

PBOT

PORTLAND BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION

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Dan Saltzman Commissioner Leah Treat Director

March 31, 2017

Dear Resident/Business Owner,

Every year the festivals in Tom McCall Waterfront Park draw hundreds of thousands of people. During the peak season between April and November an additional 15,000 more people per day visit the Waterfront.

The Better Naito project was first piloted in 2015 to help manage this influx of visitors, create a safe space for people to travel to these events, and to reduce conflicts between people walking and biking and driving along the Waterfront in the summer months. Prior to Better Naito, people were often forced to walk in the bike lane, squeeze into narrow dirt paths, or bike in a travel lane with motor vehicles to reach Waterfront events. The volunteer-led effort championed by the non-profit Better Block PDX improved the Waterfront Park experience during its busiest season and was implemented again in the summer of 2016.

After two seasons of volunteer-led effort, Portland City Council designated funds and directed the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) to implement Better Naito. To this end, PBOT will install removable white plastic posts to delineate one northbound motor vehicle lane on SW Naito Parkway, converting it to open space for the public to walk and bike and roll safely to Waterfront Park's festivals and community events. The posts will be installed between SW Main and NW Couch. Better Naito will run from April 28th to September 30th in 2017. In October, the posts will be removed and stored for use next summer.

In related efforts, PBOT will implement a passenger drop off zone on SW Taylor St. just off of Naito to better accommodate people being dropped off for Waterfront events by personal vehicles, taxis, etc. We will also install a new pedestrian signal at SW Naito and Main to improve the safety of that crossing. PBOT will update the traffic signal at NW Naito and Davis to reduce conflicts at the Steel Bridge ramp, installing a right turn signal and bike signal. PBOT will also install white plastic posts to the north of the Better Naito installation between NW Davis and NW Ironside Terrace to better delineate the existing bike lanes. See the backside of this notice for a map. Construction is anticipated to begin April 10th.

As with previous years, PBOT will monitor the number of people walking, biking and driving on Naito during Better Naito. Previous analysis, including independent analysis by *The Oregonian*, showed that the average increase in travel time for people driving northbound was less than 2 minutes during the busiest times of day.

For additional information about Better Naito, please visit the project website: www.BetterNaito.com. If you have questions, feedback, or concerns please email naitoparkway@portlandoregon.gov or call (503) 823-4321.

Thank you,

Gabe Graff
Project Manager



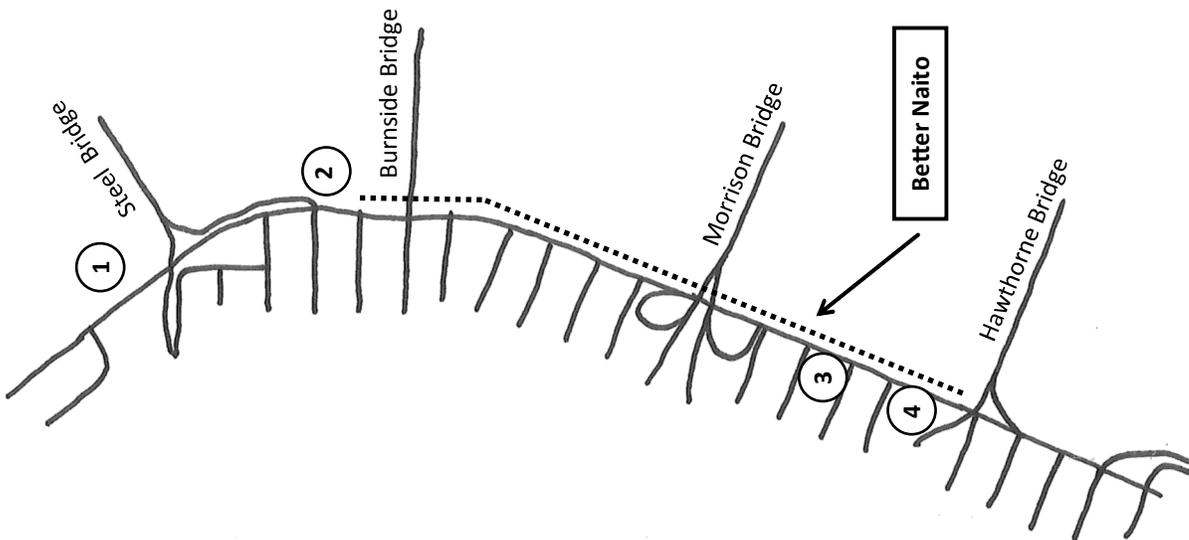
The Portland Bureau of Transportation fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the ADA Title II, and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. For accommodations, complaints and information, call (503) 823-5185, City TTY (503) 823-6868, or use Oregon Relay Service: 711.



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- 1. Add posts to existing bike lanes
 - 2. Signalize Steel Bridge ramp
 - 3. Add vehicle drop off
 - 4. New pedestrian signal
- ↑
North