

August 9, 2016



To: Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission

Re: Green Loop

I am writing to urge the Commission and Portland City Council to consider the Green Loop project a priority in the Central City 2035 Plan. The Green Loop exemplifies effective integration of the natural and built environments to achieve multiple outcomes important to Portland residents. Once complete, the Green Loop would become a central hub in our region's interconnected network of parks, trails and natural areas, which distinguishes Portland nationally as a place to live and do business.

The Green Loop would achieve transportation, environmental, economic development, social, recreation, climate and health benefits that will increase in value over time. This kind of integrative thinking is what we have come to appreciate and expect of Portland leadership. Because it achieves multiple outcomes, the Green Loop is a sound and cost effective use of public funds.

The Intertwine Alliance is a coalition of more than 150 of the most prominent public, private and nonprofit organizations working to engage residents of the Portland-Vancouver region with nature. The Intertwine is our region's network of parks, trails and natural areas. The Green Loop has been declared part of The Intertwine Alliance Project Network. This is a group of, at this point, about 15 significant projects that are aligned with the vision for The Intertwine.

Again, I urge your support for the Green Loop.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Wetter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mike Wetter, Executive Director
The Intertwine Alliance

