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**Sent:** Sunday, March 20, 2016 7:29 PM  
**To:** Planning and Sustainability Commission <[psc@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:psc@portlandoregon.gov)>; Hales, Mayor <[mayorcharliehales@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:mayorcharliehales@portlandoregon.gov)>; Commissioner Fish <[nick@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:nick@portlandoregon.gov)>; Commissioner Fritz <[amanda@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:amanda@portlandoregon.gov)>; Commissioner Novick <[novick@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:novick@portlandoregon.gov)>; Commissioner Saltzman <[dan@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:dan@portlandoregon.gov)>  
**Cc:** [Rep.TinaKotek@state.or.us](mailto:Rep.TinaKotek@state.or.us)  
**Subject:** TSP Testimony

Good evening,

Being an island surrounded by water, we are a neighborhood with limited access. A community of walkers by necessity. The Portland Fire Department has warned us, in case of emergency, our main street is not a two way street during peak visitor months, May through October. This is because vehicles coming to the island park on both sides of the road limiting traffic to one lane. We walk along our condominium owned walking paths and connect to shopping and grocery stores via the Red Lion's commercial roadway. Tourists enjoy the same walkways the year round residents do. This bike path was conceived in conjunction with the failed Columbia Point Crossing bridge project. The suggestion to reclassify our walking paths for accommodating bicyclists is outdated. The Salpare multi-family building added 375 units to our limited space. The owners of the manufactured homes properties are committed to continue offering affordable, safe housing to lower income citizens. They are not interested in displacing people. Portland is in a Housing State of Emergency. This reclassified walking/bike path would impact approximately 112 manufactured home units, the highest income producing units. Without these the other units may not be financially sustainable for the owners resulting in more displaced families. One end of our community is uninhabited and a wildlife refuge, environmentally friendly for resident walkers and tourist walkers alike.

Our concern is safety. We are a population of increasingly older year around residents peacefully walking our paths with our pets. We gladly share our walking paths with tourists to our state. Some of the tourists are young people with children, and some are grandparents walking with their grandchildren. We have a large contingent of homeless people not always aware of their surroundings. There are virtually no parking accommodations for people coming to the island for recreational biking. Even if there were, this is a land issue. We are a walking safe community. Elderly using canes and walkers don't have to dodge aggressive bicyclists. Tourists both young and old with their children don't have to fear bicyclists. Please help us to maintain a safe walking community committed to tourists, elderly, the environmentally conscious, and marginalized one and all - on foot.

Respectfully,

Debra Benz  
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