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To: Planning and Sustainability Commission <psc@portlandoregon.gov>

Subject: TSP Testimony

To the Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission,

I am happy to have this opportunity to provide testimony in regards to the TSP Stage 2 Proposed Draft - specifically about Section 5: Bicycle Classification Maps and the non-city bikeway classification of NE 7th Avenue in map B3, page 13. I am part of a large and involved community of neighbors that are advocating for NE 7th to become a bike greenway (as opposed to NE 9th) to help support the safe and effective North/South movement of bicyclists in between MLK and NE 15th Avenue. I fully support the efforts and recommendations made by the three neighborhood associations that share NE 7th - Irvington, Elliot, and King - to make NE 7th the bike greenway/ city bikeway. You should have received letters to this effect from all three neighborhood associations.

I live on NE 7th Avenue in between NE Going and NE Alberta, at 4619 NE 7th Ave. I am a homeowner and have lived in my house since 2005. I live right next to King Elementary/Middle School and the King Park. Our street is classified as a local road, but is increasingly used by drivers who greatly exceed the speed limit, and a large amount of traffic as well. I would like to invite any of you to spend an afternoon (or anytime really) on my porch with me to see the large amount of dangerous and irresponsible driving on 7th Avenue between Prescott and Alberta - a section of street where children cross the road daily to attend school and play at the park. I was recently almost run off the road by a driver angry that I was heeding the 20mph while children present speed limit. This happened right in front of my house. After attending the neighborhood meeting about the proposed greenway, I learned that this is an issue up and down NE 7th, and not just in my section of the road, as I had once believed.

If you were to take my invitation to sit on my porch and watch NE 7th Avenue, you would also find that most cyclists already use this street as their North/South route. It provides a clear path all the way from the Lloyd Center up to NE Sumner. I also watch as cars disregard not only the speed limit, but the safety needs of these cyclists as they ride up NE 7th. If the classification of NE 7th were to change to a bikeway/greenway then efforts would be put toward diverting traffic off of this local road for the safety of not only the cyclists, but pedestrians, children going to school, and me and my neighbors. Please do this for us! I have become disheartened over the years as I call 823-SAFE and hear back that nothing can be done, that there are no funds, that, essentially, we will live in an increasingly dangerous situation without an end.

Lastly, I would like to let you know about the anxiety that this produces for myself, on a personal note. I can hear the cars as they speed up our road, I can see them come dangerously close to cyclists, I hear the screech of tires when they almost hit a cyclist crossing on NE Going, another bike greenway. I ride my bike to work most days and I am also on the road for all of this. I am afraid that someone will be seriously injured or

killed next to my house. I am afraid that I will have to call that ambulance and stay with the person who was hit.

Thank you very much for reading this testimony. Please reach out to me with any questions or if you would like more information; I am more than happy to discuss this further. To reiterate, I would like NE 7th to be classified as a city bikeway/greenway and for efforts to be put towards this in the nearest future.

All my best,
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