



TOCHEN, Dan
August 27, 2015
Agenda #: R.1

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Policies to restrict cycling on Sauvie Island are a step backwards

_pdx Dan <dan_pdx@hotmail.com>
To: "simcplanning@multco.us" <simcplanning@multco.us>

Tue, Aug 25, 2015 at 4:04 PM

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to express my deep disappointment and concern over the language regarding recreational cycling in the draft Sauvie Island transportation plan. Specifically:

“Implement a range of Transportation Demand Management (TDM) policies encouraging existing businesses and requiring new development (beyond single family residential use and agricultural uses) to help reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT), maximize use of existing facilities and alleviate congestion on US 30 and county roads caused by seasonal and special event traffic. Support the use of bicycle transportation alternative to automotive use without encouraging purely recreational bicycle activities that may increase this level of vehicle conflict on roadways.”

This position is short-sighted and rooted purely in antipathy for cyclists, not in any objective reason. Cyclists are road users who are fully within their legal rights to use these publicly funded roads for recreation, for pure transportation, or for transportation that they happen to find enjoyable, just like car drivers or motorcyclists. By codifying and promoting this negative attitude towards one type of road user you will encourage negative behavior towards those users - behavior that could be threatening, menacing, or physically dangerous for all cyclists, not just the recreational cyclists you intend to exclude. Moreover, the number of bicycles on Sauvie Island roads at any given time is a fraction of the number of cars -- targeting the smaller, less hazardous group of road users that causes the least amount of wear and tear on the roads doesn't make sense and is simply not good policy.

I strongly urge you to remove this divisive and poorly-considered language from the plan.

Best regards,

Dan Tochen

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