstances.

Noise

- GPNA notes the following noise ordinances relevant to the operation of amplified sound in the Grant Bowl.
 - **18.12.020 section B:** It shall be unlawful for any person to...operat[e] any [sound producing or reproducing equipment] on public property or on a public right of way so as to be plainly audible 100 feet or more from such device provided that a person operating any such device in a City park pursuant to a permit granted by the Commissioner In Charge of the Park



Grant Park

Neighborhood Association

Bureau shall be in violation only if the device is plainly audible at any point along the park boundary

- [18.10.010](#): no person shall cause or permit sound to intrude into the property of another person which exceeds the limits set forth below in this Section. For purposes of this Section, “day hours” shall be between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m., and “night hours” shall be between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m.
 - Permissible sound levels, day hours, in residential areas: 55db
 - Permissible sound levels, night hours, residential areas: 50db
- Consistent with City of Portland noise ordinances, the land use agreement should explicitly state that amplified sound should not be audible beyond the boundaries of the park, with exceptions for Grant High School (GHS) games.
- Use of sound producing or reproducing equipment should be prohibited in the Grant Bowl after 7pm, except for GHS games.
- GHS coaches should be instructed on reasonable volume of sound from personal speakers during practices - specifically that no amplified sound should be used after 7pm and amplified sound should never be audible beyond the park boundary. Coaches should be instructed to point speakers towards the center of the park and keep volumes low to ensure this noise ordinance is complied with.
- Signage should be posted at the Grant Bowl stating that no amplified sound should be used after 7pm and amplified sound should never be audible beyond the park boundary.
- To facilitate use of amplified speakers that are not audible outside of park boundaries, a power source should be included in a light pole on the west side of the bowl.

Garbage and Maintenance

- Given the increase in garbage use associated with evening practices and games, the number of trash receptacles at the Grant Bowl and Upper Field should be consistent with other PPS athletic facilities: A minimum of 8 garbage cans should be available at and around the Grant Bowl, including at least one receptacle at all egress points.
- Can and bottle recycling receptacles should be provided within the bowl at at least 2 locations.
- Garbage cans and recycling bins should be regularly serviced at an adequate schedule so that they are not overflowing.
- Janitorial clean-up of the bowl should occur daily.
- Janitorial clean-up following GHS games should include clean-up of surrounding park, streets, and sidewalks.



Grant Park

Neighborhood Association

Large Events

- GPNA should be notified at least 72 hours before any events that are expected to be attended by more than 250 people, or events that will include amplified sound, so they can share this information with immediate neighbors.
- For events of more than 250 people, PPS should provide crowd management through campus security or other means.

Parking mitigations

- PPS should make GHS and Beverly Cleary K–8 parking lots available for parking during evening practices and home games
- GHS and affiliated groups should be encouraged to operate parking shuttles to nearby parking lots for large events
- Signage should be added to the North side of US Grant Place to remind bus drivers that bus parking is only permitted on 36th avenue
- To encourage buses to let students off in the GHS parking lot or on 36th avenue in the evenings, GHS should provide entry into the school and locker rooms from one or both of these locations, rather than having US Grant Place be the only point of entry into the locker rooms.

Neighborhood Concerns

- PPS will provide a single point of contact for GPNA that can connect neighbors to the appropriate PPS/GHS personnel to address concerns relating to hours of field use, noise, garbage and maintenance, large events, traffic safety, parking, and other relevant concerns. This point of contact must reply to official GPNA emails and phone calls within 3 business days.

GPNA is deeply committed to improving road safety in our neighborhood. We recognize the serious safety hazards that already exist on the streets surrounding the Grant Bowl, including speeding, unsafe navigation of traffic circles, and high potential for collisions between cars and students, families, and/or bicycles. In addition to the above stated mitigations that GPNA endorses as part of the lighting land use application, GPNA asks that during the Type III Land Use Process, BDS explore the impacts of the proposed project on traffic safety (speeds and volumes of cars and pedestrians in evening hours), traffic congestion, and parking, and identify ways to mitigate these impacts to keep students and neighbors safe and reduce conflict between Grant families and nearby residents.



Grant Park

Neighborhood Association

In addition to the above stated mitigations that GPNA endorses as part of the lighting land use application, GPNA commits to continuing to advocate to PBOT and other relevant parties for safety improvements on the streets near the Grant Bowl, including:

- Crosswalks at 35th and 36th avenues on US Grant Place
- Shortening or elimination of the low-lying plants at the traffic circles at 35th and 36th and US Grant Place along with regular maintenance to keep the plants low
- Crossing safety improvements (e.g., a lighted crossing) at 33rd avenue at Thompson and Brazee
- Investigating the feasibility and impact of adding stop signs to the 35th and 36th and US Grant Place intersections, as well as signage to improve driver behavior at these traffic circles