

Linnton Neighborhood Association  
C/O Neighbors West Northwest  
2257 NW Raleigh St.  
Portland, Oregon 97210

September 25, 2017

Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission  
1900 SW Fourth Avenue, Suite 7100  
Portland, OR 97201

Re: Comments on Proposed Draft TSP Update: Stage 3

Dear Planning and Sustainability Commission,

I am writing on behalf of the Linnton Neighborhood Association (LNA). Linnton is located along the Willamette River and Forest Park, five miles northwest of downtown and three miles southeast of Sauvie Island. Its boundaries cover more than 4,000 acres that combine industrial land along the riverbank and 300 homes. Linnton includes Forest Park and the roads through the park, and Bridge Ave and the St Johns Bridge. LNA is concerned about the continual increase in traffic and back ups during the commute hours on NW Germantown Road and on US 30 approaching the bridge. See screenshots that illustrate some of the traffic issues.

We want to thank staff for responding to the many comments submitted in response to the Discussion Draft that requested a policy to implement Transportation Demand Management in the west hills. The hills do not have access to (and in many case is not suited for) the transportation options that other parts of the city have. Our residents want new options suitable for this area that can reduce the “through” traffic that badly clogs the limited roads over the hills.

Forest Park’s 5000 acres not only provide recreation, but also filter and slow stormwater, cleanse our air, and protect wildlife habitat of statewide significance. We are pleased that the city staff responded to comments and proposed a sub-policy emphasizing protection of these singularly important resources.

We support these two new sub-policies in the Western Neighborhoods Pattern Area, which appear on pages 3-13 and 3-14, with one simple correction (shown in strikethrough):

**Policy 3.103 Western Neighborhoods trails.** Develop pedestrian-oriented connections and enhance the Western Neighborhoods’ distinctive system of trails to increase safety, expand mobility, access to nature, and active living opportunities in the area.

A. **TDM strategies.** Explore and emphasize Transportation Demand Management strategies and tools, that function in spite of unique topographic conditions of the West Hills, to provide effective options for commuters while reducing carbon

emissions, improving neighborhood livability and cycling safety, and protecting important natural resources.

**B. Forest Park natural resources.** Protect the ecological quality and function of ~~natural~~ Forest Park's natural resources in the design and development of transportation projects in or near the park and avoid, minimize, then mitigate adverse impacts to wildlife, habitat, and riparian corridors.

While these two policies are very welcome, we suggest that you consider restructuring this section – it doesn't seem to make sense to show these sub-policies under a "trails" Policy. It might make more sense to write a Policy on "Transportation Options" or "Northwest Hills" that talks about transportation options (which are not all Active Transportation), protecting livability and natural resources, and then place sub-policies relating to trails, TDM, and active transportation under that. Some sub-policies under 3.103 could also easily be moved under 3.100 (Active Transportation).

Regardless of the Policy structure, we support these two new sub-policies for Western Neighborhoods. We are grateful for this staff response to public input.

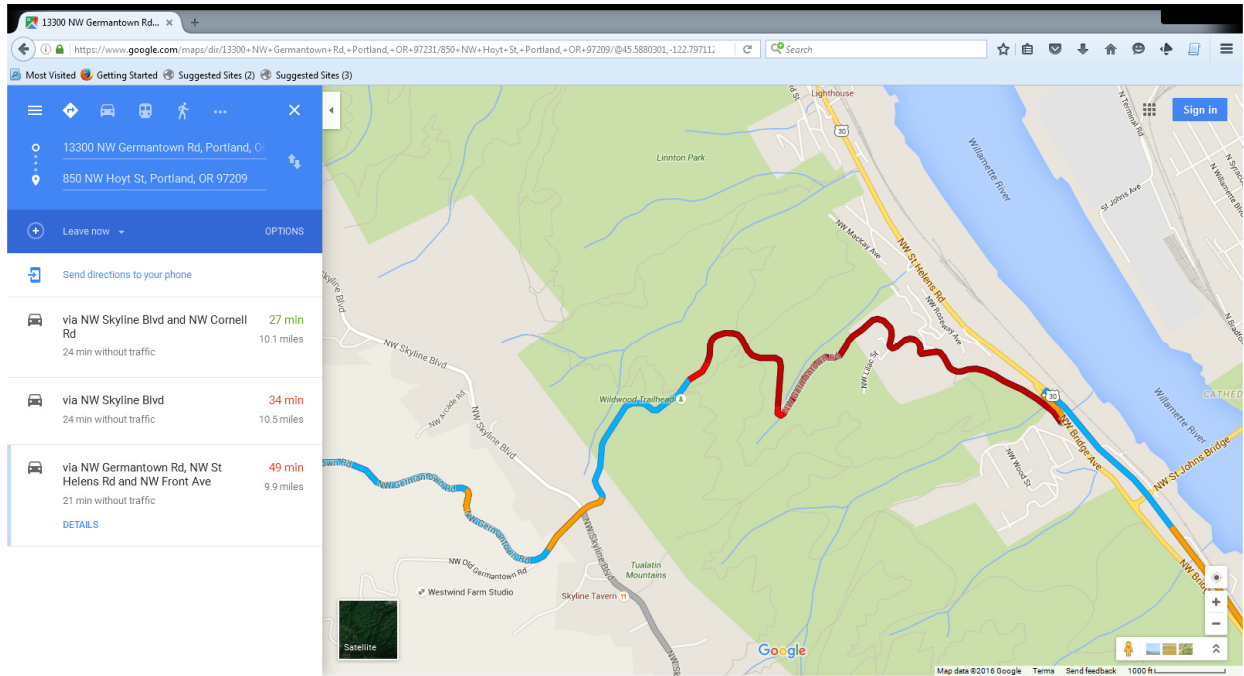
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

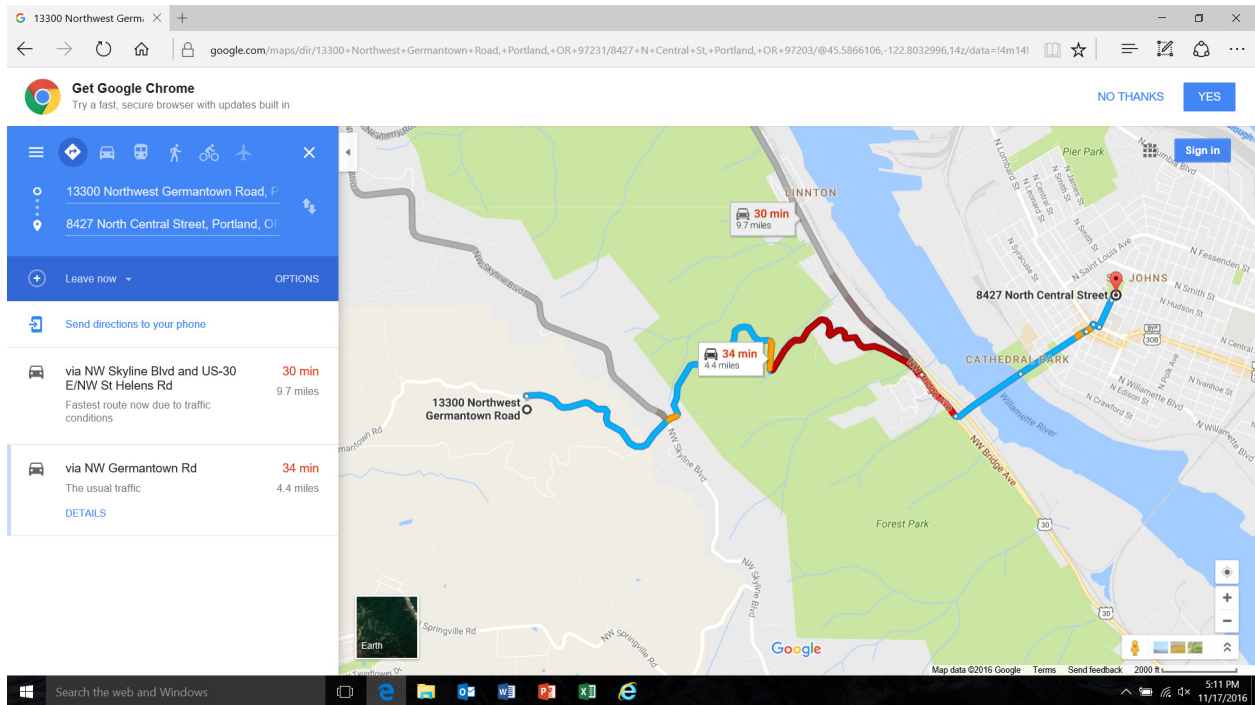
Alissa Leavitt, MPH, MCHES  
Chair, LNA Transportation & Public Safety Committee

Google Maps showing afternoon congestion on NW Germantown Road, averaging over 1 mile.

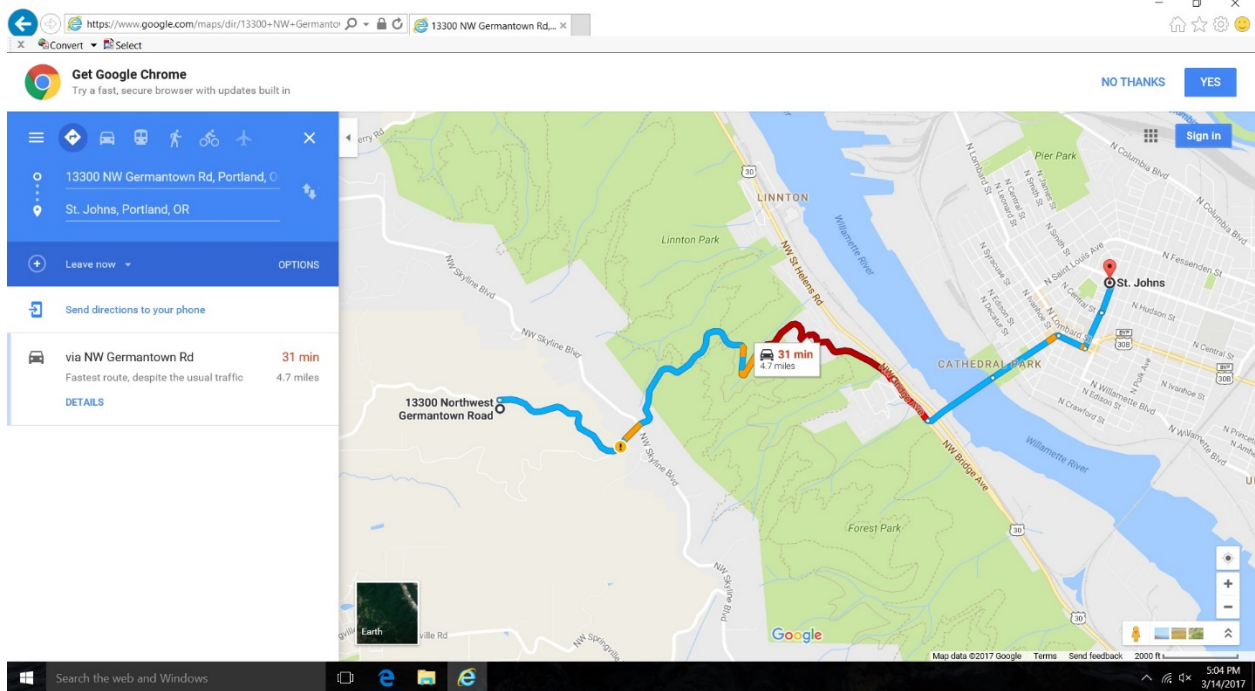
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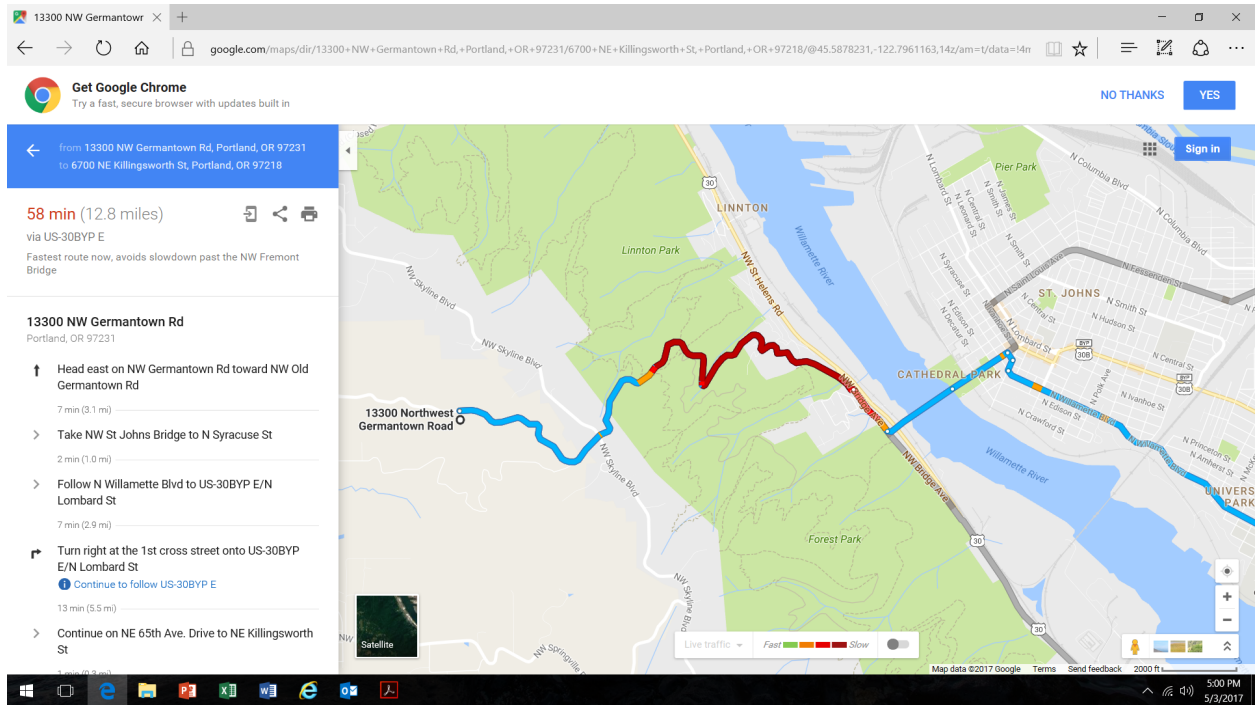
November 17, 2016, 5:11PM:



March 14, 2017, 5PM:

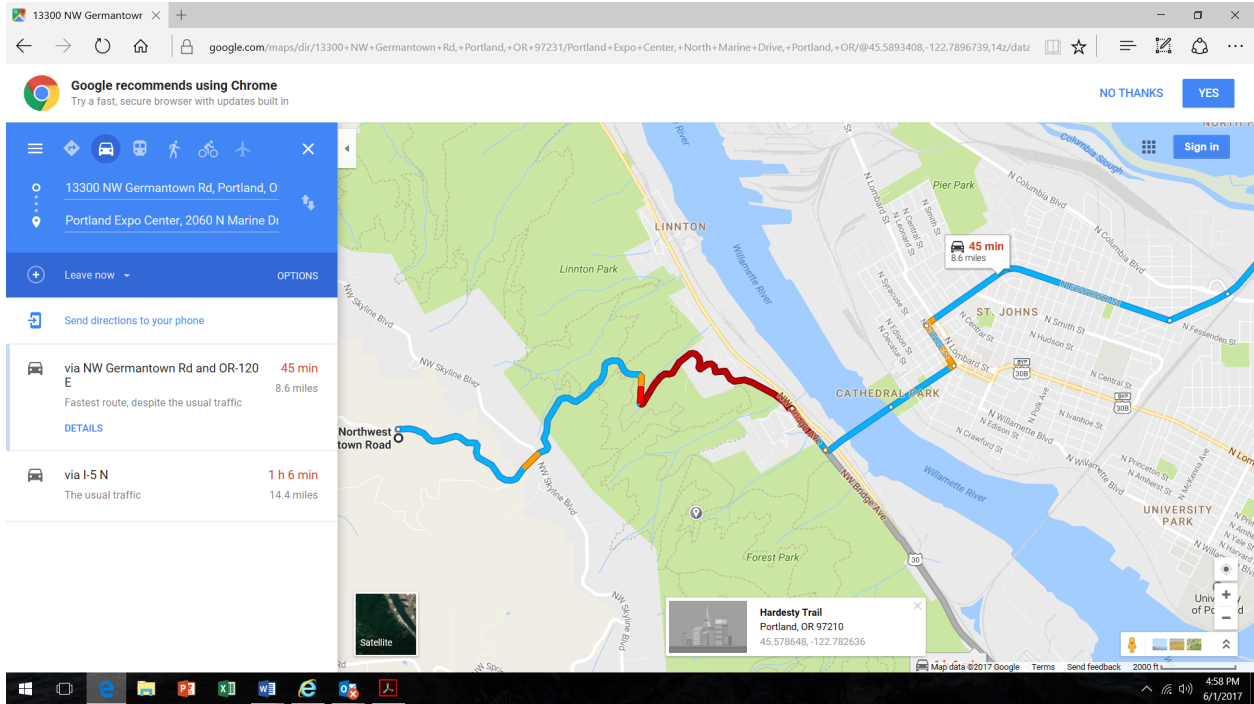


May 3, 2017, 5PM.



\*\* By the time I got to Germantown at Skyline (about 5:15) on May 3, the traffic was backed up (stopped) at the first bend below Skyline (about 200' east of Skyline). It took 40 minutes just to get to Bridge Ave.

June 1, 2017, 4:55PM



June 28, 2017, 5:52 PM (clearing).

