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**To:** Urban Renewal Advisory Board <[URAB@bendoregon.gov](mailto:URAB@bendoregon.gov)>; GMDTransportationSystemPlan <[tsp@bendoregon.gov](mailto:tsp@bendoregon.gov)>

**Subject:** Pedestrian connectivity in Mid Town

Hello,

I support the focus on the 3 mid town pedestrian connectivity improvement projects on Franklin, Hawthorne, & Greenwood.

I live on the east side of town, near Ponderosa Park and my commute to work downtown by bike would be MUCH more enjoyable and safe if there were better access for bikes at the Franklin underpass. A large portion is on a bike path, which is awesome, but when I get to Franklin & 3rd street, the commute gets much more stressful.

Right now, I don't feel like there is a good option. I either slow traffic while I pedal as fast as I can up hill under the bridge, the whole time worrying someone is going to pass me, crossing the double yellow and causing an accident. OR I have to bike on the sidewalk under the bridge. I generally go slow as its a blind entrance into the tunnel. If someone was riding too fast, there is a good chance they could hit a pedestrian. Also, the homeless population that hangs out there does not make it an enjoyable experience.

My recommendation, for what it's worth, would be to make the side walk tunnel wide enough to accommodate a 'bike lane' at the sidewalk level under the tunnel. This seems feasible for Franklin.

Thank you for reading!  
Tom Squire