

From: Tia Hatton <tiahatton@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 8:06 PM
To: GMDTransportationSystemPlan <tsp@bendoregon.gov>
Subject: I strongly support investments in alternative transportation!

Hello,

My name is Tia Hatton and my family has lived in the Bend area for over 45 years. I recently received my Bachelors of Science in Environmental Sciences and have spent time studying transportation systems in Portland.

I am writing today in support of increased bike, walking, and transit infrastructure in Bend. I grew up in NE Bend, and after moving to Eugene for college, realized quickly that Bend severely lacks in transit and safe biking options. Increasing the investments in alternative transportation, and therefore the safety, ease, and efficiency of these modes, would be a huge and vital investment in transportation for bend and the future of Bend. I understand not all can bike, and I understand not all own cars and thus have to bike or take alternative transportation. Providing alternative options, while keeping equity in mind, can bring Bend's transportation system and community far. Having the ability to bike around a town brings security, confidence, a healthier me, and a healthier community. Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, prioritizing alternative modes of transportation supports Bend's Climate Action plan, which should definitely be a priority as the UN reports we must rapidly transition to clean transportation systems!

I can't wait for the day that I feel safe biking across town and that I can take a bus ride that's not forty minutes longer than it would be to drive somewhere.

Good luck!

Tia Hatton
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P.S. Is there a way to build something, like a bike or walking path, alongside the N/S railroad tracks?