

Hello,

I would like to register my position that it is critical that the Capitol Highway Corridor Improvements project is included in the update of Portland's Comprehensive Plan. I have been looking forward to this becoming a reality since the 1996 Capitol Highway Plan. My reasons for wanting this are a combination of those driven by personal interests with those driven by a sense of community.

Foremost is my desire to have a direct, safe, and topographically efficient way to walk to Multnomah Village. The current configuration requires dodging traffic to cross to the east side of the road to avoid an embankment that encroaches into the right of way all the way to the active traffic lane (Note that <<1% of cars will stop for pedestrians crossing at intersections along this stretch of road. In fact, earlier this year a car stopped for me to cross for the first time in the 24 years that I have lived in the neighborhood.) That would allow me to walk along a narrow, sloped dirt (mud) path. It is normally so unacceptable that I prefer to take a much longer route along unimproved streets that goes up, then down, then back up again to intersect back with Capitol Highway.

There currently are no sidewalks within a half a mile from my home. It would be nice to have at least a symbol that I live somewhere near civilization.

I would like to have the option of riding my bicycle from home. My current options are:

1. Capitol Highway, which is inconsistent with my long term goal of continued life, or
2. Unmaintained local streets with surfaces that seem best suited for stopping the advance of invading armies.

I would also like to support those who want to bike commute along this route (I am shocked that there are not commonly fatalities at the blind corner with absolutely no shoulder near Freeman Street.) and families that would like to walk this route. Please help us make this a reality.

Regards,

Doug Reynolds

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