

From: Claudia Gana [<mailto:claudia.gana@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2016 10:13 AM
To: Planning and Sustainability Commission <psc@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: 7th/9th bike lane

To Whom It May Concern,

My family lives in the King neighborhood, our children attend King school on 7th and a preschool on 9th. I am becoming aware of this plan a bit late (as I imagine many of my neighbors are, if they are aware of it at all) and have a few questions:

I am curious about the on-the-ground outreach efforts made to the affected King community, school, churches, businesses, those who are not all on internet, Facebook or aware of the PBOT process? How would these plans affect King school, St. Andrews church and school, Alberta street market on 9th and Alberta?

How would either option affect King school on 7th, its buses, pick-up and drop-off, traffic, safety?

Several intersections on 9th ave are dangerous crossings for current cyclists; 9th and Prescott has seen its share of collisions, as has 9th and Alberta where traffic conglomerates as folks enter and exit the local market. Cars fly down Prescott as well as 7th and 9th. Will any of these points be addressed in either scenario?

Would the improved bike lanes offer any improvement in neighborhood safety, infrastructure, lighting, economy, etc.? If the cyclists are not willing to risk their safety weaving through Humboldt and 6th, then the neighbors shouldn't feel unsafe either. I can not imagine happy cyclists riding by Alberta and 7th, oblivious to the fact that on Alberta and 6th there have been 4 shootings in the past 6 months, the last one resulting in homicide. How can these scenarios help to address these urgent neighborhood concerns?

Has PBOT contacted Parks and Rec to ask about the King Court proposal to resurface the tennis courts into multi use and futsal, add lighting and trees? How can you partner with that effort and create not just independent bike lanes but a cohesive, connected, prosocial initiative to curb violence?

Regardless of 7th or 9th, it seems like the bike lanes would be a fantastic and needed opportunity for true partnership between PBOT and not just privileged users/cyclists, but the local community who needs it most. I would like to suggest as part of the plan, that bike education and bicycles, helmets and locks be donated to King school, our 70% poverty, Title I beloved but struggling neighborhood school in this historically African American neighborhood, which cyclists currently ride by and around each day as they roll down Going Bike Blvd. It is rare to see our King children ride to school on bikes, and if they do, they belong to the handful of privileged families. I would love to see PBOT use their power, platform and funding to contact the school and businesses, get a Bike Train organized, etc. Has the school been contacted?

Many thanks for considering,
Claudia Streng
4524 NE 9th Ave 97211