

**From:** Darlene Carlson [<mailto:darcarlson@comcast.net>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 20, 2017 3:01 PM  
**To:** 'TSP3@portlandoregon.gov'  
**Subject:** Retain Current Emergency Route Designation of SE 20th & 21st

I am a resident of SE 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue and have lived here for 11 years. We donated \$500 and personally raised another \$2,500 from Stan Amy of New Seasons to help purchase the speed bumps on SE 21<sup>st</sup>. They have been worth every penny. We moved here from another Portland neighborhood so we could be close to shopping, have great bus service, and a less auto-centered life. Living on a busy street is challenging to say the least. It is noisy, dirty and unpleasant generally. Development brought more traffic and noise from delivery trucks, food trucks, patrons, garbage trucks, a tattoo parlor, late night patrons and workers. However, the other things we gained made it worth putting up with most of the time. We worked with business owners and I talked to garbage truck drivers at 4:00 a.m. in the middle of the street! When we had the opportunity to slow down the traffic on 21<sup>st</sup>, we and our neighbors were ready and willing to raise the required \$10,000.

The speed bumps have really made a difference. Our street is relatively narrow and is often one lane due to existing truck, delivery and garbage service. We have four restaurants, a bar/restaurant, optical shop, spas, and a realty office across the street and on 21<sup>st</sup> and Division. Closer to Powell, People's Market delivery trucks make it a one-lane street many times a week. During their weekly Farmer's Market, there are pedestrians crossing everywhere. We really need our speed bumps.

Urban noise is another issue that has been really hard. The faster cars and trucks and motorcycles go, the more noise they generate. My experience with speed cushions is that they don't slow traffic but make dodging them a game drivers like to play. We are the middle of a great neighborhood. Pedestrians crossing the street are safer today because of the speed bumps. We have grandchildren living with us who attend schools in the neighborhood. We walk to New Season's with our shopping cart. Bicycles are everywhere. It's not a street that should be opened up to faster traffic.

SE 20<sup>th</sup> is a lovely residential street. They were so thrilled when the speed limit was posted at 25 mph and their speed bumps were installed. Don't make changes that make it more dangerous, noisy and unpleasant to live close to services in walkable neighborhoods. Emergency services are important, but striking a balance is important, too. For the few times emergency services need to use 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, don't wreck our livability.

Thank you.

Darlene Carlson  
2722 SE 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Portland, OR