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Sent: Monday, February 29, 2016 10:13 PM
To: Planning and Sustainability Commission <psc@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: TSP Testimony in Regards to Bicycle Classification Maps Hayden Island

Hello

This is in regard to the proposed Bicycle Accessibility on the North Hayden Bay Walking Path. My husband and I are homeowners at the Hayden Bay Condos which are situated directly along the North Hayden Bay Walking path. It has come to our attention that the city of Portland is proposing to make this walking path accessible to public bicycle traffic and general public accessibility. We are avid walkers, runners and bikers, yet we believe this is an extremely ill conceived idea and needs to be prevented. The following are just a few of the reasons this is NOT a good idea.

1. Approximately 40% and possibly more of the path is not wide enough for 2 pedestrians to walk shoulder to shoulder let alone a bicycle or two. We frequently run and walk this path and need to move to single file around the narrow curves around the bend in the bay and the two pools that are located on the bay. There are several places where it would be nearly impossible for a bicycle to safely navigate around the bends without danger of going down a rocky embankment. If there were any other pedestrians, bicyclists, dog walkers, parents with strollers it would become nearly impossible for anyone to pass each other.
- 2) There is limited access to the path through private property with no parking related to it which would cause problems for not only homeowners, but would inhibit emergency workers from getting to anyone in case of an accident - and I can assure you with the design of this path which was intended only for a walking path, there WILL be an accident. There is NO vehicle access to the path AT ALL, including the paths from the Marina parking lots to the path, which only accommodate persons and carts to move things from the lot to the marina.
- 3) While the path is lit at night with path level lights, please trust me that it is still very dark, as there are no lights other than those and some ambient Marina light.
- 4) The homes and condos along the path have no barrier between them and the path, which leaves them vulnerable to unwanted public bicycle and pedestrian traffic crossing their private property when they can't navigate the path or find the paths for Ingress and egress. It would most certainly provide an opportunity for even more crime and vandalism than we are experiencing today, including frequent thefts and vandalism, including but not limited to a recent incident of a boat owner in one of our marinas reporting a bullet hole in his windshield.
- 5) There is a significant amount of indigenous wildlife on the island in general, and the Bay in particular - wild geese, wild ducks, blue herons, to name just a few. These birds, particularly the geese nest here and frequently are on the paths with their youngsters, which would be VERY hazardous for bicyclists as well as the geese. You may or may not know this, but geese pretty much eat and poop, that's about it, and the path is frequently covered in slimy goose poop, making walking and running quite a challenge and bike riding would be a whole new level of danger. The grade down to the bay is steep around its entirety and it is covered by rocks, gravel, weeds and gravelly dirt to prevent erosion.

There are probably numerous other reasons why this is a very bad idea. I am sure that if you took the time to actually visit this walking path which you are proposing to turn into a bike path, you will agree with my husband and me, as well as our neighbors that this is not a feasible idea and would provide no benefit to anyone - Hayden Island homeowners, the public, walkers, joggers,

children, parents with strollers and most certainly not bicyclists who rarely cycle alone and would be in more danger than anyone else while sharing the path at any given time.

I urge you to reconsider this idea and take into consideration the uniqueness of this area, the wildlife, and the Walking Path around it, as well as the residents of Hayden Bay.

Best Regards

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