

Members of the Portland Planning & Sustainability Committee,

We thank you for the work you are doing on the proposed Comprehensive Plan and associated Transportation System Plan. The Ashcreek Neighborhood Association herewith offers the following comments on the Transportation System Plan. The following resolution was adopted by the ANA at its February 9th monthly meeting:

RESOLVED: That Ashcreek submit comments on the Transportation Systems Plan project list to move three projects on the “unconstrained” list to the “constrained” list. All three of these projects should be phased to prioritize portions of larger projects that access priority destinations such as West Portland/SW Capitol and Barbur (project 90064), SW 64th/Barbur (project 90011) and the commercial centers in Garden Home and Multnomah Village (90033). In addition, Project 90033 should be re-scoped to remove concrete sidewalks and storm water construction from the project plan. ANA requests that the project plan include only those components identified in an agreement with PBOT dated 6/13/2012, and to include a walkable ditches-to-swales type improvement between SW 45th and SW Multnomah Boulevard. Additionally, the section of Garden Home Road between SW Capitol Highway and SW 45th in the Multnomah Neighborhood should be treated as a separate project.

The Ashcreek Neighborhood Association would like to emphasize the importance of performing promised (by Portland Bureau of Transportation) improvements on SW Garden Home Road between SW 45th and where Garden Home Road meets up with Multnomah Boulevard. That plan, developed in cooperation with PBOT in 2011-2012, was an alternative to speed bumps along Garden Home Road and called for moderate improvements to create a gravel-based walking path along the south side of Garden Home Road, similar to what was completed in the Maplewood neighborhood, along with various signing and striping improvements to reduce vehicle speeds and increase pedestrian/bicycle safety. This did not include widened turn lanes, sidewalks or expensive stormwater treatments as envisioned by Project 90033. As mentioned in the motion above, it is a "walkable ditches-to-swales" improvement not a vastly more expensive boulevard-type treatment. We do not support a project of that scope and cost, and also believe that the section of Garden Home Road between SW 45th Avenue and where Garden Home Road connects with Multnomah Boulevard should be a separate project from the portion between SW 45th Avenue and Capitol Highway. While promised to the neighborhood in, virtually none of the approved improvements has occurred.

In addition, we'd like to emphasize that we strongly advocate for traffic signalization at the dangerous and problematic intersection of SW Garden Home Road and Multnomah Boulevard.

Kind regards,

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