

NW FRONT AVE/NAITO PKWY LIDIF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO CITY COUNCIL, **PRINT** YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND EMAIL.

NAME (PRINT)	ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE (Optional)	Email (Optional)
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✓ JONATHAN LEDESMA	3936 SE KELLY ST	
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✓ JOE WALSH		

January 20, 2017

Dear Mayor and City Commissioners,

The Northwest District Association (NWDA) Transportation Committee is writing in support of the NW Front Avenue / Naito Parkway Local Improvement District, which will repave and reconfigure the portion of the road between NW 9th Ave and NW 19th. In March 2016 the committee wrote a letter in support of a number of the Central City 2035 projects, including project #20070 "NW Naito Parkway Safety Improvements." We are therefore pleased to see this LID moving forward, which will both address safety issues and the poor physical condition of the road.

When the street is repaved it will undergo a 'road diet', which will include new bike lanes where none currently exist. In the Central City 2035 NW Naito is classified as a "Major City Bikeway". According to the Transportation System Plan, Major City Bikeways should be of the "highest quality" and "designed to accommodate large volumes of bicyclists, to maximize their comfort and to minimize delays by emphasizing the movement of bicycles." As the project moves into the design phase it will be important that the new road layout matches these aspirations.

NW Naito is located in Pedestrian District, yet currently has substandard pedestrian facilities, with missing sidewalks, ADA ramps and few safe places to cross the street. Fixing these deficiencies is important for people walking, rolling and accessing transit. We are pleased that the LID will include new ADA ramps at existing corners. In recent years new residential and commercial projects along NW Naito / Front have added sidewalks where none previously existed, for which we are grateful. Private development will not however add sidewalks on the southwest side of the street, adjacent to the railroad tracks. As noted in the TSP "all streets within a Pedestrian District are equal in importance in serving pedestrian trips and should have sidewalks on both sides." We would therefore encourage the City to structure the LID so that new sidewalks can be built within the scope of the project, and actively look for sources of funding for complete pedestrian facilities.

In summary, the NWDA Transportation Committee is excited to see this project move forward, and offer our thanks to the City and the developer of the under-construction Field Office for making it possible. We believe that this LID can make significant improvements for all modes of travel. We hope we will be kept updated as the project progresses.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Harrison
Chair, NWDA Transportation Committee

CC: Andrew Aebi, PBOT

Parsons, Susan

From: Aebi, Andrew
Sent: Friday, January 20, 2017 12:29 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Cc: Grumm, Matt; Julia Kuhn; Charles Radosta (CRADOSTA@kittelson.com); Jonathan Ledesma (jonathan@projectpdx.com)
Subject: NW Front Avenue / Naito Parkway LID: Northwest District Association Testimony for Agenda Item #70 on 1/25/17
Attachments: NWDA Testimony on NW Front Avenue_LID.pdf

Please forward as appropriate.

Andrew Aebi MBA

Local Improvement District Administrator | City of Portland | Bureau of Transportation

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