## 188283

Agenda Item 236 TESTIMONY REGULAR AGENDA <u>NW 9<sup>TH</sup> AVE TO NW 19<sup>TH</sup> AVE STREET IMPROVEMENTS</u>

## **IN NW FRONT AVE-NAITO PKWY LID**

IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO CITY COUNCIL, PRINT YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND EMAIL.

NAME (PRINT)	ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE (Optional)	Email <i>(Optional)</i>
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Date 03-08-17

Page \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

Good morning, My name is Kathy Peterson I own the dockside Saloon & restaurant on the corner of nw 17<sup>th</sup> & front Ave. We have been there for 30 years and have certainly seen the changes that have taken place in our neighborhood. I have been commuting on Front Ave. almost daily during those 30 years and I can assure you it is in need of repair.

I am in support of this road project . With the growing population at Riverscape and the Rivage, and the addition of the New Field Office, I feel it will enhance the area and benefit those of us who use Front Ave. every day.

**However,** parking is a huge issue in the area and I would hope that no existing parking will be lost due to this project. That being said, It would be my hope that some additional street parking could somehow be created Thank you

## Moore-Love, Karla

From:Reza Michael Farhoodi <rmichael87@gmail.com>Sent:Wednesday, March 08, 2017 11:08 AMTo:Commissioner SaltzmanCc:Council Clerk – TestimonySubject:Naito Parkway LID Council TestimonyAttachments:PDNA\_NaitoLID\_Letter.pdf

Hello Commissioner Saltzman,

Please find attached the Pearl District Neighborhood Association's letter of support for the Naito Parkway Local Improvement District.

Thank you, Reza Farhoodi

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Reza Michael Farhoodi Planning and Transportation Committee Co-Chair Pearl District Neighborhood Association <u>rmichael87@gmail.com</u> 301-452-4924

## 188283

2257 NW RALEIGH ST. PORTLAND, OR 97210



EST. 1991

503.823.4288 www.PEARLDISTRICT.org

Commissioner Dan Saltzman Portland City Hall 1221 SW 4th Ave Suite 230 Portland, OR 97204

March 7, 2017

Dear Commissioner Saltzman,

The Pearl District Neighborhood Association has voted in support of forming a Local Improvement District (LID) for Naito Parkway/Front Avenue in Northwest Portland, aimed at rehabilitating the pavement and reconfiguring the roadway cross-section between NW 9th and 17th Avenues. The existing pavement on Naito Parkway in our neighborhood has deteriorated to an unacceptable condition, while the addition of striped bicycle lanes west of 9th Avenue will have a positive impact on multimodal access and connectivity in this growing part of Northwest, where new residential and office developments will spur additional traffic and activity on Naito Parkway/Front Avenue and surrounding streets.

We commend the Field Office development for providing \$1.1M in System Development Charge credits toward the total \$2.6M cost of the project, allowing PBOT to leverage the LID for an additional 75% of investment in critical pavement rehabilitation and restoration. The Field Office has also been committed to improving bicycle access to their site, and we value the addition of bicycle lanes as part of the roadway reconfiguration that will reduce the number of general lanes from four to two, with a center-left turn lane.

However, our neighborhood is in favor of further improvements to this corridor in the event that contingency funding becomes available. This includes constructing the missing sidewalk on the south side of Naito Parkway directly adjacent to the BNSF railroad tracks (between 9th and 15th), which would greatly improve pedestrian access between our neighborhood and the Field Office development. In addition, our neighborhood has repeatedly requested the City to regrade the BNSF crossing at 9th Avenue just south of the Naito Parkway intersection, which is in poor condition and is a continuous hazard for people using wheelchairs, pushing strollers, or riding on bicycles. It is likely the last mainline rail crossing in the Central City to see any recent improvements, and the LID would be a welcomed opportunity to finally upgrade this crossing. On a related note, we believe that there are striping and signal improvements that the City can implement at the Naito/9th intersection to facilitate safer turning movements for people on bicycles turning from westbound Naito Parkway to southbound 9th Avenue into our neighborhood. These changes, such as striping a left-turn bicycle box, would reduce conflicts between bicycle riders and motorists that are queuing to turn left at the intersection.

We would also like to see more robust bicycle facilities than what has currently been proposed by the City. We recognize that the current scope of the project limits the City to striping improvements between the existing curbs. However, it would be beneficial to see some barrier elements used to protect the proposed buffered bicycle lanes from general traffic. And where the proposed buffered bicycle lanes transition to standard striped lanes near NW 15th Avenue (to accommodate two on-street curbside parking lanes on each side of the street near the Field Office), we think that one of these proposed parking lanes should be removed in order to accommodate full buffers through the entire study area. This would avoid bicycle lanes that are within the door zone of parked cars and will increase the safety and comfort for people riding through the area.



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Finally, our neighborhood has also expressed the desire for the City to request other developers to contribute to the LID (in exchange for SDC credits), in an effort to increase the amount of available funding for additional improvements. A cursory glance at current development projects in the vicinity include the Rivage Apartments, Riverscape Lot 1 Apartments, Fremont Place, and any potential redevelopment at Centennial Mills. These projects may be good candidates for future LID contribution, as they will increase the amount of traffic on Naito Parkway, which directly impacts its pavement condition.

The PDNA supports the Naito Parkway/Front Avenue LID and urges the City Council to pass this ordinance to rebuild the pavement and improve bicycle access for this growing neighborhood in Northwest Portland. We look forward to working with the City to implement this project, and potentially find additional resources to help meet identified needs in this growing corridor.

Sincerely,

Reza Farhoodi Pearl District Neighborhood Association Co-Chair, Planning and Transportation Committee