



PORTLAND OFF-ROAD CYCLING MASTER PLAN

Project Advisory Committee Meeting #9

Meeting Summary

MEETING DATE: THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2017
LOCATION: BUREAU OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY, 1900 SW 4TH AVENUE, PORTLAND
TIME: 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

In Attendance

CAC Members Present

Punneh Abdolhossieni
Erin Chipps
Matthew Erdman
Jocelyn Gaudi
Mike Houck
Torrey Lindbo
Kelly McBride
Renee Meyers
Jim Owens
Nastassja Pace
Bob Sallinger
Evan Smith
Michael Whitesel

CAC Members Absent

Kelsey Cardwell
Adnan Kadir
Carrie Leonard
Kelly McBride

Agency Representatives and Resource Members

Maya Agarwal, *Portland Parks & Recreation*
Lucy Cohen, *Portland Parks & Recreation*
Rachel Felice, *Portland Parks & Recreation*
Jill Van Winkle, *Portland Parks & Recreation*
Shannah Anderson, *Portland Bureau of Environmental Services*
Jennifer Devlin, *Portland Bureau of Environmental Services*
Marc Peters, *Portland Bureau of Environmental Services*
Abra McNair, *Portland Bureau of Transportation*

Staff and Consultants

Michelle Kunec-North, *Project Manager, BPS*
Tom Armstrong, *BPS*
Kristen Lohse, *Toole Design Group*
Adrienne DeDona, *Facilitator, JLA Public Involvement*
Jamie Harvie, *JLA Public Involvement*
John Todoroff, *JLA Public Involvement*

Audience / Members of the Public

Val Aitchison

Will Aitchison

Dave Bisers

Les Blaize

Tori Bortman

Carolyn Buppert

Spencer Bushnell

Marilyn Butler

Nancy Crumpacker

Tom Cunningham

Paolo Dabbeni

Christy Galen

Marshall Gannett

John Goveia

Daniel Greenstadt

Pam Hayes

Kerstin Holster

Marcy Houle

Andy Jansy

Robin Jensen

Chris Jones

Bob Lessard

Litza Lovell

Juston Manville

Brendan McGillicuddy

Chris Rotvik

Susan Rotvik

Katie Selin

Daniel Sharp

David Shaw

Bob Shotland

Catherine Thompson

Overview

The committee:

- Discussed next steps for site screening and system planning.
- Provided input on candidate sites for off-road cycling facilities in Northwest Portland.
- Discussed and provided input on draft planning principles for considering off-road cycling opportunities in Forest Park.

Welcome, Agenda Review & General Announcements

Adrienne DeDona, JLA Public Involvement, welcomed everyone to the meeting and reviewed the agenda. Committee members, agency representatives and project team members introduced themselves.

There was an update from Portland Parks & Recreation on the Forest Park Entrance and Nature Center project and online survey. There is not yet a concept plan for the trailhead project in Forest Park. Results from the online survey will be posted to the project website in the coming weeks. For more information, visit:

<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/71395>.

Meeting 8 Summary

Adrienne asked for any comments or questions about the Meeting 8 summary. There were none.

Site Screening and System Planning — Next Steps

Process Update

Kristen presented the project workflow diagram (attached) as a reminder of the work that has been done so far to identify proposed off-road cycling sites. She explained the project is currently in Step 4: Desktop Site Assessment. Kristen reviewed the previous and future phases:

- Step 1 involved the “fatal flaw” screening. The process began with 1,425 City properties. A GIS level analysis eliminated some properties from considerations based on criteria such as size, topography, natural resources constraints, archaeological significance, regulatory constraints, existing master plans, and compatibility with the neighborhood and current land uses. After this screening process, 350 sites still remained for consideration.

- Step 2 review utilized GIS level analysis and review by the Project Advisory Committee and included more qualitative criteria pertaining to the appropriateness of the site, reducing the number of candidate properties to 225. This step also categorized properties as potential sites for parks or for trails, depending on factors such as slope, size, and existing development.

A committee member expressed concern that the term “screen” would imply that screened out properties would remain permanently off the table for consideration. Kristen responded that the properties in Step 1 would be, but some of those eliminated in Step 2 could be revisited, depending on what is heard in upcoming public engagement process; community feedback could also help to rule out some of the properties that made it through the first rounds of screening.

- Step 3, Initial Opportunity Mapping, involved identifying potential sites in terms of community needs and existing level of service, geographic distribution, and connectivity to existing networks of facilities.
- Step 4, the current phase, involves a Desktop Site Assessment, in which staff are considering sites while considering the regulatory restrictions, existing master plans and management plans, environmental factors, and neighborhood compatibility.
- Step 5 will be to share the map of candidate sites and how they were selected with the public. The upcoming public outreach will likely include an online, interactive map with a feedback feature, plus face-to-face meetings.

A committee member expressed that it will be important to ensure good public engagement.

- Step 6 will be an on-the-ground site assessment where the project team will evaluate site conditions for their suitability for cycling, as well as environmental conditions and other factors pertaining to the site’s appropriateness.
- Finally, a draft citywide system map of proposed locations will be presented to the committee for review and input, then shared with the public for their review and input.

Looking ahead to upcoming meetings

Adrienne reviewed the upcoming schedule of committee meetings and topics:

February The committee will review and provide feedback on the draft overall system concept.

March There will not be a PAC meeting in March mostly due to spring break. Public outreach on potential sites and the system plan concept will take place beginning in February and continue through March.

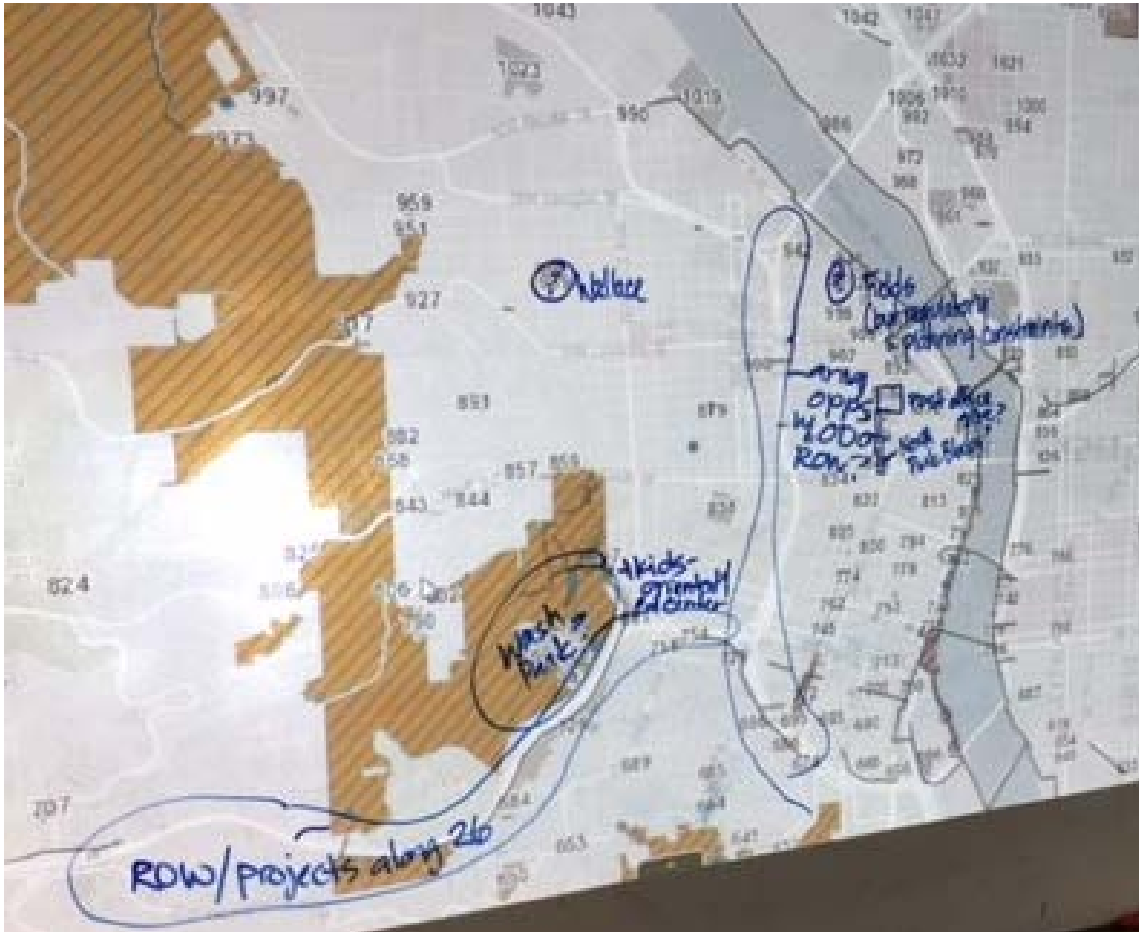
April The committee will review the refined system plan concept and implementation strategies.

May The committee will review the draft plan and formulate a recommendation. Because of Memorial Day, the committee might need to reschedule the meeting for a different day than the usual fourth Thursday of the month.

June The Plan is expected to go to City Council.

Review and Refine Potential Candidate Sites: Focus on Northwest Portland

Michelle and Kristen presented the Off Road Cycling Initial Screening Results online interactive map and asked the committee to provide input on sites in Northwest Portland. The committee was asked to identify the most fruitful opportunities and some that might be eliminated based upon their collective knowledge of the area, and to consider factors such as possible connections, neighborhood demographics, and nearby amenities.



Feedback from committee members about sites in Northwest Portland included:

- A committee member suggested considering ODOT-owned right-of-way land along I-405 and another member also suggested similar land along US-26.
- A committee member commented that Washington Park is the most accessible park by transit. Something kids-oriented would be appropriate for Washington Park, considering the already existing programming and attractions there, including the new Education Center that is currently under construction at the zoo.
- A committee member identified Fields Park as a possibility. A resource member responded that there could be issues with contamination and legal restrictions associated with the land. Another committee member pointed out that the park was designed for specific functions, and that making any changes to existing parks would be very difficult considering the thoroughness of the public process that goes into park master plans, such as this one.
- A committee member identified Wallace Park (next to Chapman Elementary) as a good option for a small pump track.
- A committee member identified the North Park Blocks as a potential site.

- A committee member identified the Post Office redevelopment site as a blank slate and huge opportunity.
- Committee members pointed out that near Forest Park there are wetlands restoration areas, Metro-owned properties, and utility corridors off of Skyline Boulevard that should be considered.
- A committee member said that Kingsley Park on the north side of Linnton has potential because it could possibly foster connections with Linnton’s after school program.
- A committee member said the Rail-to-Trail project next to Cornelius Pass Road could create a connection from Skyline Elementary to Highway 30.

Forest Park Planning Principles & Concepts

Michelle presented a draft of the Forest Park Planning Principles and Concepts for discussion (attached).

Michelle noted that Forest Park is an important natural resource area and it currently includes trails for off-road cycling. She explained to the committee that the question facing the group currently is whether or not the Off-Road Cycling Master Plan should propose expanding or improving off-road cycling access in Forest Park. She explained that answering “yes” would mean the Master Plan would include conceptual level projects, guidelines and best practices for construction and management, programmatic recommendations, guidelines for community engagement, and next steps. These projects would require future approval by City Council, obtaining funding, detailed design and alignment planning, additional community engagement, and environmental review. Answering “No” to this question would mean keeping the existing ORC uses in Forest Park.

Michelle said that any future trail changes in Forest Park would involve funding challenges as well as multiple environmental and regulatory reviews. She presented a table (in the attached presentation slide show) comparing the various complexities, costs and hurdles associated with changing use, modifying, or closing existing trails or building new ones in the park. Michelle discussed how construction, management, environmental, regulatory, and financial factors come into play to varying degrees.

A committee member asked a question about how the above considerations would interact with the existing Forest Park Natural Resources Management Plan (FPNRMP). Michelle responded that recommendations made by the committee would need to align with the goals of the FPNRMP and that any proposed new construction in the park would need to go through environmental review unless it was already identified in the plan as allowed. Another committee member pointed out that any new or modified off-road cycling facilities outside Forest Park would also require the same funding, approval, design and alignment planning, and community engagement, and would likely trigger an environmental review. Michelle agreed and clarified that some areas might have different environmental review requirements whereas any change in Forest Park would require environmental review.

A committee member circled back to the “yes” or “no” question described above and suggested that instead the question should be if a trail is appropriate or not. Michelle reiterated that the question is asking if trails in Forest Park should be explored further down the line.

Michelle explained that the FPNRMP contains a list of allowed projects, none of which include off-road cycling, so there are not already planned off-road cycling improvements that are compatible with the FPNRMP.

Based on this information, Michelle asked the committee whether the Off-Road Cycling Master Plan should propose expanding and/or improving off-road cycling access in Forest Park. The Committee agreed that they either want the plan to include expansion and/or improvement of ORC uses in Forest Park or that they thought the idea should be explored

further although they may have had some ideas or concerns that may need to be addressed before committing to a yes or no answer at this time

A committee member asked about a report on single track cycling that was developed in 2010, and what the committee could glean from it. Michelle responded that it serves as a useful starting point for looking at potential improvements, provides guidance for further discussions, and does some useful framing around types of restoration monitoring.

Draft Principles Discussion

Michelle provided copies of the draft Forest Park Planning Principles and Concepts (attached).

She reminded the committee that their role as an advisory committee will be to respond to the draft Principles by providing a range of individual perspectives but not necessarily reaching consensus. Michelle pointed out that the discussion about these principles at this meeting would be with Forest Park in mind, however the Principles may also apply more generally to other properties under consideration. Michelle noted that committee perspectives will inform BPS staff recommendation to City Council. The committee will have the opportunity to send their thoughts to City Council in their committee report.

Michelle shared the desired outcomes developed earlier in the process and the corresponding Draft Planning Principles. PAC members were asked to weigh in on each set of draft Principles by holding green, yellow, or red signs that indicated, respectively: "I support this concept", "I support this concept, but have ideas or concerns about it", or "I do not support this concept".

Desired Outcome 1: "Is built on an inclusive, constructive, and transparent planning process..."

The PAC indicated support for this set of draft principles, with a few ideas for improvement.

Comments from committee members:

- Be more specific about what "diverse community" and "under-represented community" mean.
- Environmental assessment should come first in the process.
- Keep prior plans in mind as side boards rather than duplicating work or creating brand new processes. Do not recreate the wheel.
- The community engagement plan must ensure that we will hear from all sides of the issue, not just those who have something to gain.
- Respect studies that have been done in the past.

Desired Outcome 2: "Lays a foundation for how off-road cycling is understood, discussed, and planned for in Portland"

The majority of PAC members indicated that they had some questions and concerns about this set of principles.

Comments from committee members:

- We should review the process already in the Forest Park Natural Resources Master Plan for expanding off-road cycling.
- Forest Park is highly visible and will require a "top of your game" effort regarding signage and interpretation. This is a unique opportunity to set the tone for the entire city.
- Some of the sites we are considering have existing master plans while others are starting from ground zero. There is tension between past planning efforts and future goals for recreation considering forecasted growth in the 2035 Comprehensive Plan. We should be looking both backwards and forwards.

- There is a huge opportunity to set the tone for the rest of the city with this Plan because it is so visible and polarizing. The stakes are high.
- Define “foundation” better.
- Think regionally. Be consistent about how we talk about community needs. Ecological needs should be addressed at the same level.

Desired Outcome 3: “Blends visionary goals with a practical and realistic approach”

The majority of PAC members indicated support for this set of draft principles, with a few concerns.

Comments from committee members:

- Regarding item C, the objective to align with the goals of the Forest Park Natural Resources Management Plan, how much should we be concerned about aligning with goals that are so outdated? A lot has been learned in the 22 years since the plan was adopted. Resource staff responded with a discussion about how FPNRP Plan goals are timeless ecological principles.
- The Off-road Cycling Master Plan should be science-based and data-driven as much as possible.

Desired Outcome 4: “Designs with nature, by enhancing nature in the city and avoiding, limiting then mitigating adverse impacts on wildlife and natural resources...”

The PAC mostly indicated support for this set of principles, with a few concerns.

Comments from committee members:

- The language of the principles should be clear about the use of the word “impacts”. Negative impacts should be avoided, but there can be positive impacts associated with trail improvements.
- In item D (“Encourage continued monitoring of natural resources...”), replace the word “encourage” with “ensure”.

Desired Outcome 5: “Identifies a variety of trails and facilities that accommodate different ages, abilities, and riding experiences to meet community needs.”

Most PAC members indicated they had concerns or ideas for improvement with regard to this set of draft principles.

Comments from committee members:

- In response to the bullet under item B about including one loop of at least 10 miles, there is no need to specify the length of loop trails.
- All of these recommendations should be predicated on the results of the analysis.
- Do not exclude particular uses without some sort of analysis about whether they are appropriate.
- Why does the text recommend not creating downhill-style trails or man-made riding features? There are already steep riding trails in Forest Park.
- Define “man-made features”. There is a wide range of types of man-made features with varying degrees of impact on the environment. Man-made features in some cases can help mitigate environmental impacts.
- Item D, “Create connections to improve access to the park by bicycle,” is important.
- It is putting the cart before the horse to say that we will design a 10-mile trail. This length of trail might be too ambitious and unrealistic, considering how much effort it takes to plan and design short trails. Instead of a specific length, we should try to define what would be a meaningful experience. Another committee member responded that specifying a length could be a useful lever for advocating for cyclist’s needs.
- Downhill trails may be a deterrent to family visitors.

- Remote areas of the park, more removed from pedestrians, could be sites for aggressive features.
- Two resource members expressed to the committee the importance of staying out of the undeveloped areas on the north side of Forest Park because of their ecological value. Expressing this section of Forest Park is essentially off the table.
- Existing fire lane trails should be considered for off-road cycling.

Desired Outcome 6: “Promotes the health, safety, and enjoyment of all park users...”

The PAC mostly indicated support for this set of principles, with a few concerns.

Comments from committee members:

- Three committee members expressed support for creating bike-only trails.
- A few of the trails could be modified to accommodate shared uses.
- It is unnecessarily specific to call out trail speed limits under item B.
- When thinking about shared uses, we need to consider the implications for park management, such as the capacity of staff to deal with conflict issues.
- In opposition to the first bullet point under item B, some pedestrian-only trails should be considered for conversion to shared use trails. Any trail could be converted, so the clause “if they are not, or cannot, be designed for such use” is not helpful to the planning process.
- Do not try to design by speed. There are ways to design trails to make them more safe, but dictating speed will create more problems.

Desired Outcome 7: “Build community ownership and partnerships for the stewardship of Portland parks, natural areas...”

The PAC mostly indicated support for this set of draft principles, with a few concerns.

Comments from committee members:

- In the second bullet, do not specify Northwest Trail Alliance. Maybe other organizations could provide expertise.
- Where does money for trail permit fees go? Will it be guaranteed to go toward park maintenance?

Desired Outcome 8: “Plans for responsible design management of off-road cycling trails and facilities to cost-effectively meet community needs.”

The PAC mostly indicated support for this set of draft principles. One committee member commented that signage, maps, and the Ranger Program could provide educational and skill-building opportunities in addition to establishing rules and providing enforcement.

Public Comment

Will Aitchison asked the committee not to add off-road cycling facilities at Forest Park. He said that there are already many miles of bicycling trails, and adding new bike trails would impact the natural ecosystem. He expressed concern that expanding shared-use trails would be a risk to both pedestrian safety and the environment. He said he is in favor of maintaining or improving existing bike trails and improving enforcement of bike regulations.

Juston Manville cited a Bureau of Land Management study that says mountain biking has the same impact on trails as running and hiking. He argued that there is research which suggests mountain biking should be categorized as a passive activity, which would be compatible with the FPNRMP.

Val Aitchison said that she and Forest Park neighbors believe expanding off-road cycling facilities in Forest Park is a terrible idea. She is concerned about the balance of interests represented on the committee, which she sees as favoring bike advocates rather than hikers. She said that the committee's work so far has gone under the radar and there should be more neighborhood outreach ahead of what she expects to be huge community opposition.

Les Blaize expressed displeasure with the new park entrance, considering it not a good use of money, which would be better spent on improving trails. He argued for a long-term perspective on planning for Forest Park, and since it is currently overused, any additional facilities would have a negative impact on the park. He added that park neighbors are not represented on the committee.

Katie Selin commended the committee for the excellent work they have done so far. She and her mountain biking friends are excited about the prospect of more biking opportunities in Forest Park. She is optimistic that the committee and planners will be able to find creative ways to mitigate trail use conflicts.

Pam Hayes indicated opposition to sharing trails with mountain bikes, since she believes it ruins the pedestrian experience. She said she is opposed to reclassifying any existing pedestrian-only trails, which are already crowded, as shared trails. She would support isolated new bike-only trails in the area between Highway 30 and Leif Erickson. She said that illegal bike riding is currently a big problem in Forest Park as well as other natural areas such as Powell Butte. She said that there must be a strong enforcement plan, and self-enforcement among cyclists, to prevent misuse of trails and conflicts with pedestrian uses.

Marilyn Butler argued against altering pedestrian trails to allow biking, because biking negatively impacts the pedestrian experience more than pedestrians impact mountain bikers' experience. She is concerned that the interests of cyclists are being given disproportionate weight compared to pedestrians in the committee's process, and suggested that pedestrian advocates should be on the committee.

Spencer Bushnell said that in his many years of riding, hiking, and running, he has never collided with someone on the trail. He believes that the hiking community is poisoning this argument by exaggerating dangers and overestimating the mileage of bike trails. He is in favor of isolated bike-only trails and said that there is plenty of space downhill from Leif Erickson to build them.

Tom Cunningham argued for maintaining the valuable legacy of Forest Park, comparing it to the legacy of Oregon's public beaches. He said that he has witnessed bicyclists running people off the trail. He said biking should not be classified as a passive use. He suggested looking at Kelley Point Park as a potential site for off-road cycling facilities.

Marcie Houle said that scientists have deemed Forest Park as the most significant native ecosystem in an urban area in the country, and that scientific understanding of the park's ecological value justifies the strong environmental protections in the FPNRMP. She provided a printed handout (attached) with links to scientific studies as well as data from the Forest Park Recreation User Study.

Catherine Thompson cited statistics from studies showing that Forest Park is mostly used by pedestrians. She also argued that cycling should be a low priority use because of its relative unpopularity and also because increasing off-road cycling facilities in the park would do nothing to help achieve the goal of increasing demographic diversity of park users. She argued that more soft-surface hiking trails would bring in more minorities and seniors. She submitted a compilation of 236 comments from Forest Park users (attached).

Dave Bizers said that since Forest Park is the only park of its size, it is unacceptable to shut out bicycle users. He said that there should be shared use trails and that park neighbors shouldn't have more right to use the trails than other users. He

said that mountain bikes do not have more impact than hikers. He said that many mountain bikers volunteer time for trail maintenance.

Kerstin Holster said that she is a pro mountain biker and a trail guide. She said she has to travel quite far to get to areas with challenging trails and places where she can teach biking skills to others. She said that she would love the opportunity to ride in Forest Park, and acknowledges that there is a safety issue with shared trails.

In addition to the verbal comments, twelve written comment cards were provided, as well as several letters delivered to the committee. Written comments are attached.

Next Steps

Adrienne thanked everyone for staying at the meeting which ran over time. At the next meeting there will be further discussion of the Forest Park Planning Concepts and candidate sites, including presenting a draft overall system concept for review and feedback.

Attached

- Project flow chart
- Presentation slideshow
- Desired outcomes and draft Forest Park Planning Principles
- Written comments and letters submitted to the Off-Road Cycling Project Advisory Committee

Attachment:

Project flow chart



PORTLAND OFF-ROAD CYCLING MASTER PLAN

How is the project identifying proposed off-road cycling sites?

The diagram below describes the process for screening City-owned properties and developing a draft map. The draft map will show a proposed system of off-road cycling trails and parks that provide will variety of high-quality off-road cycling experiences in a safe and sustainable way.

Starting point:
All properties owned by the City of Portland, within the city limits (about 1,425 properties)

Step 1. Fatal Flaw Screening

This initial step screened out properties with certain physical characteristics that make them unsuitable for off-road cycling:

- Smaller than 2 acres
- Average slope greater than 70%
- Archaeological significance
- More than 50% wetland
- Already fully developed
- Designated prime industrial land

The project team completed this screening using the best available GIS information with review by the Project Advisory Committee. After Step 1, approximately 350 properties remained under consideration.

Step 2. Off-road Cycling Assessment

This step screened out properties that would not provide a meaningful off-road cycling experience. It categorized remaining sites as potentially suitable for off-road cycling trails, parks, or both.

A property was identified as potential **park** site if:

- There is minimal average slope (<15%)
- It is not a Natural Area
- Less than 70% of the site has a high Natural Resource Inventory rating

A property was identified as a potential **trail** site if:

- It is larger than 5 acres
- It could provide a minimum of 1 mile of feasible trail length based on the following trail densities:
 - Natural Areas: 1 mile/50+ acres
 - Developed sites of 5-20 acres: 1 mile/1-5 acres
 - Developed sites larger than 20 acres: 1 mile/6-20 acres

The project team completed this step using the best available GIS information with review by the Project Advisory Committee. After Step 2, approximately 225 properties were forwarded to Step 3.

Step 3. Initial opportunity mapping

The Project Advisory Committee, technical advisors, and the project team will identify initial sites that might offer opportunities to provide a network of diverse off-road cycling experiences. The project team will also consider:

- Overall community needs and levels of service
- Geographic distribution of potential sites
- Connectivity and accessibility by bicycle and transit networks

The opportunity sites that are identified in this step will become the focus of Step 4.

Step 4. Desktop Site Assessment

This step will further assess whether opportunity sites can provide quality, sustainable off-road cycling facilities, using more detailed information than previous steps. Considerations for each site might include:

- Regulatory restrictions
- Existing master and management plans
- Environmental factors, such as habitat, soils, and waterways
- Compatibility with other existing or planned recreational facilities on the property

The project team will complete the desktop site assessment using the best available GIS information and input from City property managers.

★ We are here
December 2016

Other Plan components
(Existing inventory, needs assessment, best practices, community input, etc.)

Step 6. On-the-ground Site Assessment

Specialists in environmental conservation and off-road cycling facility design will examine potential sites that have unique features or challenges. During these field visits, these consultants might:

- Confirm suitability for the types of riding experiences proposed
- Verify environmental conditions
- Identify site-specific factors that might impact the design, construction, or management of a facility
- Consider potential impacts to adjacent property owners

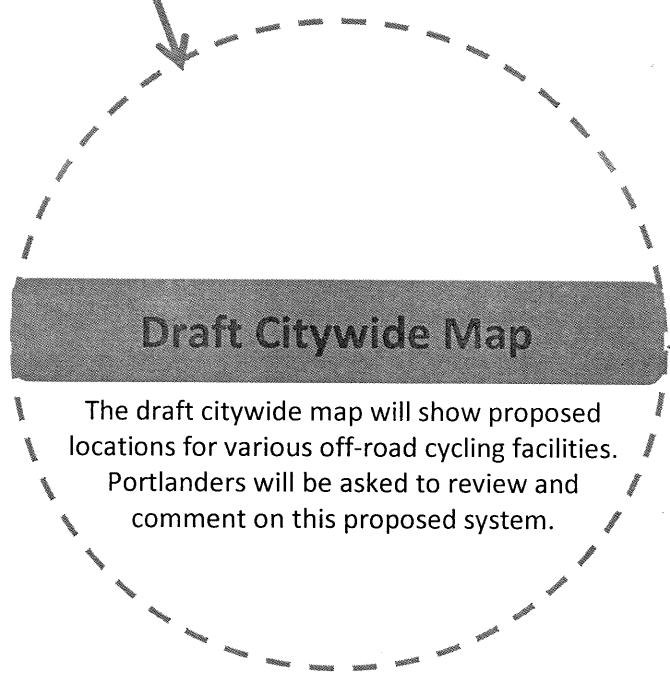
Step 5. Community Feedback

As part of a broader community engagement strategy, community members will be able to explore and comment on all potential off-road cycling sites via an online, interactive map. Sites that were screened out in Steps 1 through 4 will also be identified.

Community members will be asked to help shape the plan by:

- Commenting on potential sites,
- Voicing their priorities for Portland's parks and trails,
- Identifying ways to create a varied off-road cycling system that meets community needs
- Verifying the results of Steps 1 through 4,
- Identifying potential management opportunities or challenges that should be explored further.

Early
2017



DRAFT

Attachment:

Presentation slide show

Off-road Cycling & Forest Park



Project Advisory Committee

January 26, 2017

Question:

Should the Off-road Cycling Master Plan propose expanding or improving off-road cycling access in Forest Park?

If No, the Plan will not recommend expanding or enhancing off-road cycling opportunities with the park.

If Yes, how can it be accomplished in a way that forwards the multiple goals for Forest Park and the Off-road Cycling Master Plan?

What does “Yes” mean?

The Plan would make recommendations that include:

- Concept-level projects
 - project descriptions
 - conceptual alignments
 - planning-level cost estimates
 - additional considerations
- Guidelines and best practices for construction and management
- Complementary restoration and programmatic recommendations
- Guidelines for community engagement
- Next steps

What types of projects could be considered?

Trail changes

- changing allowed users
 - improving or changing the alignment of trails
 - closing trail segments
 - building new trails
-
- Projects could improve access or create new recreational opportunities for multiple types of users.
 - Projects could include complementary natural resource protection, enhancement or restoration.

But wait...

Recommendations would need to be adopted by City Council.

If adopted, implementing any changes to trails in Forest Park will require:

- additional funding
- approval through the PP&R and City budget's CIP process
- detailed design and alignment planning
- more opportunities for community engagement
- Type II or III environmental review

in accordance with the Forest Park Natural Resource Management Plan and the Portland Zoning Code

All projects would be at least somewhat complex or costly.

	Change Use of Existing Trail	Improve/Modify Existing Trail	Close Existing Trail	Build New Trail
Construction	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Management	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Environmental	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Regulatory*	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Financial	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Least complex/costly
 Moderate
 Most complex/costly

* Regulatory factor includes environmental review procedures and other requirements set by the Forest Park Natural Resources Management Plan and the Northwest Hills Plan District

Question:

Should the Off-road Cycling Master Plan propose expanding or improving off-road cycling access in Forest Park?

Green Yes, I think the Plan should propose improvement and/or expansion of off-road cycling access. More detailed discussion is needed to craft recommendations.

Yellow I think this idea should be explored further, but have ideas/caveats/concerns. I am not committing to a yes or no answer at this time.

Red No, I don't think the Plan should recommend any expansion or improvements.

Draft Planning Principles

- What are they?
- Where did they come from?
- How would they be used?
- What is the Committee's role?



DESIRED OUTCOME The Portland Off-road Cycling Master Plan...

Is built on an inclusive, constructive, and transparent planning process that:

- Fosters an open, honest, and productive conversation that is easy and fun to participate in and that builds trust in City planning efforts
- Is inclusive, engages historically under-represented groups, and brings people with different perspectives and experiences together
- Engages kids and families
- Is coordinated across City Bureaus and leadership
- Looks to other cities for best practices and tools to create a reasoned and sustainable approach to planning, designing and managing off-road cycling trails and facilities.

Draft Forest Park Planning Principles

- A. Support an inclusive and transparent planning process for off-road cycling access in Forest Park, following the Off-road Cycling Master Plan's Community Engagement Plan.
- B. Engage diverse community members from across the city in the planning process, as Forest Park serves the entire city. Ensure the voices of historically under-represented groups are included in the planning process.
- C. Encourage the participation of park users and others who will be directly impacted by any recommendations.

DESIRED OUTCOME The Portland Off-road Cycling Master Plan...

Lays a foundation for how off-road cycling is understood, discussed and planned for in Portland. The Plan establishes the role of the City and its public spaces in meeting off-road cycling needs and provides a comprehensive framework for successfully meeting community needs. The Plan defines off-road cycling and develops a baseline understanding of who is, or would like to, ride off-road in the city now and in the future.

Draft Forest Park Planning Principles

(none proposed)

Attachment:

Desired outcomes and draft Forest Park Planning Principles

DESIRED OUTCOME

The Portland Off-road Cycling Master Plan...

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- C. Encourage the participation of park users and others who will be directly impacted by any recommendations.

DESIRED OUTCOME

The Portland Off-road Cycling Master Plan...

Lays a foundation for how off-road cycling is understood, discussed and planned**for in Portland.** The Plan establishes the role of the City and its public spaces in meeting off-road cycling needs and provides a comprehensive framework for successfully meeting community needs. The Plan defines off-road cycling and develops a baseline understanding of who is, or would like to, ride off-road in the city now and in the future.**Draft Forest Park Planning Principles***(none proposed)*

DESIRED OUTCOME

The Portland Off-road Cycling Master Plan...

Blends visionary goals with a practical and realistic approach. The plan is realistic, feasible, and works within the context of community needs and values, City goals, Portland's urban environment and landscape, and regulatory constraints. But, it is also visionary, ambitious, and strives to make Portland a national example for incorporating off-road cycling into healthy communities. The Plan thinks creatively about all opportunities across the City, and within the region. To realize long-term success, the Plan sets a clear course for implementation by addressing funding, design, development, and management.

Draft Forest Park Planning Principles

- A. Recognize the role of Forest Park as a regionally significant ecological, recreational, and educational resource. Recognize that the unique natural quality of Forest Park makes it popular and cherished place to recreate, learn and reflect.
- B. In planning for off-road cycling access in Forest Park, advance recommendations that will meet multiple goals and foster improved ecological and recreational conditions in the park.
- C. Develop recommendations that align with the goals and strategies in the Forest Park Natural Resource Management Plan, including the Goals for Trail Management, the Northwest Hills Management Plan, and the Greater Forest Park Conservation Initiative.
 - Use the Management Units (divides the park into North, Central, and South management units) and the vision for each unit to guide planning and recommendations.
 - Recognize that trail improvements, closures, or development will require environmental review, which adds to the complexity and cost of a project.

DESIRED OUTCOME

The Portland Off-road Cycling Master Plan...

Designs with nature, by enhancing nature in the city and avoiding, limiting then

mitigating adverse impacts on wildlife and natural resources, including fish and wildlife habitat and water resources. The Plan incorporates the City's watershed health goals and reflects best practices in sustainable off-road cycling systems in its policy guidance, siting criteria, design, and management strategies.

Draft Forest Park Planning Principles

- A. Apply ecologically sustainable best management practices to the siting, design, construction, and maintenance of trails.
- B. Enhance nature in the park. Aim for a net ecological benefit through implementation of Plan recommendations.
 - Pursue opportunities to pair enhanced recreational access with restoration of habitat and water resources, particularly as established in the park's Desired Future Conditions and Ecological Prescriptions.
 - Where opportunities exist, encourage the narrowing of trail corridors to improve habitat function and cycling experience.
 - Encourage the improvement or closure of existing trail segments that are unnecessary, poorly designed, or which negatively impact areas with the highest ecological function and value.
- C. Avoid, limit, then mitigate adverse impacts on wildlife and natural resources.
 - Avoid impacts to areas of park with highest ecological function and value, including the North unit, interior forest, the Balch and Miller Creek Watersheds, the Newton Wetlands and Doane Lake, and rare plant and animal communities. In other areas, plan any new trail alignments or trail management activities to result in the least impact to sensitive habitat areas.
 - Limit impacts to forest vegetation. Site and design trails to avoid removal of native forest vegetation if possible. Mitigate any unavoidable removal through revegetation strategies.
 - Limit impacts to streams and other water resources. Site and design trails using best management practices to limit erosive potential, stream crossings, and the creation of impervious surfaces, and otherwise reduce potential negative impacts.
- D. Encourage continued monitoring of natural resources and fish and wildlife populations within the park. Use adaptive management strategies, potentially including the temporary or permanent closure of trails, to address unintended impacts.

DESIRED OUTCOME

The Portland Off-road Cycling Master Plan...

Identifies a variety of trails and facilities that accommodate different ages, abilities, and riding experiences to meet community needs, while establishing where these facilities are most appropriate. The Plan envisions opportunities to expand access to recreation and nature across the city, especially for children, people of color and underserved communities. It proposes a bicycle- or transit- accessible system of off-road cycling trails and facilities for recreation and transportation across the city.

Draft Forest Park Planning Principles

- A. Continue to allow off-road cycling where currently allowed, unless the Off-road Cycling Master Plan recommends restricting access on certain trails for environmental or user-experience reasons.
- B. Enhance and expand appropriate opportunities to ride a bicycle off-road within Forest Park. Recognize cycling as a recreational activity that is appropriate within Forest Park, if provided sustainably, responsibly and in accordance the park’s management goals.
 - Manage recreational use intensity on a gradient ranging from the most intense in the South unit to the least intense in the North unit.
 - Enhance cross-country cycling experiences, which are best suited to the topography and character of the park.
 - Focus on opportunities to create narrow to mid-width cross-country trails.
 - Create loops, ideally stacked loops, to provide a variety of riding options and lengths. Include one loop of at least 10 miles, the length of the average cross-country ride.
 - Do not recommend the creation of bike parks, the development of downhill-style trails, or the use of manmade riding features.
- C. Provide information on each trail segment’s level of difficulty through signage and other public information to improve accessibility for riders of all abilities and skill levels. Avoid the use of bollards or other barriers that may restrict access by some users.
- D. Create connections to improve access to the park by bicycle.
 - Connect cycling trails within Forest Park to the regional trail system to allow for longer riding experiences and encourage people to “ride to ride”.
 - Encourage use of transit, pedestrian and bicycle access to the park. Encourage the development of trailheads along transit access. Connect any trailheads that provide access to cycling trails to the City’s paved bicycle network.

DESIRED OUTCOME

The Portland Off-road Cycling Master Plan...

Promotes the health, safety and enjoyment of trail and park users, including people of all ages and abilities who walk, hike, ride bicycles, and otherwise enjoy the outdoors. The Plan carefully considers the needs of diverse users of Portland's parks, employs siting and design best practices encourage mutual safety, and establishes a trail and facility system that extends quality recreational opportunities.

Draft Forest Park Planning Principles

- A. Recognize the need for pedestrian-only trail experiences. Do not recommend converting the highest-use pedestrian-only trails (the Wildwood Trail and all pedestrian-only trails in the Southern Unit) to shared use.
- B. Use best management practices in trail design and management to promote user safety and experience and reduce potential conflicts.
 - Do not recommend converting existing trails to off-road cycling use if they are not, or cannot, be designed for such use.
 - Design any recommended new trails as either shared-use or bicycle-preferred use trails, given the recreational demands on the Forest Park and the need to limit duplicative trail systems (to minimize environmental impacts).
 - Use trail design to limit cyclist speeds on shared trails to approximately 7 miles per hour while providing an enjoyable cross-country cycling experience. This is the average speed for typical cross-country riding and is equivalent to someone running an 8:30 minute mile.
 - Promote share-the-trail and other safety-oriented management practices.
- C. Maintain maintenance and emergency access routes in the Park.

DESIRED OUTCOME

The Portland Off-road Cycling Master Plan...

Builds community ownership and partnerships for the stewardship of Portland's parks, natural areas and other public properties. The Plan establishes a role for community groups, park users and volunteers – and recognizes their potential contribution – in building, managing and sustaining an off-road cycling system.

Draft Forest Park Planning Principles

- A. Encourage and support active stewardship by all trail users.
 - Support and build partnerships with park users and community organizations (including the Forest Park Conservancy, the Forest Park Alliance, and the Northwest Trails Alliance) for trail construction and maintenance, park restoration and enhancement, and education.
 - Recognize the expertise of the Northwest Trail Alliance in planning, constructing, maintaining, and programming off-road cycling facilities.
 - Encourage volunteer stewardship activities.

DESIRED OUTCOME The Portland Off-road Cycling Master Plan...

Plans for responsible design and management of off-road cycling trails and facilities to cost-effectively meet community needs. In addition, the Plan acknowledges and leverages the potential economic benefits of off-road cycling and of a comprehensive park, trail and recreation system.

Draft Forest Park Planning Principles

- A. Use signage, maps, and public information to establish rules and expectations for trail use.
- B. Recognize and support the need for continued enforcement of park rules. Support a continued and expanded Ranger Program and the use of volunteer patrols.

Attachment:

Written comments and letters submitted to the Off-Road Cycling Project Advisory Committee

PORTLAND OFF-ROAD CYCLING MASTER PLAN: COMMITTEE MEETING COMMENT FORM

DATE: 1/26/17 YOUR NAME: PAOLO DABBENI

I've 48, have been riding on dirt single track trails all my life. I actually started riding on the road since moving to Portland in 1998, the main reason is because I don't want to drive to trails every time I ride my bike. I often still drive at least 45' to 2 hours to be able to MTB. My house hold of 3 adults, 3 teenagers would love to be able to have near, accessible trails in Portland. Not 1 or 2 miles near a highway but some trails in nature where we can have a meaningful experience, thanks

PORTLAND OFF-ROAD CYCLING MASTER PLAN: COMMITTEE MEETING COMMENT FORM

DATE: 1/26/2017 YOUR NAME: Pam Hayes

I am extremely opposed to ANY (new) ^{or expanded} trail sharing on Forest Park trails. By trail sharing I mean allowing bikes on existing pedestrian trails. I would support new mtn bike trails being built below hwy Erikson Drive near highway 30.

PORTLAND OFF-ROAD CYCLING MASTER PLAN: COMMITTEE MEETING COMMENT FORM
THURSDAY, JANUARY 26TH, 2017

DATE: 1/26/17 YOUR NAME: WILL AITCHISON

ADDITIONAL CYCLING IN FOREST PARK IS
WHOLLY INCOMPATIBLE WITH OTHER USES.

SINGLE-TRACK CYCLING WOULD POSE A DANGER
TO OTHER PARK USERS, WOULD DAMAGE THE
ECOSYSTEMS IN THE PARK, AND WOULD
DETRACT FROM JUST ABOUT EVERY OTHER
USE OF THE PARK. THERE IS MORE THAN
ENOUGH CYCLING IN FOREST PARK ALREADY.

PORTLAND OFF-ROAD CYCLING MASTER PLAN: COMMITTEE MEETING COMMENT FORM
THURSDAY, JANUARY 26TH, 2017

DATE: 1/26/17 YOUR NAME: MARILYN BUTLER (not just public comment)

~~###~~ Please add pedestrian advocates to this committee. The fact that a trail can be modified to shared use (pedestrian + bike use) does not mean it should be modified to shared use. While pedestrians on a ~~bike~~ shared trail might not significantly alter the experience of the bike rider, ~~surely~~ the converse is not necessarily true; cyclists on a shared trail will significantly alter the experience of the pedestrians. I fear that ~~there is~~ by virtue of the title of the "Portland off road cycling master plan" the interests of the cyclists are being represented to a greater extent than the interests of the

PORTLAND OFF-ROAD CYCLING MASTER PLAN: COMMITTEE MEETING COMMENT FORM
THURSDAY, JANUARY 26TH, 2017

DATE: 1/26/17 YOUR NAME: BRENDAN McWILLIQUAY

I WILL THIS PROCESS REACH OUT TO NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOC. THAT WILL BE
AFFILIATED WITH PROPOSED AREAS, AS THEIR INPUT WILL BE NEEDED TO BE
HEARD AS TO THE POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE IMPACT WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.

PORTLAND OFF-ROAD CYCLING MASTER PLAN: COMMITTEE MEETING COMMENT FORM
THURSDAY, JANUARY 26TH, 2017

DATE: 1/26/2016 YOUR NAME: DAVE BISERS

- Thank you to the committee
- Forest Park only place in city of this size, must be open to bikes.
- Single track!
- Shared use mostly, some dedicated use.
- Use expert trail building knowledge of mountain bike community.

PORTLAND OFF-ROAD CYCLING MASTER PLAN: COMMITTEE MEETING COMMENT FORM
THURSDAY, JANUARY 26TH, 2017

DATE: 1/27/17 YOUR NAME: Chris Jones

Off-road cycling is an important part of my family's life. All of us, Katherine (36), August (5), Violet (2) and myself (37) want to recreate in a natural area, away from pollution and dangers, such as automobiles. Off-road cycling has been proven out through a science-based process as an ecologically sustainable activity within a wide range of forest systems. The city of Portland needs to offer access, based on demand, city-wide to its urban parks, including Forest Park.

PORTLAND OFF-ROAD CYCLING MASTER PLAN: COMMITTEE MEETING COMMENT FORM

DATE: 1/26/2017 YOUR NAME: Nancy Crumpacker - Portland 97210

1) I agree - Need EIS before proceeding

2) I have used FP for walking for 39 years -
I have used the entire Wildwood and all
secondary trails for long loops of 8-12
miles - so I am opposed to any trail
sharing between pedestrians and cyclists.

3) I oppose expanding biking trails in FP.

PORTLAND OFF-ROAD CYCLING MASTER PLAN: COMMITTEE MEETING COMMENT FORM
THURSDAY, JANUARY 26TH, 2017

DATE: 1/26/2017 YOUR NAME: Michael Murray

I walk on pedestrian trails in forest Park and have been almost run over a couple of times by bikes in places where they weren't supposed to be.

Perhaps some enforcement of current uses of trails could be put in place
Keep current use

PORTLAND OFF-ROAD CYCLING MASTER PLAN: COMMITTEE MEETING COMMENT FORM
THURSDAY, JANUARY 26TH, 2017

DATE: 1/26/2017 YOUR NAME: Michael Murray

look at what other cities have done
and their consequences

PORTLAND OFF-ROAD CYCLING MASTER PLAN: COMMITTEE MEETING COMMENT FORM

DATE: 1/26/2017
my Birthday ☺

YOUR NAME: Susan Rotvik

Im a native Oregonian; lived in Portland since 1979 (grew up in Corvallis). Been hiking and Mtbing Forest Park for decades. In my observation - alot of mis use and user conflict could be mitigated with existing useage signs. Signs like other state and city Parks that make use of that specific trail clear. Stob Stewart is an excellat example = trails are clearly marked Horseback / Hiking / Mountain Bike /

Frisbee Golf

This makes it clear at both ends of the trail who should be on this trail, and who ~~is~~ shouldn't.

I'm amazed that 20+ years later we are still discussing user conflicts around MtB on wrong trails when there are no signs at the trail heads!

PORTLAND OFF-ROAD CYCLING MASTER PLAN: COMMITTEE MEETING COMMENT FORM

DATE: 1/26/17 YOUR NAME: DAVID SHAW, SW Portland Resident

I have owned and ridden a mountain bike for 30 years. I love the sport & think there should be dedicated single track trails in Portland. However, my primary sport now is hiking & I dedicate 1 day per week to hiking. Often I hike in Forest Park. Mountain bikes do not belong beyond ~~Heif Erickson~~ & Fire lanes. Having mountain bikes on hiking trails is too dangerous to both hikers

Also Please ~~NO~~ Shared ~~NO~~ Shared
use 14" rails added to existing trails

and bikers. There are too many blind curves, not enough room to pass one another. Exciting terrain will always tempt bikers to deviate from designated trails for jumps & other challenges

This will increase damage to the park. Please keep bikes on the already designated roads & fire lanes, not on trails in Forest Park and

Marquann Nature Park. I am the representative of an informal hiking group of 28 men (age 60 & 70s) who agree with the above request to keep bikes off Forest Park Trails. We will continue to speak for this

January 26, 2017

To the Off Road Cycling Committee and Bureau of Planning:

I would like to remind you of your responsibility, in regard to any proposal to allow new forms of recreation in Forest Park, that it must follow the goals and management strategies of the Forest Park Natural Resources Management Plan.

The Number One Goal, which is land use law, states:

“To Protect Flora, Wildlife, and Habitat.

The Number Two Goal:

“Forms of recreation must be appropriate for Forest Park and must be passive in nature.”

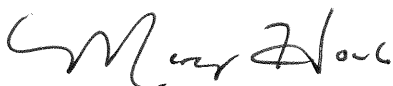
An additional Goal deals with user safety:

“All uses should feel safe when they utilize the part in a responsible manner.”

I am attaching a summary of key, cogent management goals and standards, taken directly from the FPNRMP, that I hope all members of the ORCC will closely review.”

Specifically, I want to bring to your attention that any proposal to allow the sport of single-track cycling – defined as mt. biking on trails 1 – 3 feet wide, would be unlawful in Forest Park – deemed an illegal use -- by virtue of land use law and environmental code and Ordinance No. 168509.

Thank you.



Marcy Houle

16600 NW Gillihan Road

Portland, OR 97231

Biking Forest Park

Biking in Forest Park should be limited to the existing legal trails. I use to cycle on Leif Erikson Trail and the Fire Lanes, it was adequate and easy to get to from my house. Hiking now is my preference and hike on many of the trails. To allow biking on the hiking trails would be very dangerous for the cyclist and hiker. There is not enough room for both. There are many blind curves on most of the hiking trails.

Respectfully,

John Goveia
Retired Professor University of Portland

THOMAS A. CUNNINGHAM
ATTORNEY AT LAW

812 N.W. 17TH AVE - PORTLAND, OR 97209 -TEL: (503) 220-8870; FAX: (503) 972-1662
EMAIL: THOMASCUNNINGHAMLAW@GMAIL.COM

January 26, 2017

Before: Off-Road Cycling Master Plan Committee
Meeting: January 26, 2017, 4:00 pm - 6pm
1900 SW 4th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204

Written Testimony in Opposition to Development of Bike Use

Committee Chair, Committee Members, and Those Who Treasure Forest Park:

My name is Tom Cunningham. I am a lawyer, and for 23 years have had a law practice in Northwest Portland. Like my mother, who was born in Portland in 1915, I was born and raised in Portland; my father's family moved here in 1923. Like many of us and other people around the country, I treasure the legacy of Forest Park that Portlanders, such as my parents and my grandparents, created for us. I write here to state that I am opposed to any further development in Forest Park for the use of bicycles.

It is a violation of that legacy to even consider off road cycling in Forest Park.

The discussions by this committee in promotion of off road cycling have no place in the future of Forest Park. From the beginning, when the land owners donated their parcels to form what would become our Forest Park, they did so with the vision of maintaining an urban wilderness, a habitat where birds and other animals could thrive in natural tranquility. It the City of Portland Ordinance No. 168509, our government set out the following vision for Forest Park in its "Forest Park Natural Resources Management Plan:"

"Forest Park represents an unparalleled resource where citizens can enjoy the peace, solitude, ruggedness... and unspoiled naturalness of an urban wilderness environment; a place that maintains this wilderness quality while allowing appropriate *passive* recreational use..."

"Off road cycling" is not passive use.

Development of further off road cycling has **no place** in Forest Park or in that Vision. It is not what the generous landowners contemplated when they donated their parcels for the people's legacy in the centuries ahead. It is not what the Goals for Forest Park Management intended when it ordained, "Every effort should be made to establish and maintain a natural and stable ecosystem within the park...It is vital that flora, fauna, and habitat elements remain as free as possible from disturbance related to human activity."

It is not what current users of Forest Park want. Over 90% of Forest Park users are pedestrians, only 4% of those surveyed consider single track cycling their favorite sport. It is well known already that cyclists and hikers do not mix on trails or in the Park.

Moreover, the so-called planning taking place here is corrupt. The guidelines are not objective or neutral, but are narrowly tailored to lead to Forest Park as the optimal site. This is a sham. To reach that end, the criteria have been selected, regardless of any need in Portland for tax-subsidized off road cycling, and regardless of the availability of suitable sites in other areas of the metropolitan area, and regardless of the special laws that protect Forest Park against exactly this kind of development, now or at any time in the future.

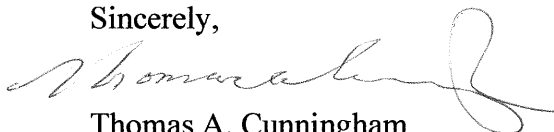
Our stewardship of Forest Park today requires us to resist development for bicycle use, and to reject it.

We need to keep in mind that, at the end of the day, bicycle riders have many other places to go to ride. Thank goodness, Forest Park is not the only place left for recreational bicycling development. We need to leave Forest Park alone for our children and their children.

We need to leave Forest Park alone.

I respectfully request that no further bicycle riding development be allowed in Forest Park.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Thomas A. Cunningham".

Thomas A. Cunningham
Attorney at Law

Richard Raeke
1909 N Terry St
Portland, OR 97217

To: Portland Off-road Cycling Advisory Committee

Re: Identifying Potential Off-Road Sites

October 20, 2016

Dear Committee,

I'd like to voice my support for a pump track and bike skills center at Kenton Park in North Portland. I was happy to see that it made the shortlist of potential sites and I'd like to encourage the Project Advisory Committee to take a closer look at it.

Kenton Park sits at the nexus of neighborhoods with a high density of children aged 5 to 17. With access to bike paths along Columbia Boulevard and the Columbia Slough, kids and families can easily bike to Kenton Park from area neighborhoods, making it well-positioned for a pump track. The park has ample, underutilized space to develop these facilities. Given the committee's interest in having facilities within biking distance to each other, Kenton Park is near Portland International Raceway, which has garnered interest as a more permanent mountain biking venue.

I look forward to learning what we can do to support the development of a pump track at Kenton Park. Thank you for your work on this initiative.

Sincerely,



Richard Raeke
rraeke@gmail.com

Scientifically gathered data on trail use in Oregon, Multnomah County and Forest Park

2012 Forest Park Recreation User Study

<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/parkS/article/317545>

Oregon Trails 2016: A Vision for the Future

2016-2025 Oregon Statewide Recreation Trails Plan

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

http://www.oregon.gov/oprd/Trail_Programs_Services/Documents/2016OregonStatewideTrailsPlan.pdf

Oregon Resident Outdoor Recreation Demand Analysis - Multnomah County Summary

2013-2017 Oregon Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Supporting Documentation

https://www.oregon.gov/oprd/PLANS/docs/scorp/2013-2018_SCORP/Multnomah.pdf

.....
The Forest Park Recreation User Study, an intercept study done by PSU for PP&R conducted at multiple trailheads in Forest Park over a 15 month period demonstrated that:

90% of Park users are pedestrians
8-9% are cyclists

The favorite aspects of Forest Park, asked in 3 different ways, are trails, wildlife plants, nature. In the comment section:

6% of users requested more bike trails
5% asked for no changes
1% asked for no new bike trails

The Oregon Trails 2016: A Vision for the Future (2016-2025)

Evaluated demographics, favorite activities, economic impact on the community of non-motorized trail users.

Single track cycling (on trails <3feet wide) is listed as a separated category ((rather than off road cycling).

Demographics- differences between hikers, mountain bikers and runners - are small with respect to ethnicity, education and household income.

Ethnicity is the same for all groups with more white users and less minority users than the Oregon demographics, with the exception of Native Americans who are 2% of Oregonians and 2% of trail users.

Education and household incomes are higher than the average Oregonian for all trail users.

Significant difference is age distribution

Fewer off road cyclists are >60 yrs (9%)

hikers (15%)

runners (13%)

Oregonian population (27%)

Single track cycling is the favorite sport of a small minority:

Favorite Activity

Walking/hiking 48%

Running/Jogging 5%

Biking single track 4%

Economic Value

Estimated expenditure generated

Walking/hiking 1.1 Billion 13,280 jobs, 574 million value added, 365 million labor income

Mountain biking 83 million 1,090 jobs 48 million value added 31 million labor income

CONCLUSIONS of the 2016-20125 Oregon Statewide Recreation Trails Plan

Increase use of trails by seniors and minorities (both populations are growing).

According to the 2013-2017 Oregon SCORP, the state's elderly population (65 years and older) and minority populations (Hispanic, Asian, and African-American) are growing at a much higher rate than the population as a whole. As a result, Oregon's recreation providers should consider developing marketing strategies to encourage regular use of existing trail systems by elderly and minority populations in their jurisdictions.

The highest priority for additional trails was for walking/ hiking both inside and outside one's community.

Trails for hard surface biking (not singletrack) were the next highest priority for inside (the community)

Oregon Resident Outdoor Recreation Demand Analysis - Multnomah County Summary 2013-2017

User Occasions and participation in Outdoor Recreation Activities, Multnomah County (p3-4)

Hiking and walking on trails	33,631,576	65.1%
Jogging on trails	11,248,598	20.4%
mountain biking	5,957,298	11.4%
birdwatching		12.2%
nature viewing		26.1%
visiting botanical gardens		16.7%
visiting nature centers		17.3%
outdoor photography, painting, drawing		15.9%
collecting (rocks, plants, mushrooms, berries)		20.8%

general play at neighborhood park/playground	20,111,728	55%
relaxing, hanging out	1,318,295	55%
outdoor court games		11.9%
baseball		5.7%
football, soccer, lacrosse, rugby, ultimate frisbee		10.8%

PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE according to the Resident Outdoor Recreation Trails Analysis:

"The top priority needs for Multnomah County residents are soft surface walking trails, nature and wildlife viewing areas and access to waterways." (p5)

Highest priority

- More soft hiking trails 3.7
- More wildlife viewing areas 3.5

Make Forest Park Safe Again

Introduction to Petition Comments

Submitted to City Council Members, December 2, 2016

Petition signers have written hundreds of passionate comments about the necessity of preserving the unique nature and ecosystem health of Forest Park and providing for the safety of all park users.

Numerous Portland civic leaders, as well as hundreds of citizens, have raised concerns about the legality, the parity and the wisdom of adding single track cycling to Forest Park.

Petition signers who have voiced their misgivings through comments include Chet Orloff -- past president of the Portland Parks Board and Portland Parks Foundation member; Spencer Ehrman -- of the City Club of Portland; Jack McGowan -- founder of SOLVE; Ted Kaye -- who served on the 1992 Forest Park Trail Policy Task Force to address user conflict; Phyllis Reynolds -- representative of the Portland Garden Club, and author of *Trees of Greater Portland*; George Milne -- president of Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs and past president of the Trails Club of Oregon; Ursula Le Guin -- nationally renowned author; and countless others.

They assert that the proposal to introduce single track cycling to Forest Park

"conflicts with the environmental, recreational, social and legal mission of the park."

"Forest Park is not the place to satisfy the appetites of the single track minority."

"The 2016-2025 Oregon Statewide Recreation Trails Plan puts single track cycling as the favorite trail activity of only 4 % of users."

"Forest Park is one place where true silence and quiet contemplation needs to be the overarching goal in this decision."

We ask that you take the time to read these thoughtful and well-written comments from **hundreds** of your constituents, **and** from people all around the world, urging you to protect the only designated urban wilderness in the United States. Further, we ask that you uphold the integrity of the Forest Park Natural Resources Management Plan that prohibits the active sport of single track cycling anywhere in Forest Park. To change the law and permit this form of recreation would negate the spirit and inspired vision for Forest Park, as well as increase dangerous user conflicts.

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

SPENCER EHRMAN Beaverton, OR 2016-08-03

Mayor, we discussed this matter when you first took office as I represent City Club on this issue. It's our position that the Management Plan as written is the defining document for the park and should not be changed.

Forest Park is not the place to satisfy the appetites of the single track minority. Thank you.

TED KAYE Portland, OR 2016-07-26

I served on the Forest Park Trail Policy Task Force in the early 1990s and this proposal conflicts with the environmental, recreational, social, and legal mission of the park.

CHET ORLOFF Portland, OR 2016-08-25

I've lived near and used Forest Park for nearly 50 years. As the former chair of the Portland Parks Board and a member of the Parks Foundation, I have long been a supporter of our parks and, especially, Forest Park.

JACK MCGOWAN Sisters, OR 2016-08-29

As the Portland area continues to grow, its citizens will have an increased need to find close in places where they can find peace and quiet and be able to experience nature by the simple gift of walking and running on its trails. Forest Park will play an important role in this evolution of the urban area.

This decision is truly one of legacy for future generations. Economic concerns should not outweigh the preservation of this jewel that was given to all of us by visionary leaders long ago. While I understand that our statewide community has diverse interests in the ways we recreate, Forest Park is one place where true silence and quiet contemplation needs to be the overarching goal in this

GEORGE MILNE Clackamas, OR 2016-07-26

I am President of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs and past President of the Trails Club of Oregon. Both of these organizations were deeply involved in the development of Forest Park and the philosophy on how it should be administered.

To modify the Master Plan to create a serious situation that will certainly result in injuries to pedestrians, joggers and even cyclists using the narrow "hiking" trails would be an irresponsible decision at best.

Other cities have reported that single track biking does serious damage to the trails and makes the trails dangerous for walkers, hikers and joggers that are currently the predominant activity in the park.

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

Having been advised of the potential for serious injuries, will the City of Portland be willing to accept the liability for such a decision.

There definitely needs to be a place for those seeking single track thrills, but Forest Park is NOT the place.

Once you have destroyed the ecology of the park, it will never be the same one of a kind facility that has been an asset to the City of Portland's reputation nationally.

The FWOC represents over 40 organizations in the Western United States and has actively established a position against changing the long lasting and very effective Master Plan. It would be nice to see the City complete the unfinished projects mentioned in the Master Plan.

MEGANNE STEELE Portland, OR 2016-08-10

Portland's Forest Park is a unique resource that should be protected. The thoughtful and farsighted Management Plan responds to timeless ecological vulnerabilities, and was adopted after broad based citizen participation. Please honor and protect this extraordinary wilderness area.

ROBERT MCCARTHY West Linn, OR 2016-08-15

Forest Park is treasured resource for all of us who live in metropolitan Portland. There are ordinances and plans that govern how the park is to be maintained and used. Make no exceptions to these rules. Only limited biking should be allowed.

SYLVIA MILNE Portland, OR 2016-08-12

I'm signing because I believe we are deviating from the original intent. We know it was designated for park land because the soil conditions would not support construction or heavy usage. Why would we want to decimate a natural area which brings persons in touch with nature and themselves, not to mention the fact we want to protect the flora and the animal life.

TERI ROWAN Portland, OR 2016-08-15

I feel strongly that single trail biking does not support the designated most important priorities for the park, that of protecting the park's ecological health and preserving wildlife habitat. Neither does it support the goal of providing for quiet and reflective experiences within the park.

Lastly, I share the concerns about safety for pedestrians who comprise the largest group of park users.

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CHARLES CIECKO Gresham, OR 2016-08-25

This proposed use is incompatible with the character of Forest Park and will adversely impact how the park functions as an important wildlife corridor.

FRANK BIRD Portland, OR 2016-08-10

Honor the terms, objectives, and goals of the management plan.

CHRISTINE COLASURDO Portland, OR 2016-08-08

The original mission for Forest Park is pedestrian trails. The park is a retreat from fast mechanized things like bicycles. I walk the trails to escape that kind of activity/motion.

ANN TAYLOR Portland, OR 2016-08-27

Common sense and the law dictate that bicycles should be restricted to eight foot wide trails. Get it, City Hall?

BILL CUNNINGHAM Beaverton, OR 2016-08-14

Trails such as the Wildwood and other non-biking trails are not safe for peds and bikes. It is also against current laws that define joint use trails.

KAREN MAHAN Portland, OR 2016-08-21

As a person with Native American heritage, I strongly support the fact that Forest Park has been set aside to provide quiet, reflective spiritual experiences. This along with the goal of caring for the native species and wildlife is in keeping with the management practices of native peoples for thousands of years. It saddens me to see Forest Park overrun by recreational enthusiasts who fail to observe the expected trail etiquette. They desecrate the park by riding on trails where they are not allowed and riding at night when the animals are most active. We need education and better enforcement to once again make Forest Park a place for contemplation and a sanctuary for all of the native plants and animals that call Forest Park their home

PHILIP SELINGER Portland, OR 2016-08-13

I value Forest Park as a place to reflect and be at peace without the hubbub of city life. Bike would pose a constant source of anxiety for fear of getting run over on some curve.... and I fear the increased impact of bikes on trails, plants, birds and other animal life.

LOVINA QUERY Portland, OR 2016-08-18

I have run years on the trails and love them and want to keep them safe for my grandchildren.

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KAREN DAVID Portland, OR 2016-08-06

I have been run over by cyclists on these trails.

BRANDY SAFFELL Portland, OR 2016-07-26

I think we should keep the trails that are off-limits to cyclists as such. As a trail runner in forest park, I have been injured in the past by collisions and near- collisions with cyclists on the narrower trails. I have also seen other people nearly run off the trails, and dogs spooked by cyclists. I recommend keeping the trails as they are, as a citizen of Portland and regular user of Forest Park.

SHARON MURPHY Portland, OR 2016-08-11

I once enjoyed the park and now it doesn't feel safe to walk with my dog. We don't like the high speed cyclists.

IAN SMETHURST Portland, OR 2016-07-27

My young son one was almost run over on Holman Lane! Do not want any more bikes on walking trails! Having done 3 Cycle Oregons I know the Wildwood is not a good idea given the number of people walking!

Thanks for your consideration!

ALICIA EMEL Portland, OR 2016-08-14

I have been almost hit several times by bicycles while hiking. There is no way that bicycles can safely share hiking trails with hikers. Please keep Forest Park safe and continue to limit biking in the park!

BILL CUNNINGHAM Beaverton, OR 2016-08-15

I was once forced off a trail, injuring a knee that required a trip to the ortho. I have also had dozens of near misses. Bikes should not be allowed on trails currently designated pedestrian only.

MAXINE DEXTER Portland, OR 2016-07-27

My family of four as well as our pets use this park system on foot almost daily. We rely on the serenity and ability to observe animals and vegetation in their natural habitats. This is our refuge. Bikes have already destroyed parts of the park where they go off-trail and have run directly into my husband and I as well as our dog when walking at night. Bikes have other trail systems to use and do not belong on the narrow trails in Forest Park.

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JERRY WEIGLER PORTLAND, OR 2016-07-27

I have encountered illegal bicyclists on Forest Park pedestrian trails and it is dismaying. This is a PARK for individuals, families and generations of children year in and year out. NOT a roadway for vehicles of ANY sort. Please do not be pressured into converting foot paths to ROADWAYS!!!

GRAHAM PUGH Portland, OR 2016-08-06

I am a frequent hiker and have been seeing more and more bikes on the trails. They have a pronounced impact on the trails.

RICHARD ELLEGOOD Portland, OR 2016-08-08

I have frequently encountered bikers violating existing regulations and stopped them. Some are respectful and say that they won't do it again. Others seem unconcerned with the possibility that they will turn a blind corner and be unable to avoid a mother pushing a baby carriage. To allow such bikers to ride on narrow trails is an invitation for disaster. Most bikers are extremely safety- conscious and do not want the outcome that I have described. There should be a safe solution that doesn't put people at risk. Let's find it.

EMILY BRONEC Poulsbo, WA 2016-08-10

I love forest park. I love walking and running and hiking there. I've had a close encounter with a mountain biker here and at another park (where bikes were allowed). In the second circumstance the cyclist was injured as he was unable to stop his bike quickly without hitting us and veered off the small trail. I do not think it is safe or reasonable for cyclists and hikers to be on the same trail if it is small, narrow, and with poor visibility. It's just common sense.

MARYANN AMANN Portland, OR 2016-08-21

I hike regularly in Forest Park and do not want to be run over by bikes on the hiking trails. I have been in close calls with bikers over the years and there is no reason for them to use designated hiking trails. Bikes cause too much erosion - let them continue to ride Leif Ericsson. Let us hike in peace and maintain the ability to be in silent meditation in the Forest.

FRED BOWMAN Portland, OR 2016-08-12

I hike or run in Forest Park once a week and have been doing so for over 30 years. Bicycles are not compatible with these uses. The occasional illegal cyclist is bad enough. Hoards of them would completely ruin the experience.

DEBORAH MURRAY Portland, OR 2016-08-16

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I walk those trails regularly and have already encountered bikes even when they are not supposed to be there. Without diligent enforcement (and stern consequences) this creates a very dangerous situation already. What will open permission create?

JANE BROWN Beaverton, OR 2016-08-22

I'm a guide at the Japanese Garden and often walk there through the park. I've had some unpleasant encounters with both bicyclists and dog owners.

KIMBERLEY CHEN Portland, OR 2016-08-14

I was also almost hit by a bike on the trails while hiking. I absolutely oppose opening up the trails to bikers. Not only is it a safety issue, but it will also cause deterioration of the existing trails.

JOHN BISSONNETTE Portland, OR 2016-07-26

Mr Olmstead who designed Forest Park sought to create a refuge from the city in our beautiful forest. There are many other off road cycling venues currently, and other sites which would be more suitable to develop as off road cycling venues. I live nearby, walk there every day, and see how off road cyclists do not respect pedestrian traffic, making it unsafe for walkers, especially with dogs and small children. This is a unique park that makes Portland so special; please do not make it a off road cycling venue

LOUISE GRAY Portland, OR 2016-08-18

Enough bike riders are rude and irresponsible using our sidewalks and streets. Too many bike riders do not respect the damage they do and refuse to play by any rules. Forest Park has bike trails, do not allow more destruction in Forest Park. Bikes really tear up the paths!

LISA DEUTSCHMAN Portland, OR 2016-08-30

Forest Park walking and hiking trails weren't developed with off-road biking in mind. The way that off-road bikers behave on these trails poses a significant hazard to walkers and hikers and the overall health of the park itself.

LUCILLE STAUDUHAR Portland, OR 2016-08-07

I jog in the park often on Wildwood .. I don't want to worry about bikes screaming past me on narrow paths. It's bad enough around the curves on Leif Erikson!

SEAN SULLIVAN Portland, OR 2016-08-09

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Just moved here two months go from CA where bikers and walkers shared the same trails in our local State Parks. It was refreshing to walk the trails in Forest Park without wondering if you were going to be hit by cyclists. Designate a few trails for cyclists but shared trails are a safety hazard.

CAROL GREEN burbank, CA 2016-08-09

I don't live in Portland but totally understand this issue. In our Griffith Park, cyclists are militant about using an equestrian-only bridge and whip up and down horse trails they're legally prohibited from using, endangering horses, riders and themselves. It's common sense to exclude bicycles from some trails, just as it's common sense to exclude horses from some trails here. In my area, equestrians comply, but bicyclists defiantly flaunt/flout their trespassing.

JEFFREY COURION Beverly Hills, CA 2016-08-12

Single track mountain biking on family or public hiking trails is not safe. It was attempted in Los Angeles County and was later withdrawn as unsuspecting hikers and small children were placed in harm's way. Cycling and pedestrian traffic do not mix as slow and fast speed traffic result in accidents and injuries.

DAVID KENNEY Portland, OR 2016-08-11

Bikes don't belong on pedestrian trails. The city should enforce the existing rules and ensure that this wonderful place continues to be a place of peaceful refuge for humans and nature.

ROGER AUMANN Portland, OR 2016-08-17

Not in Forest Park! We don't need more bikes on the trails; there are plenty of places to ride already, and they are dangerous to the walkers, hikers, runners, and pets on leash.

DEBORAH ABELE Portland, OR 2016-08-08

I've been walking on narrow, steep and winding trails in Forest Park for several decades and have seen the number of other walkers increase dramatically as our population grows. With even more people in the next decades needing a break from the crowded concrete, the trails will be even more precious to us all. Clear and sensible division of incompatible use is the only reasonable way to share the park. I cannot imagine how a bicycle coming down around a hairpin turn could possibly stop in time to miss me and my leashed dog! Bikes are fine on the wide fire lanes with adequate visibility, but let's not set up dangerous situations. If the current regulations aren't being followed and there's no budget for enforcement, perhaps what we need really is better signage?

BRETT SHEPPARD Portland, OR 2016-08-08

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Mountain bikes already have access to Leif Ericsson and the fire lanes. These are broad enough to allow time move out of the way and also provide auditory clues that a bike is approaching. The other trails (eg. the wildwood and secondary (maple, cleater, koenig etc) are all single track and there is no room to easily get out of the way and there will likely be less auditory warning that a bike is approaching until it is too late. Many families with young children and our elder citizens out for physical activity but with physical impairment use these trails. What will happen is a biker will plow into a 5 or 6 year old, cause a devastating injury and by the time they are extracted we will be faced with a brain dead child, a dead child or someone who will need state support for their life. A similar fate will await our elderly and handicapped utilizing these trails if mountain bikes are allowed .

INGA DUBAY Portland, OR 2016-08-25

As a long term and frequent walker on Forest Park Trails I would be quite apprehensive walking there if there were bikes on the trail. Frequently I have been forced to the trail side by runners coming up behind me. At least you can hear the runners coming by there pounding foot steps. At 81 I am not as agile as I once was to dodge bikes on these narrow trails. Why should anyone have to Dodge them anyhow. I don't want to wear a Bike Helmet to walk in Forest park.

CHAR GLENN Portland, OR 2016-08-09

I see many people walking on the Forest Park trails who, although able to walk, are not agile enough to get out of the path of a cyclist. In some areas one has to step into a small opening in the brush at the side of the trail simply to let another walker or runner pass. The walking speeds are slow enough to allow this negotiation and the runners are able to slow or stop relatively easily if someone is in their path.

ROGER AUMANN Portland, OR 2016-08-17

Not in Forest Park! We don't need more bikes on the trails; there are plenty of places to ride already, and they are dangerous to the walkers, hikers, runners, and pets on leash.

DIANE NOWICKI Portland, OR 2016-08-08

The majority of Forest Park trail users are pedestrians, of all ages and abilities. Biking is way too fast a modality for pedestrain-mostly trails. Biking will reduce the physical and mental health of our city by dis-inviting people to walk. The trees and fragile dirt paths already suffer from the wear and tear of bicycles going where they shouldn't be. I am a volunteer trail maintenance person and see the damage caused by bicycle tires.

JACK MONTAG Portland, OR 2016-08-25

I hike in Forest Park frequently. This Summer almost daily. I also volunteer with Forest Park Conservancy to improve the trails. It seems clear to me that it would be dangerous to allow

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bikes on the park trails where there are pedestrians, runners, dogs and children. It would also be damaging to the trails that are already suffering from heavy use and erosion. Many of the trails, including Wildwood are quite narrow in places and there would not be room for a bike to pass. It's a terrible idea!

ELIZABETH JOHNSON, OR 2016-07-26

As a 14+ year volunteer maintaining trail throughout Forest Park, I have seen up close the damage bikes do to our lovely trails, and it takes a lot of very hard work to repair them! The City has no funds to maintain these trails, so relies on us volunteers, but we are few and the cyclists are many. Please do not open up the Park to more erosion.

JOSEPH A. SOLDATI Portland, OR 2016-07-26

I have hiked all of Forest park Trails, and worked on them as well as a trail maintenance volunteer almost every Saturday from November, 2000, to November, 2013. I worked too damned hard to have bikers ruin this pristine park; having repaired the damage that biker dos-- destroy native plants, increase soil erosion, mar the trail with ditches, etc. --I know the destruction first- hand. IF YOU ALLOW BIKERS ON THESE TRAILS, YOU/they WILL RUIN THE TRAILS FOREVER, AND FOREST PARK, TOO. Note: Portland has spent millions to allow bikers access to city streets, and as a former biker, I really support this. Therefore, there are plenty of places in town and out--Sauvie Island, Spring Water Trail, etc.-- for bicyclists.

CAROLYN BUPPERT Portland, OR 2016-08-12

One reason we moved back to SW Portland was the hiking in Forest Park. It's one place one doesn't have to be looking out at all time for cyclists. We want to preserve the safety of walkers in the park.

DAVID KAFOURY Portland, OR 2016-07-26

We as a family use Forest Park a great deal. I would hate to have a grandchild hit by a bicyclist as he/she raced around a corner. Please keep the park safe and pedestrian-only. Let bikers buy their own property for High-Speed Single- Track Cycling. Many of us have supported Friends of Forest Park and Now The Forest Park Conservancy to preserve our park for walkers/runners.

VERENA GIEBELS Bow, WA 2016-08-11

Whenever visiting Portland from WA, several times a year, I have been visiting Forest Park to get a break. Such a peaceful place, which makes my vacation in this vibrant city complete. Please keep it safe for people who like some quiet time, enjoying nature. It would be over with when bicycles

JOHN MILLER Portland, OR 2016-08-13

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In general, I think natural areas should be kept natural. Bikes are machines. I do not support bikes in most natural areas or any wilderness areas. I am very concerned about MTB industry and lobbying influence.

ALEXANDRA CLARKE Lake Oswego, OR 2016-08-13

Mechanized transport does not belong in natural areas and watersheds. MTBing is a sport, as such it deserves a hard surface trail/track/arena and not the Oregon Jory Soil found in Forest Park and other local natural areas vulnerable to soil deterioration and stormwater runoff. This is not to mention the issue of wildlife preservation in this part of the NW wildlife migration corridor. It should be of great concern that the MTB industrial complex is lobbying for more access to our local natural areas and watersheds by using its considerable financial resources to pressure City officials.

SUSAN MEAD Portland, OR 2016-08-18

We are restricting urban wildlife to fewer and fewer green spaces as small homes with yards are replaced with multi-story complexes with zero greenspace virtually right up to the borders of Forest Park. Please preserve this urban oasis as it has been historically managed and leave peaceful hiking trails alone for both humans and wildlife to enjoy!!

TIM LUNDHOLM Portland, OR 2016-08-10

I'm a mountain biker too but forest park has too many pedestrians for single track riding, it's not safe.

SUE DONORA Portland, OR 2016-07-26

I love mountain biking AND hiking. There are plenty of places to mountain bike in the Portland area, but Forest Park needs to be preserved for the majority of people, who are hikers, not bikers.

DAVID SHAW Portland, OR 2016-08-03

I am both a hiker and a mountain bike rider. Forest park hiking trails CANNOT be made compatible with single track bike riding. They are too narrow with many blind corners. Terrain doesn't permit widening them. Please do not open hiking trails to bikes.

BOB SHOTLAND Portland, OR 2016-08-07

I run and hike on trails such as Wildwood, Wild Cherry, Dogwood, etc. There is no way that mountain bikes should be allowed on these types of trails; it would be hazardous and intrusive. I have also cycled on Leif Erikson and I think mountain bikers should be content to stay on that trail.

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BARRY EMMERLING Portland, OR 2016-08-25

I'm a cyclist (including a little of mountain biking in the past), but do not think any more trails in Forest Park should be open to mountain bikes. If cyclists are looking for single-track trails they should head for the Cascades or Coast Range, and should not expect this type of trail to be offered in an urban area park.

JOHN LEMMER Portland, OR 2016-08-15

While an active off-road bicyclist myself, and a hiker, I believe the bikes cause too much damage to the trails to allow in Forest Park

JOHN THOMPSON

Portland, OR 2016-07-25 I am deeply concerned about preserving the Forest Park Management plan, and the city's intention of allowing single track cycling on pedestrian trails. This is both unsafe, and unfair to the 90 percent of users who are pedestrians.

JOHN HOULE Portland, OR 2016-07-25

I am very concerned about the health of the park and the safety of pedestrians. Please follow the law and keep this wonderful park intact now and for future generations.

KATHRYN MIDSON PORTLAND, OR 2016-07-25

I love the peace of the pedestrian only trails. As I walk along them, I try to imagine the difference if cycling were allowed, and I despair. Please follow the existing Forest Park plan, and keep the park a safe and relaxing refuge for human visitors and existing animal populations.

BILL CUNNINGHAM Beaverton, OR 2016-07-25

I am deeply concerned about safety issues. I also fear that the trails will be degraded. Forest Park IS NOT a "Six Flags" venue; it is a one-of-a-kind pristine urban treasure.

CINDY PRICE Portland, OR 2016-07-25

I hike and run these trails for the last 20 years. Cycling tracks are all over Wildwood. I came a millimeter away from having a cyclist crash into me. I had to jump off the trail to avoid serious injury. When it happens next, how would you like me to title my lawsuit against the city?

JESSICA SPIES portland, OR 2016-07-25

I don't want single track bicycling in Forest Park

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AARON WOLF Ann Arbor, MI 2016-07-25

Forest Park is not the place to have expensive-to-maintain off-road biking trails. I'm a hiker and biker, and I'll be happy to bike elsewhere in order to preserve Forest Park for less intrusive activities.

MARGOT THOMPSON Portland, OR 2016-07-26

City officials are trying to subvert the law by allowing uses that are clearly destructive to the environment of Forest Park. I am an avid cyclist but feel the trails are now unsafe for pedestrians because cyclists are not obeying current laws and or showing considerate behavior toward pedestrians and hikers of all ages using the trails in the park. Metro owns land further out on skyline and that is an area with clearcuts and places perfect for the development of single track cycling. Please consider near-in but entirely different places. Thank you!

P. SYDNEY HERBERT Portland, OR 2016-07-25

I love Forest Park and I don't appreciate being run over. The scofflaws are taking over the Park. We need enforcement!

HANK MURROW Eugene, OR 2016-07-26

I am concerned about bikes sharing the trails with slower moving pedestrians and animals.

VICKI JACKSON Portland, OR 2016-07-26

I want to be able to walk through Forest Park without worrying about a single tract bicycle running me down.

JOHN WERTZLER Portland, OR 2016-07-26

Forest Park is a natural environment that is a treasure to Portland citizens and visitors. Single track cycling will adversely affect this natural sanctuary that was so wisely conceived and protected by its creators. Don't undermine the sanctity and beauty of this amazing one-of-a-kind natural asset.

LES BLAIZE Portland, OR 2016-07-26

I am concerned that no wildlife baseline study has been done so the health of the park is not none or its carrying capacity so why increase any use until we can be assured that it won't harm the resource.

DON MCCOY Portland, OR 2016-07-26

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Bicycles are allowed on Lief Erickson, but I don't think they should be allowed on any other trails in the park. They compromise the safety of walkers/hikers/runners and disturb the wildlife.

DAVID MITCHELL San Francisco, CA 2016-07-26

Allowing bicycles on pedestrian-only trails in Forest Park is a bone-headed idea which I vehemently oppose. I am 67 and use the Forest Park trails regularly, and even the trail runners who whiz through and force a walker to stop and stand aside is bad enough. Add bicycles? Are you nuts? I vote and I pay taxes, and I am sick and tired of seeing terrible public policy ideas from Portland's City Commissioners.

DAVID BOE Portland, OR 2016-07-26

I live near Forest Park and understand these traffic situations. Bicyclists who ride too fast risk hurting not only themselves but pedestrians and, worse, small animals on a leash. I pity any bicyclist whose carelessness causes death or injury to a beloved pet.

CARMEL BENTLEY Portland, OR 2016-07-26

I moved into walking distance to Forest Park when the neighborhood was emptying out in anticipation of a freeway running up Thurman. Little did I know that I was a half a block from Macleay Park, the most used entrance to the many trails of Forest Park. What a gift. Over these many years I have luxuriated in the cool breezes on hot days and the solace of silence in winter. I'm sure my first two dogs who wandered into my neighborhood were abandoned there. Over the years I reported someone who was doing target practice and saved a toddler who had fallen into Balch Creek and was minutes away from hypothermia.

The biggest danger? The bicyclists who thundered around the many blind corners on the trail. I thought acceding Lief Erickson Road for their use was a fair trade, but apparently not.

There are bikes everywhere and good for them. But I think we hikers with kids and dogs deserve a safe place of our own. From what I can tell, there are plenty of bike-tolerant, if not bike-friendly, areas elsewhere in Portland. Please preserve Forest Park for its original intent.

If you can create a bike-only trail somewhere in Forest Park that doesn't harm or interfere with existing trails, go for it. But you have to assure that the bikers stay where they belong. That's only fair.

ROBERT LAIRD Portland, OR 2016-07-26

I'm saying "NO NO NO" to high-speed single-track cycling on pedestrian-only trails in Forest Park. What are you people thinking???

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LINDA MCKIM-BELL Portland, OR 2016-07-26

Bikes and pedestrians don't mix on trails, as other cities have found out! Bikes need separate trails. Bikes ruin dirt trails.

CURTIS BELL Portland, OR 2016-07-26

The city should recognize that it is liable if it allows bikes on the narrow hiking trails and someone gets hurt.

DIANNE SICHEL Portland, OR 2016-07-26

Forest Park is a unique urban haven and as stewards and the people's representatives you are charged with protecting it's wildlife and continuing the policies that make it a living educational experience for our children and a peaceful environment for walkers and runners. The peace and quite should never be broken by recreational speeding bicycles screaming down narrow trails and off trails creating new paths for runoff and disturbing the fragile undergrowth.

NORMAN SHAFFNER Portland, OR 2016-07-26

I've witnessed the destructive unruly behavior of these mountain bike delinquents.

ORA BOTWINICK Portland, OR 2016-07-27

Forest park is a sanctuary and a natural treasure in Portland that needs to be maintained and protected.

High speed single- track cycling can not safely coexist with people and wildlife in the park.

HELEN SUDBURY Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I walk the trails in Forest Park almost everyday and would hate to think I of the damage bikes would do on the narrow trails. Besides I think they would be a safety hazard.

STEPHANIE JOHNSON Portland, OR 2016-07-26

dangerous and annoying.

SARA MAURITZ Portland, OR 2016-07-26

Bicycles cause severe damage to trails not caused by foot traffic. AND, as witnessed in Hoyt Arboretum, bicyclists don't stay on trails. They cut new ones down steep hills opening the area to severe water damage to the trail and further damage to the plants.

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It is all about the thrill of the ride and nothing about caring for our natural world. Speeding, thrill-seeking cyclists are a real danger to walkers who have no safe way to get out of the way of racing cyclists.

STEPHANIE JOHNSON Portland, OR 2016-07-26

dangerous and annoying.

SUSANNA MOREHOUSES Portland, OR 2016-07-26

On Pedestrian only trails why should we have to compete with bikes!!!!

JOHN BISSONNETTE Portland, OR 2016-07-26

I walk with my dog daily on the Wildwood Trail and would strongly urge that it be not opened to bicycles.

ROLLA LEWIS Portland, OR 2016-07-26

This is an important issue for those who love Forest Park as a refuge, habitat, and quiet.

JERRY SLEPACK Portland, OR 2016-07-26

Maintain a safe and environmentally secure Forest Park.

NANCY BODERICK Benton City, WA 2016-07-26

Keep pedestrians safe!

KATHRYN MENARD Portland, OR 2016-07-26

wildlife habitat is shrinking and I want to protect what remains

SHARON CHRISTENSON Portland, OR 2016-07-26

I want Forest Park protected for all users and kept pristine

TERRANCE HOHNER Portland, OR 2016-07-27

The Wildwood, Maple and all the current hiking only trails are safe because they are not infringed upon by bicycle riders. Anyone who has hiked these wonderful 70+miles of trails can tell you that if you were hiking up any modest hill and saw a bike rider wheeling at you downhill on a narrow trail, that you have created a very unsafe situation...for seniors, for families with small children, with those with canines on a leash i.e. 90% of the users of these relatively very

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narrow trails. The bicyclists have the Fire Lanes to use and that should be the extent of their riding on narrow trails.

BETSY WRIGHT Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I want us all to be safe and to be able to enjoy Forest Park. Pedestrians can't mix with the type of biking proposed.

PATTI LOUIE Portland, OR 2016-07-27

The trails are far too narrow for both cyclists and hikers. Someone will get hurt and it will be on your conscience.

NORA ESKESS Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I'm signing for all the reasons given. Forest Park as it is, friendly and safe for people of all ages ranging from young children to the elderly, is an in-city haven of the beauty and peace of nature. Leif Erickson trail gives cyclists a place for relatively high speed cycling, without encroaching/ usurping pedestrian-only trails. It would be such a loss for so many to convert or open pedestrian trails in Forest Park to single track cycling.

MARY HAYDEN Oregon City, OR 2016-07-27

Single track cycling does NOT belong in Forest Park. Respect the current management plan!

JILL PRICE Portland, OR 2016-07-27

Opening up the trails to cycling will not only ruin the beauty of this one of a kind in city park oasis, but it would be so dangerous to the foot traffic users. Imagine trying to move out of the way of a fast moving bike without much room for error. There are steep hillsides, and many blind corners. Keep Forest Park the special place it is! There is many other not so beautiful areas to make single track an event space. Most cyclists that are riding at high speeds, have no interest in the surroundings.

MARJIE LUNDELL Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I believe increased bike use of this type is not appropriate in forest park

CHRISTINE BUGAS portland, OR 2016-07-27

Meditatively we walk daily the Wildwood and other Forest Park trails. Bikes are noise and surges of epinephrine in a place that is a refuge. The trails are winding. You will not notice a bike till you are jumping out of its way. Have mercy.

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ERIK WOHLGEMUTH Portland, OR 2016-07-27

Forest Park is a mecca for our residents to find quiet and solace from our increasingly busy city. There is no need to open up the pedestrian trails to bikers for there are enough places now for bikers to roam in Forest Park and in the greater Portland area. Ensure the solitude, natural habitat quality, and the safety of our treasured park for the many rather than catering to the thrill seeking of the few.

MICHAEL BECKER Portland, OR 2016-07-27

The park does not owe cyclists anything. Cycles degrade the trails inevitably and irreparably.

WILL AITCHISON Portland, OR 2016-07-27

Forest Park trails should continue to be safe for all users, particularly pedestrians and runners.

CHRISTIAN SPENCER Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I run in Forest Park and single track speed bikes will endanger more pedestrians than riders. There are far more hikers and runners than there are cyclists up there. It wouldn't be safe.

CARLOS VIVAS Portland, OR 2016-07-27

Protection of pedestrian trails at forest park. Also, to avoid high speed biking to bother or crash with hikers and runners. There are hundreds of biking trails around the Portland area, no need to implement this change in Forest Park

STEPHEN HOPKINS Portland, OR 2016-07-27

Keep forest park save for runners and hikers

JORDAN LAUB portland, OR 2016-07-27

These are paths for pedestrians that we use and love every day, elderly and young, dogs, and fragile folks of all ages. We're just not compatible with mountain bikes.

JANET SHERMAN Portland, OR 2016-07-27

Cyclists on the trails will damage the vegetation, risk injury to walkers and runners, and destroy our much loved wooded trail system. i vote "NO" to cycling on the trails!!!

ED CARPENTER Portland, OR 2016-07-27

Daily Forest Park user.

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CYNTHIA PELLELY Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I run in forest park with my children and have concerns about a cyclist coming around a bend and crashing into us

TIMOTHY JOHANSSON Portland, OR 2016-07-27

The bikes will ruin the trails. Having lived in Utah for many years I witnessed beautiful trails being ruined by mountain bikes.

PAMELA HAYES Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I'm signing because I am very opposed to bicycles on pedestrian trails for reasons of safety and conflict.

LIZ GOTTFRIED Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I agree

ROBERT DAYTON Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I live next to the Park. Use is at a very high rate. Single track biking does not fit. Runners and hikers have to watch out for bikers now. They need to find an appropriate place elsewhere.

JANE BEEBE Portland, OR 2016-07-27

citizens need places of quiet and peace. Olmstead recognized this in designing park systems.

JEREMY SACKS Portland, OR 2016-07-27

The single-track trails in Forest Park--such as the Wildwood Trail--should be for pedestrians only. Mixed use for bikes/pedestrians will not work and will be destructive to the environment.

JAMES CHASE Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I have seen first hand the damage that mountain bikes do to pedestrian trails

PETER HESFORD Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I think this is the most ill informed, ill advised action our local government has attempted to take in a long time. They want to make this city a meca for single track bike users. Hell with them, let them go make someone else's backyard their meca. This is absurd, doesn't have local support and is just a small very select group. Why should other larger interested groups suffer so that this exclusive group can have their fun???

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

ANNE BRACKETT Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I want to walk safely on the trails.

BRENT MOORE Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I run in the trails at least 3 times a month and feel that allowing bikers on single track would be dangerous to all involved.

PATTE SULLIVAN Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I walk on the trails and know how narrow they are. I also see how fast bicycles go on Leif Erikson Drive.

JAN MADILL Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I strongly think that protecting our beloved Forest Park and keeping it safe for all is crucial. High-speed single-track cycling should not happen in our few forested wilderness areas.

SHEILA BRADY Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I live in the Willamette Heights neighborhood, and am an avid walker/hiker. I also bike, but feel strongly that some places are not meant for biking. Forest Park is one of them. I have seen in other places the toll taken on the landscape by off-road biking. A reasonable compromise would be to keep paved roads and graveled wide roads, such as Erickson Trail, open to biking, but restrict the smaller hiking trails to pedestrians. Thank you, Sheila Brady

DEBBIE KAYE Portland, OR 2016-07-27

Wildwood, particularly, is a narrow trail requiring walking single-file. There is no room for bikes and walkers

DR. PETERSON Portland, OR 2016-07-27

Safety must remain our top priority while maintaining the fragile habitat in this precious urban resource. There is no reason for bikes to be allowed on pedestrian trails. We must enforce this expectation with steep fines for those who violate the rule. The safety of our children, elderly citizens, and habitat should be our top priority.

JANE BUCK Tualatin, OR 2016-07-27

Dangerous to walkers. Having to always step aside for cycling.

KIKI ADAMOVICS Portland, OR 2016-07-27

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

I have lived on the edge of Forest Park for thirty years and have seen it lose its identity as a Forest and a respite from the city

BILL MADILL Portland, OR 2016-07-27

We walk the trails in Forest Park frequently and dealing with bicycles on them is bad enough now. Worrying about being run into does not make for a good hike.

JOANN WOLFE PORTland, OR 2016-07-27

I use the park daily..bikes would destroy every lovely thing this park offers

THOMAS CRITES Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I run these trails and know how unsafe it is to have bikers on them.

DAVID SCHULTZ portland, OR 2016-07-27

Our primary concern should be the health of this city treasure.

NATHAN GRANT Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I'm originally from Minneapolis where the pedestrian and bike paths around the lakes were traditionally shared... until a pedestrian was killed by a cyclist. The city immediately developed separate paths. Adding cyclists to the narrow hiking trails in Forest Park with their countless blind twists and turns, is not only short sighted and illogical, it is actually creating the inevitable scene of a future tragedy. It's not "if" it's "when".

KATHERINE LYTE Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I live there and use park bikes don't belong where people walk

SCOTT LECHERT Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I do not want my quiet and peace disturbed by bikes careening down trails.

LINDA DURHAM Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I want to preserve, protect and restore the trails in our city's greatest natural park for future generations of strollers, walkers, runners and hikers. Single track bikes ruin trails for pedestrians.

MARIKA VAN ADELSBERG Portland, OR 2016-07-27

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

Portland City Hall has spent millions of dollars in studying, developing, designing, building and implementing a web of urban bike lanes throughout the metro area. Bravo. This was done to not only encourage more cycling as a form of transportation and commuting but also as an acknowledgement that shared lanes between such disparate users is dangerous. The difference between the size and speed of these two groups requires that there be separation and a heightened level of safety implementation. Why this same level of logic and concern is not being used by the same people with regard to opening single track Forest Park pedestrian-only trails to thrill seeking (not commuters) cyclists is beyond explanation. This is simply crazy!

SCOTT LECHERT Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I do not want my quiet and peace disturbed by bikes careening down trails.

RANDI OTNESS Portland, OR 2016-07-27

Not a good idea

MARILYN COUCH Victor, ID 2016-07-27

I have run, hiked and biked in Forest Park since the 1970's. Opening more trails to biking, especially Wildwood is unsafe. Mountain biking and walking/running don't mix on the narrow trails and it would be benefiting a minority of users, not the majority.

WENDY ORLOFF Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I have been a resident of Willamette Hgts and have used these trails often. It is very disturbing having a cyclist come up behind you and say coming up on your left. It ruins the tranquillity and peace a hike in the park provides.

YULIYA LUCEY Portland, OR 2016-07-27

We walk in Forest Park on a regular basis. It is already crowded, bringing bicyclists will only increase the traffic in what is supposed to be a natural trail. Thank you!

ANGELA LINDBO Portland, OR 2016-07-27

I appreciate that people want to recreate close in but Forest Park and our other natural areas are not the venue for mountain bikes. Our clay soil quickly ruts and creates an unsafe walking surface. The argument is that this can be overcome with engineering. Maybe so but I for one do not want to hike, run or bird watch on gravel or boardwalks. Enjoying our natural areas is enjoying quite and natural surfaces. Our natural areas are vital to the livability of Portland and must be protected.

ANGELA HOLLAND Portland, OR 2016-07-28

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

It's not safe to have bikes on the same trail as pedestrian, some of which are children. It's very disruptive to all the wildlife.

The propose of forest park is to preserve the forest not to make trails for a few bikes.

MARIANNE ZUCKERMAN Portland, OR 2016-07-28

I want the park to remain peaceful and user-friendly. It has been my experience that bikers go too fast in the park and are easily annoyed by runners, walkers and dogs.

BETH WESTBROOK Portland, OR 2016-07-28

I think allowing High-Speed Single track cycling would be a disaster in a park so close to downtown Portland. It would be a safety issue for walkers (extremely well used most hours of the week) and detrimental to a fragile plant system. There are many roads to bike on in the area, not many peaceful forests to walk in without safety concerns like Forest Park. Our park is unique and I hope we can preserve it!

JAY THIEMEYER Portland, OR 2016-07-28

This is a wilderness preserve not for recreation. Delicate growth is vulnerable to being destroyed. There are plenty of other alternatives for recreation.

TED REICHELTL Portland, OR 2016-07-28

I want safe mixed use and careful environmental stewardship for this cherished community jewel

DAVIS GUTHRIE Portland, OR 2016-07-28

I grew up in willamette heights, a neighborhood surrounded by the park. I spent my youth walking the trails and continued to do after moving back to the neighborhood and living there into my early 40's. The park has always been one of the cities most precious resources. Lately, it has become a camping ground for transients who stray from the trails and leave refuse throughout the the park. The park no longer feels safe to walk through alone, and it certainly no longer a place where children can explore without an adult chaperone. I am empathetic to the homeless. They need someplace to live. That place should not be Forest Park.

CHRISTINA BLATCHFORD Portland, OR 2016-07-28

These trails are for hikers, not bikers

LARK BRANDT Hillsboro, OR 2016-07-28

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

Allowing mountain biking in Forest Park is like allowing skate-boarding in church, except it also harms wildlife.

CAROLYN WOODWARD Hillsboro, OR 2016-07-28

I care

LEAH DARR Darr Portland, OR 2016-07-28

A lot of us "oldsters" have balance issues and need to feel safe while walking the trails in Forest Park.

RANDY ZASLOFF Portland, OR 2016-07-28

I am a frequent user of the park and have been for over 30 years. The park is now being loved to death by increasing numbers of pedestrians and cyclists. The potential for serious injury if both these groups were to share single track trails is a foregone conclusion. Also the increased wear and tear on trails due to cycling would negatively impact the trail surfaces. I go to the park to experience quiet and nature not to be constantly vigilant- watching and listening to avoid a collision. Thank you for your consideration.

ANDREA HEID Aurora, OR 2016-07-28

I'd like to keep this park safe for walkers!

KRISTINE INMAN Portland, OR 2016-07-28

I'm a senior. I do not want to compete for trail width from young, assertive / aggressive mostly males who feel entitled to the whole trail at their time of passing me on the trail. Please keep them on their already designated trails and not expand their single track bike use of our cherished, quiet, pedestrian trails. Thank you for asking my opinion with an easy way to reply.

BEA MOMSEN Portland, OR 2016-07-28

Pedestrians need to be able to walk in Forest Park without being run down by cyclists. The trails are narrow and should be restricted to pedestrians!

JAMES BERRY Portland, OR 2016-07-28

I am a daily user of Forest Park as a hiker and runner. I appreciate the calm and quiet that it provides as an escape from the increasing bustle of the rest of the city.

I am adamantly against converting any of the existing pedestrian trails in Forest Park, especially Wildwood trail and other key trails, to shared or exclusive use for cycles.

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

Any off-road cycling trails considered for Forest Park should be qualified, designed, and sited with an overriding priority on retaining existing uses and character of the park, maintaining habit, quiet, and scenic values, and through appropriate physical and acoustic separation from pedestrian trail systems.

I have seen the damage that illegal bicycle use already creates in Forest Park. I'm concerned that allowing more cycle use near or connecting with current trail systems will result in additional spillover of cycles into unsanctioned areas.

VANESSA JOHANSSON Salt Lake City, UT 2016-07-28

There is enough open space for bikes without turning a long and peaceful dog and human walking tradition into another dodge the bike scenario

PETER ANDREWS Portland, OR 2016-07-28

I use the trails often to run, walk and hike with my family. I'm on the trails often with my young son, wife and our baby daughter. I love the trails, but I've been on them with cyclist and it is not safe. As a cyclist myself the designated areas should remain and the trails should be left for pedestrian use only.

BRAD LAWLISS Portland, OR 2016-07-28

Safety

PATRICK MULLALEY Portland, OR 2016-07-29

I have been sideswiped by bicycles on several trails in Forest Park. Not Safe!!

ULYSSES SHERMAN portland, OR 2016-07-29

Cycling will destroy the trails and make walking dangerous for the many elderly and children who enjoy the park.

SHIRLEY HOEM Wilsonville, OR 2016-07-30

Unsafe to share

GAIL GREDLER Salem, OR 2016-07-30

Bicycles do not belong on pedestrian trails. They damage the trails and endanger pedestrians. Please keep our trails safe and intact.

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

LAUREN KAPLAN Portland, OR 2016-07-30

Biking will contribute to erosion of the natural landscape, congest the trails, disrupt the peacefulness, and make the trails unsafe for families and other hikers/runners.

HILDEGARD WETTE Beaverton, OR 2016-08-03

I'm signing because I think of this as a place all people can use. That would change, with the suggested changes.

DEBRA NORMANDIN Litchfield, CT 2016-07-31

I live in Connecticut and always enjoy the treasure of your Forest Park hiking trails. Please don't compromise this experience by allowing single track cycling on pedestrian only trails.

HILDEGARD WETTE Beaverton, OR 2016-08-03

I'm signing because I think of this as a place all people can use. That would change, with the suggested changes.

MICHAEL BAKER Portland, OR 2016-08-01

Trails in Forest Park are not designed for bikes. The interactions I have had with mt. bikers "poaching" the Wildwood have not been pleasant. The city needs to enforce existing regulations. Bikes are fine on the Leif and fire roads, but not on the trails.

ALICIA HAZEN Albany, NY 2016-08-02

I hike and walk in forest park everyday. It calms my mind and is a solace for many walkers who visit the trails. Allowing mountain bikes into no designated trails is dangerous for pedestrians.

LAYTON BORKAN Portland, OR 2016-08-02

Single track trails can not safely serve Both walkers and bikers. What high speed cyclist will be willing to stop for hikers who are ahead of them on the trail? Makes no sense....many good high speed options on Leif Erickson and the existing fire roads!

HILDEGARD WETTE Beaverton, OR 2016-08-03

I'm signing because I think of this as a place all people can use. That would change, with the suggested changes.

RAY BOWMAN Beaverton, OR 2016-08-03

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

I am a frequent hiker in Forest Park and don't want to see the pedestrian- only trails torn up by cyclists.

FRANK MACMURRAY Portland, OR 2016-08-03

I'm a walker. Forest Park is a wilderness, not a bike track for adrelin junkies. Please limit their use to approved tracks and aggressively enforce dog on leash ordinances. Thank you.
Frank MacMurray

SUSAN HAY Portland, OR 2016-08-03

bikes would cause a lot of erosion - Forest Park already suffers from overuse due to increasing population density. It would be a serious mistake to allow mountain bikes on the trails.

NELL BONAPARTE Portland, OR 2016-08-03

Trails for safer for People.

SU ELLIOTT Portland, OR 2016-08-03

I want to keep Forest Park the unique treasure to Portland that it is. I believe allowing high-speed cycling there will degrade the environment. I want there to be places in Portland for high-speed cycling, but not in Forest Park

MEL HINTON VANCOUVER, WA 2016-08-03

I frequently hike with friends in Forest Park and always enjoy the feeling of quiet beauty that nature provides.

SUSAN EHRMAN Charlotte, NC 2016-08-03

I love walking in Forest Park - please keep it safe for us.

CAROL DODSON Portland, OR 2016-08-03

I want to be able to enjoy the peace of the park without dodging MORE cyclists.

JEFF FAIRCHILD Portland, OR 2016-08-03

As a runner in Forest Park I believe that allowing bikes will make running in the part dangerous for both parties and change the solitude that the park offers.

BRUCE SWANSON Baltimore, MD 2016-08-04

I'm signing because I had a run in with a cyclist in both Forest Park and Marquam.

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

M SILLMAN brooklyn, NY 2016-08-04

I love Forest Park!

STEPHANIE LAMONICA Portland, OR 2016-08-04

bikers who are riding on the wrong paths make it unsafe for everyone -- for our children, for our pets, for elderly, for people just out enjoying the quiet. why should we have to put up with that? they have fire trails, and, they can go to powell butte. they also have lief ericson. enough is enough.

MICHAEL WELLS Portland, OR 2016-08-04

I regularly run and walk in Forest Park. The trails are narrow enough that often walkers have to move aside for one another, faster bikes would be unsafe. I regularly see families with children and dogs, who wouldn't know how to get out of the way on a narrow trail.

LEAH PERKINS-HAGELE Hillsboro, OR 2016-08-05

There are plenty of places for mountain bikers to ride just outside of Portland, I am one of them. I do not think the it is appropriate, at all, that we should mountain bike in First Park.

NANCY HAMER Portland, OR 2016-08-06

I feel it is unsafe to allow bikes on the paths, and that it will also ruin them by causing ruts to develop. Our beautiful and unique neighborhood forest has always been meant to be enjoyed while walking, not by zipping around on bikes. People benefit and learn from nature by traveling along on the pathways in a respectful way. So do the animals, birds, frogs and other creatures whose home it is. They deserve our continued and respectful protection, while we are their guests there. NO to bikes on pathways please!

MARY BROOKS Portland, OR 2016-08-06

Leif Erickson is the best place for bikes in Forest Park. The trails will degrade if bikes are allowed. There isn't room for hikers, dog walkers, and bikes.

ELIZABETH ZENGER Portland, OR 2016-08-07

I care about the ecosystem of Forest Park.

JENNY JULIAN Portland, OR 2016-08-07

I am signing the petition because I do not want more single track cycling in Forest Park. It is unsafe for pedestrians, makes for an unpleasant, sometimes confrontational experiences, and

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

damages trails and plants. There are plenty of single track places for cyclists available around Portland already.

TAMMIE KRISCIUNAS Portland, OR 2016-08-07

I walk in forest part and don't want to be run over by a fast moving bike. If they want to have off-road biking on the forest park trails, build new trails that do NOT intersect with the peds trails, or perhaps use the very far north end trails. shared trails would be a disaster.

JOE WHITTINGTON Portland, OR 2016-08-07

My experience is that it is dangerous to mix bikes and walkers on the trails in Forest Park.

JULIE SHEPPARD portland, OR 2016-08-07

It would be impossible for me, with my mobility issues to continue walking the trails while bikes shared them. Not good for anyone.

ILONA ZUBIK North Kingstown, RI 2016-08-07

It makes sense to have cycling where it is designated and pedestrian trails kept safe for pedestrians.

LARRY GOFORTH ore city, OR 2016-08-07

I grew up next to the park and we used the trails for walking and running going from Fort to fort, not tearing it up with mountain bikes.

MICHAEL PEJSA Portland, OR 2016-08-08

I do not want bikes on hiking trails in forest park

CAMILLA WELHAVEN Portland, OR 2016-08-08

mountain bikes move too quickly and will impact the walkers and runners. Not a good idea!

MARILYN HALL Portland, OR 2016-08-08

I frequently use the trails in Forest Park. Both for safety of walkers/hikers as well as park preservation I do not favor the use of the trails by cyclists.

JENNIFER TORRES Portland, OR 2016-08-09

forest park should be enjoyed on foot only. period. too fast and furious for biking..... wear and tear, erosion and a conflict of pace.

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MARK LANDA Portland, OR 2016-08-09

I often walk these trails in Forest Park. Except for the Leif Ericson trail, there is no room for bikes. To allow bikes on the other trails would degrade them and endanger pedestrians.

HILARY MACKENZIE Portland, OR 2016-08-09

I use the trails daily as a runner and hiker, often with my dog. Adding bicycles to this mix is asking for carnage.

BARBARA BERNSTEIN Portland, OR 2016-08-09

I value the Wildwood Trail and all the other pedestrian trails in Forest Park as a peaceful refuge from the city and wheeled vehicles.

DONNA MATRAZZO Portland, OR 2016-08-09

It's unsafe for everyone to have bicycles on the tiny pedestrian trails in Forest Park.

BEL GARZA Seabrook, TX 2016-08-09

I Mother Nature!

MARY KEARNEY Portland, OR 2016-08-09

Please, no high-speed cycling. I hike Forest Park about 3 times a week. Adding these bikes would turn a peaceful hike into a treacherous endeavor for hikers and runners. It is a quiet, beautiful oasis in the midst of a city, why ruin it?

KEITH LOFSTROM Beaverton, OR 2016-08-09

I'm in West Slope in Washington County, but my wife's office is in Portland. She's a doctor, and for sound medical reasons publically opposed Portland's water fluoridation, appearing on television and authoring op-eds. Forest Park is Oregon's precious jewel, and our favorite place to hike. We rely on the City of Portland to protect it for us, and we will help correct the city leadership if they neglect their responsibilities.

NICOLE MICKELSON Arlington, WA 2016-08-09

PNW is my home and the parks/ forests are my refuge. Keep them safe!

MEG AGNEW Canaan, NY 2016-08-10

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

I've visited this spot before and would think bikers on these hiking trails is very dangerous. I'd definitely not hike there again!

ALICE DIFFELY Portland, OR 2016-08-09

My family and I live in NW Portland, within 3/4 mile of the nearest Forest Park trailhead. We typically run and walk in the park several times a week - sometimes individually, sometimes as a family, and sometimes with friends or neighbors. I am greatly concerned that allowing and encouraging mountain biking on narrow Forest Park trails that are currently designated as pedestrian- only will imperil the safety of runners and hikers of all ages, degrade the condition of the trails, and endanger wildlife. Forest Park uniquely offers Portland's citizens a zone of quiet contemplation within an increasingly busy urban environment. As our city's leaders, please preserve that sanctuary for current and future generations.

BETH BORNTRAGER Portland, OR 2016-08-10

Keeping the park safe and to rid it of unlawful cyclist

EMILIE PRODHOMME France 2016-08-10

Cheryl strayed défend cette cause et elle a fais le pacific crest Trail à pieds donc cette forêt doit être préservée en tant que telle.

MEG SCATA Middletown, CT 2016-08-10

I love the idea of a city park for walking and reflecting without the fear that hit shit cyclists or unruly young riders will mow me down or wise yet ride odd trail for a greater thrill. I don't expect to have to dodge cyclists as I walk in the beauty of the woods . Shame on you for even thinking mechanical devices and walkers belong in the same paths

JEANNE BEVIS Portland, OR 2016-08-10

Bikes and hikers w/ or w/out dogs are not compatible on narrow trails. Please consider the safety for those who don't ride.

SHEILAH TOOMEY Vancouver, WA 2016-08-10

Bikes aren't appropriate for that trail - too fast, too hard on the surface.

DANIELLE MUSSMAN union, KY 2016-08-10

We are avid hikers of Forest Park. One of the benefits of having such a wonderful space close to home is to get away from traffic, noise, and congestion to a calm and serene place. I feel allowing bikes to more of the pedestrian only trails will greatly diminish this experience for

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

hikers. Bikes will create ruts on the trails making them more hazardous to walk on. Bike traffic will, most likely, cause accidents on the more narrow or steeply graded trails, again...making it more hazardous to hikers (who use the trails more than any other recreational user).

JAMES WISSWAESSER Bow, WA 2016-08-10

I like to walk on the park trails when I'm in Portland in tranquility. I don't like to have to jump out of the way of speeding mountain bicyclers and don't like the trail damage their tires at high speed do. Please find a sacrifice area for those adrenaline junkies local and from out of town. Thanks, James

KATHERINE LYTE Portland, OR 2016-08-10

We need to keep park safe for pedestrians keep something for Portland keep bikes out our neighborhood is already overrun by bikes!!!

LISA FRANGENTE Portland, OR 2016-08-11

Forest park is our treasure. Any activity such as high -speed single track cycling will damage delicate ecosystems and make serene trails dangerous to hikers. Please do not let this happen.

PHILIP CROSBY Portland, OR 2016-08-12

I often hike in Forest Park. Most of the trails are so steep that it would be dangerous have them shared with bicycles. Furthermore, there would be considerably increased erosion. We hikers avoid using the trails when they get muddy, but I fear that bicyclists would regard the mud as a challenge.

ZOANNE SALTER Portland, OR 2016-08-12

We need to preserve the trails for pedestrians; mountain bikes and pedestrians sharing narrow trails is a dangerous combination

JOAN CUMMINGS Portland, OR 2016-08-13

This is a natural area, not a playground, it needs to be preserved and protected. Mountain biking does not promote conservation.

PHILIP NEMER Portland, OR 2016-08-13

Safety. Bicyclists are a safety hazard in this area.

JUDY FREEMAN Portland, OR 2016-08-13

Enough trails for cyclists already. Preserve park for pedestrians

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

MARYELLEN Stesney Portland, OR 2016-08-13

I would like to feel safe when hiking rather than looking over my shoulder. Bikes are too fast and quiet to be safe

DENNIS SUTTON Portland, OR 2016-08-13

Enough with bowing to the bikers. They are given everything but pay nothing!

BONNIE COHEN Portland, OR 2016-08-13

To expand bike access in Forest Park will have disastrous consequences. Hard to understand how a city such as Portland is even considering this!

MADISON KENNEY Portland, OR 2016-08-14

I have hiked and run on the trails in Forest Park since I was very young. I have encountered bikes during this time, and have always found them to be presenting a serious safety concern. When I am running on a trail, I don't want to have to worry about being hit by a bike, I just want to enjoy the wonderful nature all around me.

ALAN COMNES Portland, OR 2016-08-14

keep forest park safe for those on foot!

GAIL MOSES Portland, OR 2016-08-16

Having cyclist share narrow trails w hikers/walkers/dogs is dangerous!!!!

SANDY MAINES Hillsboro, OR 2016-08-15

I love to hike in Forest Park and like the serenity and wilderness feel. I also feel safe walking through the park. Bikers on the trails will make the park lose it's wilderness feel and potentially create safety hazards. I don't have a problem with bikers being in the park, but there should be hiker only paths as well, lots of them. Forest Park is an urban gem for those of us who don't want to drive out to the Gorge for a hike.

TERI ROWAN Portland, OR 2016-08-15

I feel strongly that single track biking does not support the designated most important priorities for the park, that of protecting the park's ecological health and preserving wildlife habitat. Neither does it support the goal of providing quiet and reflective experiences in the park. Lastly, I share the concern about safety for pedestrians who comprise the largest group of park users.

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

MICHAEL KRUTSCH Portland, OR 2016-08-16

Protect wildlife and keep the park from cycle routes. Cycling only makes camping easier. Also as a hiker, having bikes zooming by is not peaceful. It's

I use the park and its trail system and I believe it would be dangerous to walkers (I've met a cyclist on a blind curve) and I believe it would be detrimental to the park

WILLIAM NEWMAN Portland, OR 2016-08-16

off-road cycling is a thrill sport, not a contemplative, serene experience in nature. these uses are INCOMPATIBLE.

CRIS MORGANTE Portland, OR 2016-08-16

Please continue to prohibit the use of bikes on the pedestrian areas and the ecologically sensitive areas of the park.

CARL SCHULTZ Lake Oswego, OR 2016-08-16

I'm afraid that bikers will injure hikers.

STEVEN TIGHE Portland, OR 2016-08-16

I'm against allowing Single Track Cycling on Pedestrian only trails in Forest Park.

JEFFREY LAWTON Portland, OR 2016-08-16

This is a public safety issue!

JIM KENNEDY Tigard, OR 2016-08-17

Forest Park is beautiful. It is a trophy piece for Portland. It is not safe. There are only 2 places I feel a little safe from robbery. I have had my car broken into there.

JEAN STUPEK Portland, OR 2016-08-19

I don't them to put forest park in danger. Stupek

SARAH ELGIN St. Louis, MO 2016-08-19

I'm a visitor who thinks Forest Park is wonderful - and cyclists on narrow trails are a danger to pedestrians. This petition makes a lot of sense.

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

REBECCA MISCHEL Portland, OR 2016-08-21

This is a critically important natural habitat, highly accessible retreat for peaceful reflection and contemplation and utilities would be destroyed by expanding single lane bike access

HEATHER HANNAM Oregon City, OR 2016-08-21

I would like to see the quiet and spiritual aspect of nature maintained. I have walked the park many times for that lone reason. Please either set aside a small amount of trail for the bikers, or none. Maintain the goals of the original committee

NANCY CRUMPACKER Portland, OR 2016-08-22

In my 37 years of using Forest Park, I observed that off-road cyclers use the roads and fire lanes for an adrenaline rush. This goal is not compatible with the reasons walkers use the park. These 2 groups of users should not share trails.

PAMELA CALAMARI Portland, OR 2016-08-23

I'm signing because I enjoy a safe environment for my grandchildren. I'm an early morning runner and enjoy a peaceful, safe environment.

MARK GREENFIELD Portland, OR 2016-08-24

I have no objection to mountain biking on the wider trails like the fire lanes and Leif Erickson, but they have no place on the narrow trails that should be limited only to pedestrians.

RUBY APSLER Portland, OR 2016-08-24

The park is not only for us. It is for the plants and wildlife which will be harmed by more cycling traffic.

KENDALL HOLLADAY Portland, OR 2016-08-24

There are enough places for bicyclists. The Park needs to be a safe, quiet place for walkers and runners. Bikes erode the fragile ecosystem already at risk from higher pedestrian numbers. NO TO BIKES!

GARY J HARTNETT Portland, OR 2016-08-25

if we allow bikes to over take the trails then off road RV's could be next. let's preserve the trails. There are plenty of other physical activities and exercising activities for people to enjoy without spoiling the environment

HUTCHISON BILL Portland, OR 2016-08-25

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

The importance of maintaining Forest Park Trails for pedestrian-only use cannot be overstated.

ANN WEIKEL Portland, OR 2016-08-25

I walk in Forest park and trails are too narrow for people and bikes. Bikes downgrade trails

DEBORAH WOODARD Seattle, WA 2016-08-25

Let's make the park user friendly for everyone.

SHEILA O'BRIEN boise, ID 2016-08-26

I feel most of the trails in Forest Park are too narrow and windy to be safe/appropriate for pedestrians and bikes together.

CHRISTINE ENBERG Portland, OR 2016-08-28

No more high speed cycling in Forest Park

LAUREN GEFFNER Portland, OR 2016-08-30

Trails need to be kept safe for pedestrians!

NANCY CRUMPACKER Portland, OR 2016-08-27

Running and walking Forest Park trail users seek a quiet environment free of distractions so they do not injure themselves. And some trail users want quiet to observe the fauna and flora. People who come to the Park to bicycle are usually seeking an adrenalin rush. These two types of park users do not belong on the same trail except in circumstances where the runner/walker chooses to use a fire lane or other road to reach a section of the pedestrian trail.

LINDA SCHMIDT Portland, OR 2016-08-30

I'm opposed to high-speed single-track cycling. I run in Forest Park a lot and the thought of having to share more trails with high speed cyclists scares me. There are plenty of other places for them to ride. By the way, I'm also a cyclist.

LISA DEUTSCHMAN Portland, OR 2016-08-30

Forest Park walking and hiking trails weren't developed with off-road biking in mind. The way that off-road bikers behave on these trails poses a significant hazard to walkers and hikers and the overall health of the park itself.

BARBARA FERRE Portland, OR 2016-08-31

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

I think that it is important to preserve the amazing natural resource of Forest Park.

JULIE BLACKMAN Portland, OR 2016-08-31

Forest Park is a precious and fragile resource. As a resident of Portland, I fully support the current management plan for the sake of the Park, its current and future users, and the wildlife reliant on this park.

STEPHEN GEROULD Portland, OR 2016-09-01

People need sanctuary from people..... especially when they are on fast bikes!

JANE KURTZ Portland, OR 2016-09-02

I am both a mountain biker and a hiker. Allowing mountain biking on trails in Forest Park, other than those on which biking is currently allowed, will be harmful to the trails, make hiking very difficult and decrease the scenic and peaceful nature of the park.

BRYCE MILLIGAN Portland, OR 2016-09-04

I have hiked on those trails and do not believe they are safe for both bike traffic and hikers at the same time.

CANDY PUTERBAUGH Portland, OR 2016-09-05

As a hiker, runner, wildlife watcher, and nature lover from a family of bikers, I feel like Forest Park has been a quiet friend that is always there for me. With possible single-track cycling in the park, I worry that I'm losing a friend.

As a senior with toddling grandchildren and a happy yellow lab, I have enjoyed watching them wander innocently along the trails. Now I worry that high-speed cyclists will dominate and endanger anything close to those trails.

As a member of the community, I enjoy seeing others enjoy what Forest Park has to offer-- beauty, quiet, a place to walk and wonder, a getaway to nature. Now, with the possibility of single-track cyclists careening around corners, that sanctuary will be shattered.

The voices of all users of Forest Park should be heard before the few dictate the park's use. Isn't government there to represent the people?

JAMES PUTERBAUGH Portland, OR 2016-09-05

This is a good example of why people don't trust government. Single track cycling only serves a small special interest group, only risks the beauty and serenity of the country's largest city park, only smacks of backroom dealings, and only raises the hackles of those of us who love

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

the park. It also means these words will have no impact, as our city council is simply distanced from those it is meant to serve.

ROSEMARY BARRETT Portland, OR 2016-09-06

I'm signing because I don't want to be injured or hurt while walking in forest Park.

SHARON BUCK Portland OR, 2016-09-06

I'm signing because I would like to keep the paths of Forest Park bike free and open to pedestrians.

GEORGIA SCHELL Portland Oregon 2016-09-15

I believe that Forest Park is one of Portland's greatest natural wonders. I hike it's trails and I fear for my safety if single track bikes are allowed on the same trails like Wildwood that I hike.

DIANE (DEDE) DEJAGER Portland, OR 2016-09-15

I find hiking in Forest Park to be a delightful retreat. Sharing that trail with bikes is not at all appropriate. There is no room to get off the trail and they come quickly around corners. It would be a disaster especially since most users are walkers not bikers.

SHIRLEY POLLOCK Portland,OR 2016-09-15

I walk the trails weekly

CHRISTINE FARRINTON Portland, OR 2016-09-15

This is a fair and balanced request to follow and to enforce the rules. My friends and I walk on these trails and I want to feel safe taking my grandchildren.

ANN-MARIE CORDOVA Portland OR 2016-09-15

I grew up in Portland and have spent a lot of time in Forest Park, with friends, my kids and even alone. I feel that the cyclists have made the park unsafe. I have almost been hit by out of control cyclists.

PAMELA HOWARD Portland, OR 2016-09-16

Honor the Forest Park Natural Resources Management Plan. Keep Forest Park safe for all pedestrians. Protect the native flora and species habitat.

LAURA TURNEY Portland OR 2016-09-17

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

I frequently walk in Forest Park and am very concerned, due to the narrowness of so many trails, that allowing single track cycling will be extremely dangerous to hikers of all ages and dogs, as well as the bikers themselves. I am also very concerned about the damage bikes can cause to a precious and fragile environment. Let us all work together to create safe places for both pedestrians and bikers without changing existing laws that have been put there for good reason.

BARBARA TWOHY Portland OR, 2016-09-17

I frequently walk in Forest Park and am very concerned, due to the narrowness of so many trails, that allowing single track cycling will be extremely dangerous to hikers of all ages and dogs, as well as the bikers themselves. I am also very concerned about the damage bikes can cause to a precious and fragile environment. Let us all work together to create safe places for both pedestrians and bikers without changing existing laws that have been put there for good reason.

GWEN FAMHAM Portland,OR 2016-09-16

Make other trails open to them alone

LINDA LOVETT Portland, OR 2016-09-18

The park needs to be managed for its natural resources. More cycling will degrade the park for flora and fauna.

PAMELA ALLEE Portland,, OR 2016-09-28

It's difficult enough for old folks like me, or folks carrying babies and strollers (like i used to be) to hike these trails. Deny something to the bikes, for once!

MARK COLMAN portland, OR 2016-09-28

Keep it safe for pedestrians.

LUCY BREHM Portland, OR 2016-09-29

I want to use the Forest Park trails without worrying about cyclists on pedestrian only trails.

LINDI LIGHT Fairview, OR 2016-10-01

Forest park is an important refuge for so many animals. In this changing climate we can't afford to allow the tranquil interior of the park to be assaulted with more busy bike trails. This is critical habitat for animals. Let's keep a balance and preserve the park for the animals.

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

LAURIE RAWSON Portland, OR 2016-10-03

I believe Forest Park needs to be protected and maintained at it's current state of development.

MIKE FLANIGAN Beaverton, OR 2016-10-06

I'm in favor of pedestrians (runners!) only on the single track trails.

VICTOR STIBOLT Portland, OR 2016-10-07

Bikes destructive of paths; dangerous to hikers; never have seen a bike rider quietly enjoying trails-- always intent on not crashing or adding speed; impossible to manage both bike and foot traffic on narrow trails.

KIRSTEN MENEGHELLO Portland, OR 2016-10-12

I enjoy hiking in Forest Park and I don't want to be mowed down by a fast- moving cyclist. Some areas should be quiet, pedestrian-only places. We should find other locations for bike trails.

DANIELA BROD Portland, OR 2016-10-13

The park's wildlife and natural habitat need to be preserved for future generations. Biking puts too much pressure on an already-pressured resource.

ALLISON ULLMER New Paltz, NY 2016-10-15

This has been my haven for over 20 years.

DIANE FRANK Portland, OR 2016-10-19

I am writing in opposition to opening Forest Park to mountain bikes and see nothing but trouble if it is enacted.

First off, you should know I am a cyclist and just returned from a trip cycling from Vienna to Prague so this is no knee jerk reaction.

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

I hike often in Forest Park. The trails are used by many pedestrians and children. Cyclists barreling down the paths pose a hazard to them. Cyclists rarely announce their presence and families, especially with kids, will spread over the entire path. It would be almost impossible for them to move quickly out of the way.

I have seen the damage to paths as a result of cyclists using them, especially in the winter. Who will pay for their maintenance and upkeep? Certainly not the cyclists!

Why would you put both people and the well being of the park in jeopardy in order to satisfy a small segment of the population who want the privilege of riding where they want when they want? BAD IDEA Diane Frank

JILL CESSNA Hillsboro, OR 2016-10-19

I don't think we need to have bikers on the trails in Forest Park as the bikes mess up the trails and make hiking hazardous.

PATRICIA REYNOLDS Portland, OR 2016-10-19

I am signing because I have so enjoyed walks through Forest Park listening to nature and not machines.

LISA BRICE Wilsonville, OR 2016-10-19

I walk in Forest Park once or twice a week.

DOROTHY SLATER portland, OR 2016-10-19

I live in an area with a lot of bikes on the streets and as a pedestrian have had to be very careful that i am not hit by some racing by me. The one place were seniors can be sure we can walk in peace and safety is forest park. there are more than enough places for bikers to ride - please keep this haven of serenity free of them.

GAIL C. DUNCAN Lake Oswego, OR 2016-10-19

Off road bikers have a brand new trail from Portland to Hood River paid for by Oregon taxpayers. Isn't that enough space?

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

PATRICIA BURNETT Beaverton, OR 2016-10-19

I frequently hike in Forest Park with my grandchildren ages 8 and 11. I think Mt. Biking through the trails could be dangerous to hikers.

MANUELA BONNET-BUXTON Cornelius, OR 2016-10-19

I want Forest Park protected from vehicles of any kind which would ruin the trails and endanger pedestrians and runners.

JANET TALMADGE Beaverton, OR 2016-10-19

Please keep Forest Park Trails for pedestrians/hikers only! No High-Speed Single track cycling!

MICHAEL ROBINSON Portland, OR 2016-10-20

I am an experienced hiker and off-road biking needs its own trail network or wide service roads to prevent collisions of bike riders and hikers. The trails I have utilized in Forest Park are too narrow for combined use.

LEIGH SCHWARZ Portland, OR 2016-10-20

Please preserve the peace and quiet and safety of Forest Park for walkers and hikers. Bikes cause erosion, unsafe encounters and change the very essence of a serene forest experience to one encountered on any roadway, just more dangerous. Thank you.

JOYCE RASMUSSEN Portland, OR 2016-10-20

Safety is a big concern; also trail maintenance.

ETHEL KRUM Portland, OR 2016-10-20

I hike the trails with family and friends and get run down by bikers. The way they tear up the environment and scare wildlife.

LARRY ALFIERI Portland, OR 2016-10-20

public safety on hiking trails, particularly the heavily used trails of Forest Park, must be protected. The presence of bikers on the trails runs contrary to public safety.

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

CECILE MANNY Portland, OR 2016-10-20

Worry about the increase traffic on a sensitive ecosystem. The park is a wonderful place to hike.

BEV HEDIN Portland, OR 2016-10-20

I have found that mountain bikes wear down trails much more than people feet, also they pose danger to walkers along the trail.

PATRICIA GRUHER Portland, OR 2016-10-20

Trail bikes do not belong on narrow, busy hiking paths.

JUDITH BARR Portland, OR 2016-10-20

Forests are for WALKING!

DEBBIE BRUNHOFF Portland, OR 2016-10-20

I don't want to get run over when I'm walking the trail.

TOM WILSON Portland, OR 2016-10-20

I have almost been run over by bicycles zooming downhill. Give walkers a break. I have also seen the ruts which channel water downhill.

JEAN MUNHALL Tigard, OR 2016-10-20

These trails should not be open to bicycles. I have tried hiking near the McKenzie River on a joint trail (hikers and bikes). It was very dangerous.

BARBARA GICKING Portland, OR 2016-10-20

Mountain biking does not belong on pedestrian trails, it is dangerous for both pedestrians and cyclists. Please do not approve this.

STANLEY BUNCH Portland, OR 2016-10-20

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Bikes are currently allowed on the fire lanes and many are already a menace to hikers. The thought of losing the peace, quiet, and safety of the "hiking only" trails is abhorrent. High speed and often careless mountain bikers simply do not belong on these trails.

SHAURI BUNCH Portland, OR 2016-10-20

This idea would ruin the park for all of us who love it and use it daily!

HELEN PLOCHA Portland, OR 2016-10-20

I walk the trails and appreciate there are no bikes. Walking east and west side of the Willamette between the Steel Bridge and Tillikum Crossing is dangerous due to the high speed of bikers, regardless of the signs. I would not want to see this same thing happen on the narrow trails in Forest Park.

DOROTHY DOBER Happy Valley, OR 2016-10-20

How can you even consider using tax money and changing land use laws to environmentally ruin a public treasure for a small special interest group?!!! For you to even consider it is an assault to sensibility and public duty.

SUZANNE RICKMAN Portland, OR 2016-10-20

I would not be safe for runners and walkers to have to look out for bikes!!!! The trails are way to narrow.

TIM MCGUILL Portland, OR 2016-10-20

I value the peaceful walks and jogs on many FP trails ...it definitely won't be the same if mountain bikes take over.

RICHARD JONES Portland, OR 2016-10-20

We need to maintain the safety and integrity of our trails.

PETER NELSON Beaverton, OR 2016-10-20

I am signing because as a kid, I walked the trails from age 7 on. I am now 77 and still walk the trails with friends from Cascade Prime Timers (all over 50 years old) and families of Trails club

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of Oregon. I like the quite and peacefulness of the largest park within a city in the United States. Thanks Pete Nelson

CARMEN RIVERA MYERS Portland, OR 2016-10-21

I do not want mountain bikes in Forest Park. Allowing mountain bikes will be dangerous to pedestrians and will cause undue erosion of natural areas.

LINDSAY GALEN Portland, OR 2016-10-21

as a senior walker, I have been put in dangerous situations several times by people with unleashed dogs on the trails and am even more worried about ANY bicycles allowed on them. There is just not enough room for walkers to be side by side and I cannot visualize a safe way to allow bicycle traffic as well. In addition, hearing difficulties that impair many of my fellow seniors make the more silent but speedy bike a bit of a stealth attack weapon!

GLENDIA CHAITE Portland, OR 2016-10-21

This park is important to me and I do not want to see any cycling on the trails that are in use for hikers.

MICAELA LILES Portland, OR 2016-10-21

We use forest Park to hike and run with our children. We don't want the trails torn up nor the quick moving traffic. Speeding bikes are not safe.

RACHEL PREVOST Portland, OR 2016-10-21

My absolute favorite thing to do is wander the trails of forest park with my dog. I would be discouraged in coming if mt bikers were allowed on these incredibly peaceful trails. They are so beautiful and already hard to maintain. I believe the bikes would tear them up more.

JOANNE STERLING Rosamond, CA 2016-10-21

The peace and beauty of Forest Park is a feature in Portland that my family, neighbors, real estate buyers and I have enjoyed for many years. I have encountered cyclists on the pedestrian only trails, and in general they take the right of way, often are traveling at breakneck speed, making it a dangerous situation for children, dogs, elderly, and sometimes, me. In addition, for some reason I am encountering cyclists who are often reckless and rude. It would be a terrible

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

intrusion to allow the illegal use of trails to go unenforced. Please, NO high-speed single track cycling in our beautiful precious resource.... Thank you.

BARBARA WILSON Beaverton, OR 2016-10-21

I believe that high-speed single-track cycling is an unacceptable intrusion and disruption into Forest Park. I support pedestrian-only trails in Forest Park.

ELAINE NEWLAND West Linn, OR 2016-10-21

Forest Park is a treasure, a wilderness for the future generations.

PAT MCALEER Portland, OR 2016-10-21

Forest Park is a gem. I would no longer take visitors to Forest Park if there were bikers on the same trails.

ELVINA CHRISTOPHERSON Scappoose, OR 2016-10-21

Have you ever hiked on a trail with bikers who come right up to you without even making their presence known? Is there room for another set of trails for them? They are going all over at Catherine Creek making a really ugly mess of trails. Give an inch and they take a mile. See many spots in Forest Park where they have cut down off the trail.

DOUG BERGMANN Portland, OR 2016-10-21

I run on these trails and it would be very dangerous to have bikers on all the blind corners. Horrible idea to allow bikers on these trails. Listen to the majority of us!

CHRISTIAN VEGA Portland, OR 2016-10-22

Even though full access to trails for bikes would be fun, hikers and walkers also need a safe and enjoyable place to do their activity in peace and quiet rather than being on the lookout for a speeding biker. There are plenty of other places to ride.

SANDRA MILLER Portland, OR 2016-10-22

Please allow paths to be accessed by and for pedestrians only.

STEVIE GIBNER Portland, OR 2016-10-22

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

I agree!

DIANE ABEL Portland, OR 2016-10-23

We run the wildwood trail and it would be a safety hazard for bikes to be on the same narrow trail.

BETTY POWELL Portland, OR 2016-10-23

I hike in Forest Park very often and I think it would be dangerous to put bikes with hikers on most of those trails.

DAVID RYUGO Neutral Bay, Australia 2016-10-23

I'm signing because I own a house in Portland.

KATHERINE HAMANN Portland, OR 2016-10-24

I have been walking and jogging on those trails for 30 years. I can't imagine being on the same trail with mountain bikes. There will be serious injuries. I love Mt biking and get plenty of use out of the Leif Erickson Rd. Keep them separate.

CAROL CRABILL Petaluma, CA 2016-10-24

Bicyclists and pedestrians don't mix. Just ask me about my loss of hearing and bad knee, among other ongoing aches and pains.

THERESE BUCKINGHAM Portland, OR 2016-10-25

I love running on Wildwood and the trails that connect to it without worrying about bicycles. There is not enough room on these trails for bikes to safely pass hikers and runners. The bikes would tear up the trails and make them unusable for pedestrians especially during the rainy months.

DAGNY ABEL Portland, OR 2016-10-25

Love the walking trails- no bikes please

WILLIAM HOBSON Portland, OR 2016-10-25

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

While 80% of cyclists will have good intentions, the other 20% percent will cause harm to the already precarious and narrow cliff side trails along the park, making it unsafe for seniors and children using the walking trails.

ELAINE NELSON Aloha, OR 2016-10-25

I walk regularly in Forest park with my young granddaughters and want to keep pedestrian only trails for safety reasons and preserving habitat.

GREG HARR Portland, OR 2016-10-25

runners, walkers, pets on leash, as well as mountain bikers should be able to enjoy Forest Park w/o fear of injury (beyond slipping on muddy trails). Mountain bikers on fire lanes is more than enough access.

VIRGINIA FULLER Portland, OR 2016-10-25

Lets keep forest park trails for hiking. it is a serene beautiful place not really one for the rush and thrill of mountain biking. It makes it unsafe for hikers.

HOLLY BURTON Portland, OR 2016-10-26

We seek peace in the woods, not having to watch out for a fast moving vehicle. And it's hard to believe that bikes won't do more damage than walking. It's disturbing to animals, plants and people. Please do not allow it!

SHANI FOX Portland, OR 2016-10-26

I trained for the Camino de Santiago on the wonderful trails of SW and NW Portland. These trails are safe, quiet places for exercise and social interaction between pedestrians. Allowing cycling on these trails would dramatically and adversely impact the peace, enjoyment and safety of 90% of the current users of the trails. Please find a separate location for the cyclists that doesn't ruin the trails for the vast majority of us who now use them.

DONNA FRIEDMAN West Palm Beach, FL 2016-10-26

Walking the trails peacefully is a major attraction of living in and visiting Portland. There are plenty of other areas that can be dedicated for bikers to enjoy.

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

DENNIS CLINEFELTER Portland, OR 2016-10-26

I don't want mountain bikers trying to avoid me as I am walking the trails through Forest Park

MADELINE KOKES Portland, OR 2016-10-27

Bikes disrupt the quite aura of the park and will be disruptive to all who live and hike there.

HEATHER KREBSBACH Portland, OR 2016-10-27

I want to keep Forest Park trails quiet and preserve the natural habitat.

CHARLES KUTTNER Portland, OR 2016-10-27

I mountain bike, and I hike. There are places that need to be for hikers, not for bikers.

PETER TETRICK Portland, OR 2016-10-27

Forest park is so beautiful and would be ruined with bike trails, this practice of bikers making unlawful trails is a crime. Those who do it are criminals and should be treated as such.

KAREN ROBIDA Portland, OR 2016-10-27

Mountain bikes will tear up the nice trails throughout Forest Park! Mountain bikers have plenty of places to ride!

MARY LOU ANDERSEN Portland, OR 2016-10-27

High Speed Mountain Bikes need to have their own paths. Walkers need to be protected from bikers.

MARCIA HANSCOM Playa del Rey, CA 2016-10-27

the place needs to be safe for nature and for contemplation

MAUREEN MASSON Santa Barbara, CA 2016-10-28

Bikers get bused to the top of the trails and then race down. Horses have been killed and hikers injured here in Santa Barbara, CA.

MARY ELLEN SMITH Portland, OR 2016-11-10

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

I am signing because I hike the trails of Forest Park all the time and bikes on the trails are a danger and destructive. They should remain of the fire lanes and The Leif, where there is room for them.

DON JACOBSON Portland, OR 2016-11-17

By allowing bicycles on pedestrian only trails, you are in effect denying safe walking trails for pedestrians.

MARTHA BRITTON Portland, OR 2016-11-17

Forest Park is extremely important to the Portland as a whole, not single track cycling. Find somewhere else to put the track.

MARCY JACOBS Portland, OR 2016-11-17

I am both a cyclist and a hiker. Single track cyclists are not compatible with hikers and walkers on Forest Park trails. Some riders bike illegally on these trails, and are a danger. They ride fast and furiously, endangering life and limb. What if they encounter a group with young children and/or dogs? I am a senior and do not want a risky confrontation with out of control cyclists. Any trails for for mountain bikes should be single purpose and away from hikers.

ROGER BREWER Portland, OR 2016-11-17

I understand the desire of bicyclists to use Forest Park but they cause erosion that is not compatible with preserving Forest Park. If Forest Park were flat, bike erosion would not be an issue but it's not flat. It needs our protection. Please say no to opening Forest Park trails to bikes.

CHRIS CHRIS Sitka, AK 2016-11-17

For Wildwood!

MARY SCARBOROUGH Portland, OR 2016-11-17

I moved to downtown Portland in 1987 and began running the trails of Forest Park as soon as I heard they were so near. I was so amazed that I could live in a big city but be transported to

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

such a beautiful undeveloped landscape within minutes and spend hours running the trails. No cars, no bikes, just clean air and trees galore! Loved it! Still love it, though I have been reduced to walking. Please keep it for us and not allow single-track cycling to negatively impact the beauty and safety of this urban gem!

CATHERINE THOMPSON Portland, OR 2016-11-30

According to the 2016 Oregon Statewide Trails plan only 4% of trail users consider single track cycling their favorite trail activity. 48% consider hiking their favorite trail use. It is estimated that 1.1 billion dollars of revenue is generated in Oregon by hiking and walking related activity compared to just 83 million dollars from off road cycling.

This 2016 study recommends increasing use of trails by seniors and minorities (both populations are growing). The study also reports the percentage and total number of seniors hiking on trails is considerably higher than the percentage and number that bike on trails.

The HIGHEST PRIORITY NEED IS FOR HIKING TRAILS inside and outside the community

Trails for HARD SURFACE biking were the next highest priority for inside (the community)

Clearly the Planning Commission needs to concentrate on those uses considered to be the most needed, which happen to also be the most popular and the most revenue generating and least harmful to the environment.

Increased efforts must be made to keep pedestrians safe on their trails in Forest Park.

Increasing cycling in the park by adding new trails, converting pedestrian only trails or sharing trails would have a negative impact on pedestrians as it would increase the already rampant and uncontrolled illegal cycling on pedestrian only trails. This would discourage seniors and others from enjoying the trails and have a net negative impact on the health and enjoyment of park users.

Please save our pedestrian only trails and enforce the laws. In this way the most people will have the maximum benefit over the longest time.

STEPHANIE OLIVER Portland, OR 2016-11-28

Make Forest Park Safe Again Comments 2016

I absolutely abhor the idea of trying to share Forest Park with single track cyclists. The park is one of Portland's wonders and it highly used by trail walkers on a daily basis. It is already a magnificent attraction to visitors to Portland and an incredible amenity to those of us you use it regularly. These pedestrian trails need to stay pedestrian-only trails. It would be like removing the permission for children to enjoy this park.

CHERYL NANGERONI McMinnville, OR 2016-11-17

I feel Leif Erikson Drive and fire lanes are fine for the off road cyclists.

MARCY HOULE Portland, OR 2016-12-1

Forest Park is the nation's only designated urban wilderness. It has more native wildlife diversity than any city park in the country, and greater interior forest habitat than in any city park in the world. The Forest Park Natural Resources Management Plan specifically protects these values and insists that all who visit are safe and feel safe. Allowing a new, active use of single track would negatively impact all of these values as well is against land use law and environmental code. Please protect this crown jewel of Portland.

The following are comments sent via email to Michelle Kunec-North regarding the Off-Road Cycling Master Plan between January 27 and February 6, 2017.

[From: Lisa Cox lisarcox@hotmail.com]

Hello and Happy Friday,

I am writing to express my support for the Portland Off-Road Cycling Plan. I am excited to ride trails in Portland. Please listen to the science and reason in this debate regarding **all resident's** access Forest Park. there is room for hikers, bikers and wildlife habitat (we could even split the days like many other parks=Hikers MWFSa/Bikers TThSu). Please allow trail riding in the park.

It will help foster a future generation of conservation advocates and show that you care about fair access.

We need to protect the park but can't continue to exclude a large part of the population to access the park by riding the trails.

Thank you for your support,
Lisa

[From: Chris Rotvik chrisr@nw-trail.org]

One public comment provided at the January 26, 2017 PAC meeting cited research, the *Oregon Non-Motorized Trail Participation and Priorities Report*, misstating the findings. I'd like to amend the record. This research document can be found at https://www.oregon.gov/oprd/Trail_Programs_Services/Documents/Nonmotorized_%20trail_report.pdf. From the report:

- The probability that a research respondent participated in a given activity at least once within the last 12 months: Walking+hiking combined, 96%. Cycling single-track, 23%.
- The frequency, in days per annum, that a research respondent participated in a given activity: Walking+hiking combined, 38.5 days. Cycling single-track, 3.5 days.

The research cited is by, and about, our state park system. The results reflect what people *currently* do in our state parks, and do not capture what they *desire* to do. Since few of our state parks are single-track destinations (potentially skewing cycling response rates relative to the general population), and, with hiking and walking combined (for example, if a respondent walked on a state park beach, they were included in this category), taking these results as a relevant "hiker-biker" ratio may not be prudent.

Thank you for your service to the community.

Chris Rotvik
(503) 730-5899

Northwest Trail Alliance
PO Box 1846
Portland OR 97207

[From: Bushnell, Spencer P :LGS Orthopedic Rehab SBUSHNEL@LHS.ORG]

“Dear City Leader-

I am writing to express my support for the Portland Off-Road Cycling Plan. I am excited to ride trails in Portland. Please listen to science and reason in this debate regarding Forest Park. There is room for hikers, bikers, conservation, and wildlife habitat. Please allow trail riding in the park. It will help to foster a future generation of conservation advocates.

Respectfully yours,

*Spencer Bushnell PT, DPT, OCS
Board Certified Orthopedic Clinical Specialist
Legacy Outpatient Physical Therapy
503 413 7214*

[From: Hollister, Jeffrey Jeffrey.Hollister@regence.com]

I am writing to you in support of future plans for developing usable facilities for the community to ride mountain bikes off-road within the Portland vicinity. I am 59 years old and an avid off-road single track biker. Yes, even older gents ride mountain bikes for exercise. I have not always been a biker. I was a competitive runner for 20+ years and have run every square inch of Forest Park 100's of times, as well as other trails in the Portland region. I was very active in the running community both nationally and within Oregon as president of the Oregon Road Runners Club and as a part time coach and volunteer running promoter and director for nonprofit charities. When running became too much for my knees after many years of competition I took up biking with a focus on off-road biking. I love nature and I graduated college with a degree in biology because I loved being in the outdoor so much. With running, there are many places to go off-road within the Portland vicinity. And many of those places I have seen very few people utilize either through walking or running. With off-road biking and living on the west side of Portland, I have found that you are limited to riding poorly designed and eroded fire roads in Forest Park that just go either straight up or straight down or the Leif Erickson Trail where you have to dodge walkers, runners, and many dogs off leash. The only decent mountain bike trails require a 45+ minute one way ride in my car away from Portland to the Coastal Mountains or even longer drive up to Washington State or Eastern or Southern Oregon. To me as a nature lover, having to get behind the wheel of a smog producing vehicle to go some other place where I am permitted to ride off-road makes little sense. Back when my kids were younger, I tried very hard to get them interested in the great exercise off-road cycling provides and the appreciation you can develop by being in nature when they were growing up. However, the fire roads in Forest Park were not suited for young kids to ride and they were not interested in being in the car for 45 minutes to ride for a few hours. To me that is sad to see that a huge segment of youth will not experience what it is like to ride a bike in the woods and develop

that sense of love for nature. Those are our future taxpayers who will be voting to either support or not, the purchase of open lands for park space and outdoor use. If they have little experience enjoying the existing outdoor spaces, why would they support the development of more in the future? Sure we have walking and running trails, but trust me when I say that kids get more excited about riding a bike in the woods and repeating that activity than they do walking or running.

I understand that you are in the process of developing a PDX Off-Road Cycling Master Plan. Thank you for taking this on and I know it will likely be a multi-year process before we might see any real trails. In the short term if I could suggest the following, it may help give the mountain biking community some hope and encouragement:

- As I noted above existing fire lane trails in Forest Park are in disrepair. In particular fire lanes 1 (upper and lower), 5, 12, 15, and Newton Road. If the trails were built properly to single track standards, they would hold up better and be able to withstand runoff. We have trail building experts in the Portland community with NWTA and likely they would volunteer to help consult and repair those trails. They also could be counted on to help maintain the trails in the future.

Thank you for taking the time to listen. I really applaud your efforts in pursuing the opportunity for having local off road trails for mountain biking. For some reason Portland has such a negative attitude towards mountain biking. I think part of that reason is that most people do not know what mountain biking is all about and how it is such a great facility activity. They may be thinking that this is just a bunch of kids that want to build jumps in the woods and tear up Forest Park. If you looked at the income level and jobs the average mountain biker has you would be surprised. Mountain bikes cost from \$2,000 to \$9,000 and these are not toys. Riders put a lot of work into maintaining them and take seriously the privilege of being permitted to ride on forest trails. We love the environment just like the bird watcher, the hiker, and the runner. We just happen to do it on two wheels.

Thanks again and if you need any additional feedback or help, please contact me.

Jeff Hollister

[From: Rutherford Brakke-Pound rutherfordb@gmail.com]

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my support for the Portland Off-Road Cycling Plan. I am excited to ride trails in Portland. Please listen to science and reason in this debate regarding Forest Park. There is room for hikers, bikers, and wildlife habitat. Please allow trail riding in the park. It will help to foster a future generation of conservation advocates. We need to protect the park, but we cannot continue to exclude a large contingent of the population.

Respectfully,

Rutherford Brakke-Pound

[From: christopher san agustin chris@brokenandcoastal.com]

Dear City Leaders,

I moved to Portland to join a community of people passionate for the outdoors. Portland is a false.

Off road cycling is growing. It's time to remove the red tape and give access back to the people of this city. You've been in bed with the elite for far too long.

Your still burning witches and I will no longer stand idly by.

--

Christopher San Agustin
Creative Director
www.brokenandcoastal.com

[From: Patrick Croasdaile pcroasdaile@gmail.com]

Dear City Leader-

I am writing to express my support for the Portland Off-Road Cycling Plan. I am excited to ride trails in Portland. Please listen to science and reason in this debate regarding Forest Park. There is room for hikers, bikers, and wildlife habitat. Please allow trail riding in the park. It will help to foster a future generation of conservation advocates. We need to protect the park, but we cannot continue to exclude a large contingent of the population.

Respectfully yours,

Patrick H. Croasdaile

[From: Ryan Francesconi rowingatsea@gmail.com]

Hello, I attended the NWTAs member meeting on Tuesday that Michelle presented on and I have a few comments I'd like to share with the committee.

Here are my suggestions:

Forest Park

I'm well aware of the political deadlock in Forest Park that has been ongoing for years. My uncle Jim is a former PDX Parks Commissioner and I also was Jansky's sidekick for a bit in the early phases of this process. I'm aware of the history here.

One thing I don't understand though is why the bike legal firelanes aren't allowed to be fixed. At this point they are certainly no longer legitimate fire access routes so why not allow NWTAs and volunteers to fix the alignments and drainage issues that currently make them terrible to ride on? Trails such as FL1, FL5, Newton Road, FL12 and FL15 all have great potential for mountain biking, IF the alignments are

fixed. Straight drops down without switchbacks create the very situations that opponents to bikes in the park don't want to see.

For example. upper FL1 is treacherous and intersects wildwood. If it had a number of turns put it it would slow bikes down at the key spots. You can look at the Gales Creek Trail design as an example of a trail that supports all users without any conflict whatsoever. The key is slowing the bikes down by using twists and turns in moments where speed and blind corners exist.

FL12/15/Newton are largely unused by anyone. Why are we not allowed to fix these trails? Actually, I know why, but the reason is political not legitimate or in the greater good of the park itself.

Interconnecting Neighborhood Parks around the city

I love this concept, and it is one that I already do in my current rides around the city. I'd like to share with you a route that I often ride that does just this in East Portland / Gresham: <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/15860442>

This is all legal (I think) with the exception of a few trails on powell butte - note, we've been riding these trails for years before the recent signs went up, so I haven't yet updated the route to reflect the current Powell Butte access policy.

EAST PORTLAND

In terms of **Powell Butte**, I do have an idea that would solve a lot of problems there:

Create beginner child friendly trails at [Gates Park](#) at the base of Holgate. The reason for this is that this is already where many people start their ride at PB, and Gates is entirely unused at the moment. This wide open greenspace is perfect for a trail snaking around it. It's also an idea place to put something like a skills course, short track course or permanent CX course. The problem with Powell Butte is that there are no flat trails for kids to try riding on, or for out of shape folks. The flat parcel at Gates park would be great for sight lines and open views and be a lovely addition to the area.

Kelly Butte

I understand you are considering Kelly Butte - I agree this would be an excellent use of that land given that currently it is trashed and full of terrible rogue trails. Putting a trail system there would only clean it up, and it's pretty close in.

Jenne Butte

While this is a metro parcel, and on Gresham land, I think it should be considered given its proximity to Powell Butte. It's not a secret that there are already trails there.

Butler Creek

Also has fun trails, interconnects Gresham Butte to Powell Butte or Jenne Butte.

Back Side of Rocky Butte

Used to be the site of the bmx scene that you guys demolished. Fair enough, but again this area is a bit trashed, very beautiful and perfect for more bike trails. The existing trails have been there since Rocky Butte was a grazing area for cows. Home to the homeless, I don't want to push them out, however, I don't like garbage in the forest either. Given the proximity to Gateway Green, this site should be developed. The trails are already there, but need work.

NORTH PORTLAND

Pier Park, Kelly Point.

The west side of portland is pretty annexed by those who aren't so friendly with bikes, so I would concentrate on the East and North.

Business Motives

Portland has become a literal Hub of the bike industry world wide. I'm sure you're all well aware of the big money stakeholders here. Adventure cycling in particular is taking off like a rocket. If you would like a list of world renowned companies here, I could provide that -- but the point being, this is not a minority group, nor is it niche. The outdoor industry is one of the biggest and if you look to Travel Oregon, you'll see a huge push for bike tourism dollars. Now, why is it that the shining star of Oregon, Portland itself, is a joke in terms of natural surface cycling....?

Thanks,

Ryan Francesconi

Unpaved Cycling Group, PDX

<https://ridewithgps.com/clubs/8-unpaved>

[From: Chris Rotvik chris@nw-trail.org]

I'd like to offer a suggestion about how the public comments segment of PAC meetings might be improved: Through a show of hands, identify first-time commenters (i.e., never having voiced an opinion at a PAC meeting). Prioritize these persons (in sequence, and perhaps even in time allotment) to speak before, but not to the exclusion of, the remaining public. In this manner, new voices, new perspectives are brought forward above what might be viewed as repetitive badgering.

Thank you for your service to the community.

Chris Rotvik

(503) 730-5899

Northwest Trail Alliance

PO Box 1846

Portland OR 97207

[From: bridget hildreth bridget.hildreth@gmail.com]

Families. Women. Children.

It's a beautiful, spring Tuesday evening while I am with 15 women in a ribbon of trail, surrounded by fern, iris, and the lowering sun streaming through the trees. It's women's night at Carpenter Bypass near Eugene, Oregon and we have the 25-mile network to ourselves. One woman's cell phone rings intruding on our serene. We stop and wait. Her teenage son has called to ask where in the laundry his soccer

socks are. I let her finish, then ask her to turn off her phone. Tell her to let him call dad if something else important arises. Tonight is about her, and this is the best thing she can do for herself and for her son.

The women are all ages, from 15 to 50. Some have arrived with rental bikes from the local shop. Some have borrowed their husband's, brother's or son's too big, too old, too heavy, rust-seized drive-train bikes, because, well, mothers especially, won't spend money on themselves. But it is not about the equipment. It is about the experience of women supporting women in a new life-changing adventure. These women are here because they want to not just learn how to competently ride a mt bike, get in shape, share an activity with their spouses, but they are mostly here because they want to develop skills that require building lots of courage and confidence. They want to get to know their inner friend, fear, have a conversation, make an agreement and overcome obstacles. This type of self-work is exceedingly important for women and for our social-health in general I believe. This is the foremost reason why there has recently been an upswing in women mountain biking.

On our first night, we are taking turns sessioning a log-over, keeping momentum up, learning how to get off the saddle and position the body back at the right moment, then transitioning forward again while pushing the bars through the drop, leveraging our knees and elbows as additional suspension. We learn how to be in control of the bike, command, rather than just sit on a saddle and pedal. We cheer each other on. On the second Tuesday night, we move to a formidable root drop, followed by a bit of rocky scramble. Hit the brakes and you are OTB. But if you do, it is not the end of the world. Falling and getting back up is important too. So we learn how to sustain a crash with the least amount of injury. Women have different bodies than men; they need to learn from other women. These women line up for the drop, drive over the roots with their knees and elbows out cowboy style. They are slightly back, flexed and fully in charge. Resisting the urge to tap the brakes, they clean the mess, feel the adrenaline rush, and look back upon all they accomplished in astonishment. Then they laugh and holler for themselves like the children then never got to be. We spot one another, encourage, whoop, and reassure. And we always support those who are simply not ready. Only you know when you will be ready. But it is best to be in a clan of supportive women when that moment arises. Establishing a friendship with your inner-fear is very important on the journey to fierce-ity.

After a couple months of Tuesday nights, our group arrives at a more formidable trail in the Hardesty network outside of town, about a 40-minute drive. We have to hurry because we are here after work and the light is fading. By now their cores are strong, and they will proudly show off their new deltoid muscles. Strong is the new pretty, and they have fully realized this. We climb up to Eagle's Rest and descend seven miles of Goodman trail. Goodman is not a "flow trail." Goodman is wildly raw trail, a sensitive trail, a mind-blowingly beautiful and challenging trail that will spit you over your bars in a blink if you are not fully engaged at every moment. Goodman/Eagles is so well loved by the mt bike community that it is closely watched, readily closed to riders by riders if any signs of erosion begin. In fact riders on average get two or three months of riding on this trail per year tops. Which makes us cherish it even more.

By this day on our weekly Tuesday night, several of the women have actually splurged on a new bike for themselves. On weekends they have shown up with their children and husbands at trail maintenance work crews, and joined with their families on club "Happy" rides where anyone can come, everyone is

taken care of, and trail etiquette is modeled. But tonight is graduation night for these women, and the experience of bringing them to one of my most loved trails, truly one of my “best friends,” is sublime.

There is little more satisfying than sharing what you love with others., passing on the knowledge, ensuring sustainability of singletrack spaces, and an activity that will change lives. I’ve volunteered women’s training rides and also guided for families for several years now. There is nothing more exhilarating and satisfying than working my hardest to chase after a happy, fit, incredibly talented British Columbia Hammer Family—Mom, dad, two children—on Tire Mountain, through old growth, near Oakridge, Oregon. I have been riding mt bike since the late ‘80’s. My body is covered in scars from the early 90s when I rode and raced a handbuilt Breezer Lightening with a Judy fork in Nevada, California, the Sierra Nevadas. Even, crazy as it seems today, I raced that bike on the same Downville Downhill course folks enter only long travel full suspensions today when that race was only two years old.

While growing up, my son who got plenty of great bikes would often tease me, and ask when would he inherit my coveted Breezer. He knew how important that bike was to me, how it was actually an extension of me. His entire life, he witnessed me coming home muddy, bloody, bruised and grinning. And he grew into a strong persevering young man himself with a commitment and love for the outdoors. I am 50, still just as obsessively in love with mt biking as when I began in my 20s, and I continue to evolve my skills, challenge my brain and body, dance with my fears. All of this directly transfers to the quality of human I am when not on a bike, whether in my work, or in my social commitments. And of course I take care of the trails that take care of me.

I consider myself an outspoken advocate for children and parents and especially mothers, not only because I raised a child, but because for some strange reason it is often this demographic that is *least* represented by those who represent the mtb advocacy positions. Don’t get me wrong, I am happy that more women have gained these chaired positions, but lets be real, typically they aren’t mothers. They are usually tied to the industry, trying to market something. So I am actually happy that the onus for proof the opposition is asking for has to do with families, youth, and elderly.

Healthy families need experiential playscapes close to their homes. They need to be able to literally play in the woods in diverse terrain, on windy, narrow, convoluted trail. Research confirms, our children’s brains, sense of contentment, emotional health demand natural spaces over an engineered city park, ball park, or jungle gym. For parents, especially, it is not prudent to pack up and drive away from one’s home, an hour, just to be able to get on trail. It’s completely not fair, actually. We have an excellent opportunity to raise emotionally balanced, dirt strong children in Portland. Give them bikes. Give them trails. Take care of their parents too. And this city will be the most beautiful city in the world. I truly believe that.

--

Bridget Hildreth, M.F.A.

Design and Research

[From: dustin dustin.moon@gmail.com]

Dear City Leader-

I am writing to express my support for the Portland Off-Road Cycling Plan. I am extremely excited to ride trails in Portland, rather than driving outside the city. Please listen to science and reason in this debate regarding Forest Park. There is room for hikers, bikers, and wildlife habitat. Please allow trail riding in the park. It will help to foster a future generation of conservation advocates. We need to protect the park, but we cannot continue to exclude a large contingent of the population.

Respectfully yours,

Dustin Moon

[From: Todd Shank mtshank@gmail.com]

I am writing to express my support for the Portland Off-Road Cycling Plan. I am excited to ride trails in Portland. Please listen to science and reason in this debate regarding Forest Park. There is room for hikers, bikers, and wildlife habitat. Please allow trail riding in the park. It will help to foster a future generation of conservation advocates. We need to protect the park, but we cannot continue to exclude a large contingent of the population.

Respectfully yours,

Todd Shank
Salmon Creek Cycle Co.
503.522.2307

[From: Stephen Gerould stephengerould@icloud.com]

To Whom it May Concern,

For over forty years I have been an avid visitor of Forest Park. In its free, uncommercial, quiet green space needed renewal is found for me, and many others.

Forest Park is truly a bedrock asset for our Portlands livability and identity, and will be for future generations if used wisely.

I am writing to express my concern that the peacefulness and safety that hikers, bird watchers, etc. seek may be compromised by having to share these same trails with fast, flashy Mt. Bikes. With the already overcrowding of a too fast growing city, citizens today need more quiet space, not less. The idea that a fast moving biker could show up AT ANY MOMENT throws cold water on that expectation. The City of Portland must stand up for primary forest users (and wild creatures who make it their home) for today and tomorrow.

The young and aggressive will strongly make their case for total access, their big Corporate backers and consultants waiting in the background. Public parks however are **NOT** meant for private profit.

Forest Park has already generously allowed bikers on to many trails. Only too often they ride “off limit” trails. Some have built unsanctioned trails of their own. As we should know - Western Oregon rain + steep slopes + knobby tires = erosion. They may be aware of their surroundings but not always their effect on it. We should not reward this attitude and behavior by turning a portion of Forest Park into an amusement park.

Please act to conserve the natural qualities that make Forest Park the treasure that it is.

Sincerely,
Stephen Gerould

[From: Dmitriy Zasyatkin zasyatkin@gmail.com]

I have 3 children who all love to ride their bikes on singletrack in nature. Old gravel roads, like the firelanes in Forest Park, are terrible for kids because of their steepness and harsh gravel, which is much worse to crash on than the relatively soft dirt of a singletrack trail. The small towns of Hood River and Cascade Locks both have local kid friendly trail systems.

Gateway green is better than nothing, but what almost every mountain biker in the Portland Metro area wants is to have mountain biker designed and built singletrack in Forest Park.

If you will not allow new trails in Forest Park, at least share the existing trails a couple of days a week; you could even make the bike traffic directional to lessen any conflict issues.

We are competing for our kids attention against electronics and we need different ways for them to experience nature, with mountain biking on singletrack being at the top of the list for many cycling oriented families.

Thank you,

Dmitriy Zasyatkin
SE Portland

[From: J. White nikana_99@hotmail.com]

Dear City Leader-

I am writing to express my support for the Portland Off-Road Cycling Plan. I am excited to ride trails in Portland. Please listen to science and reason in this debate regarding Forest Park. There is room for hikers, bikers, and wildlife habitat. Please allow trail riding in the park. It will help to foster a future generation of conservation advocates. We need to protect the park, but we cannot continue to exclude a large contingent of the population.

Respectfully yours,

Jackie White

[From: Nick Wood niqwood@gmail.com]

Dear City Leaders,

I am writing to express my support for the Portland Off-Road Cycling Plan. I am excited to ride trails in Portland. Please listen to science and reason in this debate regarding Forest Park. There is room for hikers, bikers, and wildlife habitat. Please allow trail riding in our public parks. It will help to foster a future generation of conservation advocates. We need to protect the park, but we cannot continue to exclude cyclists from offroad access. The off road cycling community is the most engaged contingent of trail stewards in the region and our parks (particularly) need their help to increase access and maintain/improve existing trails.

Respectfully yours,

Nick Wood

Concerned Citizen Cyclist

[From: TeRrY HeNdErSoN terry.h@comcast.net]

I am writing to express my support for the Portland Off-Road Cycling Plan. I am excited to ride trails in Portland. Please listen to science and reason in this debate regarding Forest Park. There is room for hikers, bikers, and wildlife habitat. Please allow trail riding in the park. It will help to foster a future generation of conservation advocates. We need to protect the park, but we cannot continue to exclude a large contingent of the population.

Respectfully yours,

Terry Henderson

[From: Spencer Bushnell spencer.bushnell@gmail.com]

To the PAC and City Representatives,

Thank you for all of the hard work on the Off Road Cycling Plan that you have accomplished thus far. I applaud your efforts in creating a comprehensive plan and guidelines for mountain biking in the city. I must ask that you continue to be receptive to science, reason, and disregard the divisive hyperbole that is driving the public debate. There is ample opportunity to allow mountain biking in town, and in Forest Park. Our citizens need a place to ride bikes and explore nature on natural surface trails. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

Spencer Bushnell DPT

[From: Kelley kellyonpolitics@nwmv.net]

I am writing to express my support for the Portland Off-Road Cycling Plan.

I am excited to ride trails in Portland.

Please listen to science and reason in this debate regarding Forest Park.

There is room for hikers, bikers, and wildlife habitat.

Please allow trail riding in the park.

It will help to foster a future generation of conservation advocates.

We need to protect the park, but we cannot continue to exclude a large contingent of the population.

Respectfully yours,

Kelley Hinkle

[From: Geoff Grummon-Beale ggrummon@gmail.com]

I am unfortunately unable to attend tomorrow's meeting, however I have been following the progress of the master plan through the website and I would like to offer some comments.

I have been mountain biking for over 25 years, starting when I was in high school. Mountain biking has had a profound positive influence on my life and has given me a connection to the natural world, a healthy lifestyle, and many friends.

For many mountain bikers, the act of riding a bike through the woods is not only fun, it is a meditative experience – mountain bikers speak of a Zen state and being “in the moment”. Some might even consider it spiritual. This is why the people who ride mountain bikes are so passionate about it. People who don't ride mountain bikes generally do not understand this aspect about the sport. It is easy for opponents to trivialize mountain biking as a disruptive thrill-seeking activity. But that is a one-dimensional, distorted interpretation, and that is not why people ride.

Many mountain bikers in Portland are looking to the Off-Road Cycling Master Plan process to provide meaningful, concrete recommendations for increased access to singletrack in Portland. The most obvious place where this goal can be achieved is Forest Park. Forest Park is large enough to accommodate many different user groups without conflict, and without environmental impact. This can be done in many ways, such as regulating travel direction on trails, alternating days of access, and construction of new purpose built trails. Perhaps mountain bike singletrack areas could be located at the north end of the park where there is a low density of pedestrians. There are many examples of other cities that have successfully integrated mountain biking into their urban parks; those examples should be studied and considered when developing the master plan.

I appreciate the time that the advisory committee and the consultants have put into this effort and I hope that the the Master Plan will provide a roadmap for increasing access to quality singletrack.

Regards,

Geoff Grummon-Beale
Portland, Oregon

[From: Aaron Even aevenx@gmail.com]

Dear City Leader-

I am writing to express my support for the Portland Off-Road Cycling Plan. I am excited to ride trails in Portland. Please listen to science and reason in this debate regarding Forest Park. There is room for hikers, bikers, and wildlife habitat. Please allow trail riding in the park. It will help to foster a future generation of conservation advocates. We need to protect the park, but we cannot continue to exclude a large contingent of the population.

Respectfully yours,
Aaron Even MD

[From: ANTHMcollective brian@anthmcollective.com]

To whom it may concern,

My name is Brian Anthony and in 2016 I founded a new business in Portland called ANTHM Collective. ANTHM designs, develops and produces (Made in Portland) cycling apparel with a focus on off-road cycling. My company is focused on helping create jobs locally, being a part of, and giving back to the community. The team that I sponsor is active in trail maintenance and consists of 25 local riders, all of whom are advocates for a more balanced approach to off-road cycling.

I have been fortunate in my life to have lived in some amazing places. From Boulder, Colorado to Southern California to Annecy, France, I've lived in true outdoor paradises. Yet, I chose Portland to start my business. I chose Portland because there never seemed to be a sense of entitlement in the people here. Portland treats you fairly, and you get what you give. That's the spirit I want my business to be surrounded by.

And yet here we are. Being demonized by people who think they have a more entitled stake in our shared spaces.

As a business, as an Portlander, I find it incredibly troubling. Those opposed to the Off Road Cycling are simply not listening to reason, nor is their behavior reasonable. This great cycling community has much to give if given the chance. Please show your support.

Kind regards,
Brian Anthony
Founder and President - ANTHM Collective

[From: Christopher Muhs cdmuhs@gmail.com]

Dear city leader:

I'm writing to express my support for the Portland Off-Road Cycling Plan. I am excited at the potential to ride singletrack in Forest Park and other places in the city. Please listen to science and reason in this debate. Cycling is compatible with Forest park. There is data to support the idea that mountain bike trails would see a lot of use: see Strava. Providing access to mountain biking in Forest Park would ultimately increase stewardship of the park by exposing more people to its beauty.

Thank you,

Chris Muhs
NE Portland

[From: RW baconit@gmail.com]

Dear City Leader-

I am writing to express my support for the Portland Off-Road Cycling Plan. I am excited to ride trails in Portland. Please listen to science and reason in this debate regarding Forest Park. There is room for hikers, bikers, and wildlife habitat. Please allow single track trail riding in the park. It will help to foster a future generation of conservation advocates. We need to protect the park, but we cannot continue to exclude a large and rapidly growing contingent of the population.

Respectfully yours,

Richard Whitekettle
Portland, OR

[From: Moore, Eric W eric.w.moore@intel.com]

I just read from an august Oregonian article that you are looking for feedback...especially about trails in forest park.

I am not a mountain bike rider... I am more a cyclocross or gravel bike rider... and Lief Erickson is perfect for this...

But... there is no safe bike route in the beaverton/Hillsboro area to/from forest park that I have found.

It would be great if skyline and Germantown and perhaps some other roads around there had bike lanes... or even better ... off bike roads ... to get there.
