

From: Haley Smith [<mailto:haleysmith937@outlook.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, August 6, 2019 3:05 PM

To: CouncilAll <councilall@bendoregon.gov>

Cc: Karen Swirsky <kswirsky@bendoregon.gov>; Pauline Hardie <phardie@bendoregon.gov>

Subject: PZ-19-0352 - do NOT allow an exception

I live in the Southern Crossing Neighborhood Association boundaries and I feel the City Council has not heard from people like me who are AGAINST giving an exception to requiring sidewalks to be built in Woodriver Village, which is in our neighborhood association.

I often walk to the Old Mill, Woodriver Park, Farewell Bend Park, and the Deschutes River trail on streets in Woodriver Village and it is very DANGEROUS without sidewalks as there is a lot of traffic on these same roads. I also sometimes ride my bike and I sometimes walk with my grandbaby in his stroller.

I was very happy to read that the Bend Transportation System Plan included the addition of sidewalks and bike lanes on the streets I use - but then PZ-19-0352 happened and it looks like a small minority of people who don't want to follow City Code could block this. My understanding is that this madness was started by only 2 people. They are a minority. The majority of us want sidewalks and bike lanes. It's just common sense in terms of safety.

I also read that the Bend Planning Commission voted to not allow an exception to City Code regarding sidewalks in WoodRiver Village as it sets a bad precedent. Indeed. Please listen to your Commissioner, the folks who put together your Transportation System Plan, and voters like myself who agree with these decision-making groups.

I saw also that the Bulletin is urging you to grant this exception. This makes me believe that setting a precedent is being driven by developers so they won't have to build sidewalks on any part of town. Bend desperately needs sidewalks - do NOT let this exception go through.

It's high time the City Council showed some backbone and made decisions based on what voters want - not on what the Bulletin and its developer friends wants.

Thank you for NOT granting this exception to City Code.

Haley Smith