

**COLUMBIA CORRIDOR**  
A S S O C I A T I O N

29 February 2016

Portland City Council  
1221 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Portland Commissioners,

The Columbia Corridor Association is writing in support of the NE 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue Local Improvement District (LID). This is a unique project in several respects. First, the majority of funds come from System Development Charges and a thoughtful contribution from the Parks Bureau—very unusual for a LID. Second, it supports the desire to provide separated bicycle lanes in freight districts—something the freight community has been advocating for years. Third, it creates a safe sidewalk between a bus stop and Whitaker Ponds—a complicated improvement in freight districts.

For the industrial businesses on NE 47<sup>th</sup>, there are tradeoffs to this LID. They will lose all their on-street parking, driveway access will become more difficult for large trucks, there will be more conflicts between industrial activities and bike/ped use, and the travel lanes will become narrower and more dangerous. However, we feel most these disadvantages can be minimized with good engineering design.

There is no system user that is more dedicated to safety than commercial drivers. Safety is woven into everything they do, all day long. As we design this new type of street, it behooves us to incorporate the safety needs of commercial drivers that are familiar with this particular stretch of roadway. Just as we should consult with bicyclists about new bike path ideas on an awkward block, we should consult with the drivers that best understand the needs on this block and use that information to improve our standard design.

CCA believes it's possible to build this project to provide long lasting freight access, give a quick boost to the steady increase of bike commuters to the Columbia Corridor, and significantly increase safety for children visiting one of the Corridor jewels, Whitaker Ponds. Assuming we design the roadway with the same level of safety that commercial drivers use, the PBOT LID program has scored another win.

Our thanks to the LID program, Portland Parks, BES, and the 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue property owners for their participation. And thanks to you for approving this LID project.

Respectfully submitted,



Corky Collier  
Executive Director