

October 13, 2014

Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission Comprehensive Plan Update 1900 SW 4th Ave., Suite 7100 Portland, OR 97201 Email: <u>psc@portlandoregon.gov</u>

## Re: PSC Comprehensive Plan Testimony / Transportation

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This letter addresses the List of Significant Projects that accompanies the current draft Comprehensive Plan, and specifically one project that we feel strongly should be added to the list – Southwest 48th Avenue/45th Drive/45th Avenue.

This street is a north-south connector running between Taylors Ferry and Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway. Although fairly close to Capitol Highway, it's the only north-south connector between Capitol Highway and Oleson Road. It links a number of community areas, including but not limited to:

- West Portland Methodist Church, daycare center and community garden,
- Woods Park walking trails,
- Retail amenities at Multnomah Boulevard,
- Gabriel Park,
- Southwest Community Center,
- Medical offices and shops at Vermont Street,
- Several outlets to Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway, and
- A primary route to Alpenrose Dairy, busy site of youth baseball, 4H, and a variety of other activities.

Pedestrian and bicycle conditions are among the worst in the area – no shoulders, nowhere to walk but narrow ditches along most of its length, a winding, hilly road that limits visibility, low light, and frequently speeding car traffic.

Topography is a major challenge along 48th Avenue/45th Drive, and creative solutions may need to be considered. One idea that has been mentioned in our group is the construction of a boardwalk along the portion of the road that abuts Woods Park, an environmentally sensitive approach that could also be relatively economical.

We appreciate your willingness to listen to our concerns and ideas and hope that this suggested addition can be included in the List of Significant Projects when finalized.

Sincerely,

Tony Hansen, President Linda Niles, Transportation Chair

cc: <u>TSP@portlandoregon.gov</u> / Roger Averbeck