

Portland Bicycle Advisory Committee

Working to Make Bicycling a Part of Daily Life in Portland

1120 SW 5th Avenue, Room 800
Portland OR 97204



September 12, 2016

Steve Hoyt McBeth
Project Manager, Portland Bureau of Transportation
1120 SW Fifth Ave., Suite 800
Portland, OR 97204

Mr. McBeth,

As the Chair of the City of Portland Bureau of Transportation's (PBOT) Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC), I'd like to share some concerns the committee has identified regarding the placement of a Biketown Bikeshare station at the Riverplace Marina. The committee is excited about the initial success of our City's newest bikeshare system and fully supports PBOT's efforts to increase the number of people cycling. We greatly appreciate the hard work and passion the PBOT and Biketown team devote to this program.

We want to make sure Biketown and its users have a positive relationship with the Portland community and that the program promotes a safe bicycling and pedestrian environment. As you are aware, the Riverplace walkway is a vibrant and active corridor, lined with shops, housing, and cafes. Several months ago, citizen representatives from this area presented their concerns regarding bicycle and pedestrian altercations on this pathway to the BAC. Members of the committee reiterated these concerns with their own personal experiences. These concerns seem to have only heightened with the placement of a Biketown station at the pathway's entrance. It's with this in mind that we ask PBOT to relocate the bikeshare station located at SW River and Montgomery to a location that is not at the entrance of this pathway.

The BAC is interested in working with PBOT and Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) to identify a long term solution for the Riverplace pathway that will decrease the potential for pedestrian and bicyclist altercations while retaining a safe and convenient route for people on bikes. To this end, we would like to invite both PBOT and PP&R staff to present at an upcoming BAC. At this meeting, we would like to learn more about the actual and intended uses of this pathway, as well as efforts that could be made to create an equally safe and protected bike route in this area as an alternative to cyclists using the Riverplace pathway.

We appreciate all of your hard work and look forward to working with you on this issue in the future.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Heather McCarey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Heather McCarey
PBOT Bicycle Advisory Committee, Chair

Cc: Leah Treat, Director PBOT
Mike Abbate, Director PP&R