

From: Michael Kennedy [mailto:mkenedy009@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 2:39 PM
To: Planning and Sustainability Commission <psc@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: TSP Testimony

Dear PSC,

I am a resident who works from home and lives on NE 7th and NE Siskiyou and sees first hand the amount of cars and bicycle on NE 7th. I believe NE 7th should be classified as a Major City Bikeway and NE 9th as a City Bikeway. The reason NE 9th should be down graded is because it is not an efficient street, it is full of hills causing erratic bicycle speeds and dangerous intersections at the bottom of hills. Secondly the path around Irving Park will dangerous if not keep clean from leaves and dirt from the park. I have already witnessed a bicyclist crash because they decided to right through the park and hit a mossy muddy section of the path and crashed. Fortunately he was wearing a helmet and the trip to the hospital was just a precaution. Thirdly, dog owners and pedestrians enter the park from NE Klickitat and the NE 9th route will be across this path making it a dangerous blind intersection. Lastly, it will be twice the cost as compared to NE 7th.

NE 7th should be upgraded to a Major City Bikeway because it is currently used by hundreds of bikes daily. These bicyclist ride from King, Alberta, Alameda, Sabin and Woodlawn. A natural end to the NE 7th bikeway in the north would be a NE Sumner Street and then cut over to NE 9th Ave, this cut over avoids NE 8th creating one less street to cross. There is a traffic light at NE Alberta and NE 7th creating a safe crossing for bicyclist. From there it is a gentle slope to the traffic light at NE Prescott and NE 7th, another established safe crossing. The next major intersection is NE Fremont and NE 7th, also an established safe crossing zone at the traffic light. A slight climb past Irving Park and then a continual slope all the way down to the planned NE 7th Ave Bike/Pedestrian bridge over I-84 and the train tracks. As you can see NE 7th is the most direct, efficient and safest route for bicyclist.

To keep cars from using NE 7th as an alternative byway to MLK/99E as it is used today, the lights will need to be re-timed on MLK and NE 7th will need some traffic calming.

Sincerely,

Michael & Erin Kennedy
3022 NE 7th Ave
Portland, OR. 97212