

VANGELISTI KOCHER LLP

VIA U.S. MAIL

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Dear Mayor Potter:

I am writing to thank you for supporting bicycle transportation in your recent draft budget, and to urge you to restore funding for the Bicycle Master Plan Update.

As a former gubernatorial appointee to the State of Oregon Bicycle Advisory Committee, and as an attorney who represents injured bicyclists and pedestrians in court, I see too often how tragedies and other serious collisions happen. The Bicycle Master Plan Update is an essential part of cost effective safety improvements. The update will allow planners to incorporate up-to-date transportation strategies that have been proven to improve safety, and to broaden the range of people who feel safe enough that they are willing to ride a bicycle in Portland. More riders means better public health, less gridlock, less pollution, and a higher standard of living.

Even after the Bicycle Master Plan Update is budgeted, I hope you will keep bicycle and pedestrian safety high on your agenda. You may have been touched by one or more of the recent bicycle and pedestrian tragedies that have occurred in Portland. Daily, Portlanders confront a system of roads and sidewalks that accommodates people who choose to ride a bicycle, jog or walk for transportation very poorly. Only a small fraction of Portlanders are comfortable using these beneficial modes of transportation. Please, continue your efforts as a leader for positive change.

If there is anything I can do to help support the Bicycle Master Plan Update, please don't hesitate to call.

Very truly yours,



Scott F. Kocher, Esq.