

**From:** Clayton Pledger [mailto:claytonpledger@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 22, 2016 8:40 PM  
**To:** Planning and Sustainability Commission <psc@portlandoregon.gov>  
**Subject:** TSP Testimony

To the Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission,

I am a homeowner at both 4619 NE 7th Ave, where I live with my wife and daughter, and 4407 NE 7th Ave. I am writing to strongly advocate for a green/bikeway on 7th Ave, rather than NE 9th Ave, thus amending the TSP Stage 2 Proposed Draft, Section 5: Bicycle Classification Maps, Map B3. I can attest from my experience of living here on NE 7th and Going Ave. that:

1. Bicycles commonly use NE 7th Ave. as a north/south thoroughfare east of MLK. I personally use NE 7th when I ride my bike, but find it increasingly more precarious due to the amount of traffic and the speed in which this traffic drives.
2. Children commonly walk through the area (there is an elementary school nearby) and live in the neighborhood. We are, in fact, surrounded by young children just on our block between NE Going and Wygant. There are eight children alone out of 8 houses - mostly between 3 and 8 years old.
3. Cars use this street as a shortcut to get over to MLK. This used to happen only during rush hour, which is a very busy time for traffic on the road, but now it happens all the time. I have noticed that large delivery trucks and semi trucks now have taken to using NE 7th between Alberta and Prescott after making deliveries on Alberta. One Alpenrose truck comes by our house, with pace) like clockwork every morning while kids are walking to the King Elementary School.
4. The cars and trucks that use 7th Ave as an alternative to MLK speed aggressively. I commonly observe cars crossing Going Ave., an existing bicycle thoroughfare with no stop sign, at speeds in excess of 40-50 mph. I daily hear or see cars slamming on their brakes at this intersection because they are moving at such high speeds while approaching cyclists. Many cyclists cannot actually see the cars before they are right on top of them. At the very least, a four-way stop sign is warranted.

For these reasons: because there is an elementary school here on 7th, which also serves as a farmer's market, because bikes already use 7th Ave. as a conduit, and because cars use this shortcut in a very dangerous fashion, I think 7th Ave. would be an excellent candidate for a bicycle/greenway.

Thank you greatly for spending the time reading my testimony. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Regards,  
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