

From: webmaster@bendoregon.gov <webmaster@bendoregon.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2019 8:45 PM
To: Karen Swirsky <kswirsky@bendoregon.gov>
Subject: Bikers want usable bike lanes

Message submitted from the <City of Bend> website.

Site Visitor Name: Hal Wershow
Site Visitor Email: haroldwershow@gmail.com

Hello,

My name is Hal Wershow, I'm a new resident of Bend (moved here last August for a faculty position at COCC), and I'm primarily a bike commuter. I was at first enamored with the wide bike lanes on nearly every road, but quickly became frustrated with the amount of junk, debris and sharp objects that would pile up in the bike lanes.

And that was before Snow-pocalypse.

Since then, it has been impossible to safely bike around town. I understand that cars are a higher priority than bikes, but I'm extremely disappointed that evidently bikes are zero priority. Why can't the plows clear the bike lanes?

Last week, with the bike lanes reasonably ice-free, I was back in the saddle. My first day riding again also turned out to be my first bad crash since moving to Bend, as I landed on my elbow and re-aggravated a partially torn rotator cuff in my shoulder. Why? Because the bike lanes are covered in cinders, making any attempt to turn or brake a potentially life-threatening occasion. Why can't the cinder be removed from the bike lanes?

Bikers like me are trying to make this town more livable for everyone. We would really appreciate it if we could have clean, safe bike lanes.

Thank You,
Hal