

A Joint Letter from the Bicycle Advisory Committee & Pedestrian Advisory Committee 1120 SW 5th Avenue, Room 800, Portland OR 97204

11/15/2017

Commissioner Chloe Eudaly 1221 SW 4th Ave, Suite 210, Portland, OR 97204

Dear Commissioner Eudaly,

Due to the unique opportunity to create a dedicated place for people bicycling and walking, the City's Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) and Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) have decided that it was appropriate to write a joint letter. As the two modal committees that advise the City's decision makers on matters relating to walking and bicycling we are excited to write this letter in support of Better Naito.

After two years of having a seasonal Better Naito, we cannot express enough the importance of this facility for people bicycling and walking. Better Naito has created a dedicated and comfortable facility for people who walk and bicycle along Naito. This reallocated space has created a safer and more comfortable Naito for people who bicycle and has been effective at moving bicycle commuter traffic off of the Waterfront Path. As more bicycle commuters have moved to Naito, it has reduced conflicts between people who chose to bike and those who chose to walk along Waterfront Park. Supported by the data provided by PBOT, the amount of people who are bicycling are choosing Better Naito over the Waterfront Path is almost a two-to-one ratio, but more importantly, for those who are commuting downtown, three times the amount of people are detouring to use Better Naito over their normal commute routes.

While we understand that the City is seeing increased pressure on roads for all users, Better Naito is a low cost and effective solution that will encourage more people to commute by bicycle. Better Naito also aligns well with the city's Transportation System Plan and the Bicycle Plan for 2030. The design, even in its temporary form, helps meet the City's goals and if Better Naito becomes permanent it can be upgraded to become a facility that will attract people of all

ages and abilities and more importantly become one of the backbones of bicycle routes in downtown Portland.

We would like to thank you for reaching out for our input and look forward to continuing the discussion about bicycling and walking in Portland..

Respectfully submitted on behalf of Portland's Bicycle Advisory and Pedestrian Advisory Committees,

Rithy Khut, Chair Bicycle Advisory Committee

Elliot Akwai-Scott, Vice-Chair Bicycle Advisory Committee

Roger Averbeck, Co-Chair Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Rogen Avenbock

Anthony Buczek, Co-Chair Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Cc: Leah Treat, Director, Portland Bureau of Transportation Roger Geller, Bicycle Coordinator, Portland Bureau of Transportation Michelle Marx, Pedestrian Coordinator, Portland Bureau of Transportation