

# **ENHANCE 150% LIST PUBLIC COMMENTS**

E22: DOWNTOWN I-405 PEDESTRIAN  
SAFETY AND OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENT  
SUPPORTING COMMENTS



**PROTECTING YOUR  
RIGHT TO ROAM**

May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013

ODOT Region 1 STIP Project Selection Committee  
c/o Jeff Flowers, Program and Funding Services Manager  
ODOT Region 1  
123 NW Flanders  
Portland, OR 97209

Board of Directors      SUBJECT: Oregon Walks comments on 150% Enhance Projects

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President*

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Coordinator  
Casey Ogden*

Oregon Walks, formerly the Willamette Pedestrian Coalition, has been advocating since 1991 to create walkable communities and to make the conditions for walking safe, convenient, and attractive for everyone.

Oregon Walks volunteers on the Plans and Projects Committee have reviewed the projects on the 150% recommendations for potential "Enhance" STIP funding. We are pleased to see many applications for Streetscape and Bicycle/Pedestrian Connectivity projects, and we strongly support funding as many of those as possible.

We especially support funding of projects that provide access to transit and to other destinations that have the potential to attract many pedestrians, including those that improve pedestrian crossings on busy arterials, and those that serve vulnerable populations including the young, the old, the poor, and minority populations. We also support projects that fill gaps in the sidewalk system and those that overcome barriers often found near freeway interchanges. Our priorities are based on the research documented in the Oregon Walks publication Getting Around on Foot.

Based on those considerations, Oregon Walks urges funding of the following projects:

- E1 – Beaverton Crescent Connection (Cedar Hills to Denney Road)
- E13 – King City Sidewalk Infill
- E18 – Molalla OR Hwy 211 Bike and Ped. Safety Enhancements
- E21 – Portland Cully Blvd
- E22 – Portland Downtown I-405 Pedestrian Safety and Operational Improvements
- E29 – Portland SE Foster Rd. Safety and Sidewalk Enhancement Project
- E40 – Sandy US 26 sidewalks (Ten Eyck Rd/Wolf Rd to Vista Loop)
- E 53 – Clackamas County Otty St – 82<sup>nd</sup> Ave Realignment
- E84 – Barbur Blvd/99W Corridor Safety and Access to Transit
- E86 – Hwy 8 Corridor Safety and Access to Transit

We appreciate this opportunity to comment,

Oregon Walks  
Plans and Projects Committee

## HOPES Christina

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**From:** STIP Enhance Apps Region1  
**Sent:** Monday, June 17, 2013 10:34 AM  
**To:** HOPES Christina  
**Subject:** FW: Region 1 STIP project funding priorities

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From: Chris Cooper  
Sent: Monday, June 17, 2013 10:33:57 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: STIP Enhance Apps Region1  
Subject: Region 1 STIP project funding priorities

As someone who rides my bike to clients on a daily basis, the E22 Downtown I-405 Pedestrian Safety and Operational Improvements is of particular importance to me and is my top priority for funding.

My next priority for funding would be E26 Portland Citywide Bicycle System Improvements.

Finally I'd like to see E60 Willamette Grnwy Trail: Chimney Park/Kelley Pt Park get funded.

As for the rest I would love to see you give priority to projects that improve the safety of pedestrians and people on bikes. Thanks for your consideration,

Chris Cooper

## HOPES Christina

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**From:** STIP Enhance Apps Region1  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 29, 2013 9:18 AM  
**To:** HOPES Christina  
**Subject:** FW: Statement of project support:

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From: Terry Dublinski  
Sent: Saturday, June 29, 2013 9:17:32 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: STIP Enhance Apps Region1  
Subject: Statement of project support:

Hello Region One Project STIP Selection committee:

I am writing in support of funding for these critical projects. Even though funding currently is limited, each of these projects advances areas of the Portland area that are in desperate need of modernization, or builds critical connections. Each of these projects will facilitate active transportation goals. These will not only lower our overall health care costs and relieve congestion pressure on our transportation system, but also increase our transportation efficiency and quality of life. I urge your committee to approve the applications for these projects.

Willamette Greenway Trail: Chimney Park/Kelley Pt Park

Connected Cully

Downtown I-405 Pedestrian Safety and Operational Improvements

Citywide Bicycle System Improvements

SE Foster Road Safety and Sidewalk Enhancement Project

Sullivan's Gulch Trail Under-crossing of I-205,

I-205 Shared Use Path: Pedestrian Bridge at Johnson Creek

Cazadero State Trail

THPRD West side Trail sections 12-14

Thank you for your time and work,

Terry Dublinski

C.O.P.I.N.G.withBikes.org  
(Center of Portland Integrating Neighborhood Greenways with Bikes)

6111 East Burnside Street  
Portland, Oregon 97215  
503 876-7723

**FLOWERS Jeffrey A**

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**From:** Jeanne Harrison [cats@aracnet.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 17, 2013 4:02 PM  
**To:** STIP Enhance Apps Region1  
**Subject:** Downtown I-405 Pedestrian Safety and Operational Improvements

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to support the Downtown I-405 Pedestrian Safety and Operational Improvements project. This is a key connection between the Northwest and Pearl neighborhoods with a lot of pedestrian and bicycle traffic throughout the day. Currently the conditions for pedestrians and bicyclists are very perilous as motor vehicle traffic is travelling with a 'freeway mentality' as it accesses or exits the the freeway. The proposed reconfigurations of the intersections at either end of the overpass is well thought out and is a collaboration between state and city traffic engineers with the support of the adjacent neighborhoods.

All of the crossings in the vicinity are dangerous for pedestrians because sidewalks are only present on one side of the overpasses (Burnside, Couch, Everett, and Glisan). The proposed improvements to Couch would be a significant safety enhancement. Please include this project in the final STIP Enhancement list.

Thank you,  
Jeanne Harrison  
837 NW 25th Avenue

## HOPES Christina

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**From:** STIP Enhance Apps Region1  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2013 3:57 PM  
**To:** HOPES Christina  
**Subject:** FW: Project comments

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**From:** Christopher Muhs  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 19, 2013 3:57:05 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** STIP Enhance Apps Region1  
**Subject:** Project comments

Greetings,

I would like to voice my support of the following two Enhance projects for their improvements to the transportation system. I think they address critical issues on N Broadway and SW Couch in Portland.

1. N Broadway Safety Crossing Enhancement Project
2. Downtown I-405 Pedestrian Safety and Operational Improvements

Thanks,

Chris Muhs



Charlie  
Hales  
Mayor

John  
Widmer  
Interim  
Director

May 29, 2013

Phil Selinger  
Northwest District Association  
2257 NW Raleigh Street  
Portland, OR 97210

**Re: NWDA Transportation Priorities**

Dear Mr. Selinger:

Thank you for writing to the Mayor's office regarding transportation priorities for the Northwest District Association. We understand that these projects have been important to the district for a long time, and we share your desire to create a safe and livable neighborhood. We have considered these projects as we prioritize projects and seek outside funding. Please see below for specific updates to the projects.

1) I-405 at Couch Street

The Bureau of Transportation submitted an application for ODOT STIP Enhance funds for "Downtown I-405 Pedestrian Safety and Operational Improvements" for roughly \$2 million. If funded, the project will construct new curb ramps and corners, marked crosswalks, and upgraded traffic signals. It is currently on the 150% list and ODOT is accepting comments on projects through June. I encourage you and the other residents to send your support to ODOT to fund this project. More information about the project and how to submit comments can be found on ODOT's web site: [www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1/Pages/stip/index.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1/Pages/stip/index.aspx)

2) West Burnside Street between 18th & 21st

We acknowledge the safety concerns with this section of West Burnside and we continue to look for opportunities to fund the corridor. Your suggestion to include some of these improvements along with pavement rehabilitation is a good one. As you know, our current budget for pavement rehabilitation is limited and will require additional funding matches for enhanced pedestrian, stormwater and signal improvements. We currently are working on this problem with the "High Crash Corridor" program, and designing the signal at Morrison. This new work, in addition to the ideas and process from the Couplet work provided the corridor a strong basis for future funding asks from potential project partners. PBOT looks forward to continue working with the NWDA and Goose Hollow Neighborhoods in developing an Upper West Burnside Project to improve the corridor.

1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 800 • Portland, OR 97204 • 503-823-5185  
FAX 503-823-7576 • TTY 503-823-6868 • [www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation)

3) NW Thurman Street at NW 23<sup>rd</sup> Place

This project has been recorded as a potential project to be funded through the Active Transportation and Livable Streets Capital improvement Program (CIP). This project will be evaluated for its safety and livability benefits and potentially included in future years' CIP or included in a larger grant request. Additionally, NW Thurman has been recommended as a candidate street for building missing ramps through the ADA curb ramp program, which builds several hundred ramps each year.

4) NW 20<sup>th</sup>/Glisan Pedestrian Protection

Since the time that Greg met with you, Neighborhood Greenway funding has been reduced. We do not have current plans to launch new Neighborhood Greenway projects this year. We do hope that the program will regain funding to continue to build a citywide system by installing 15 miles into the network each year. When that happens, NW 20<sup>th</sup> would be a very strong candidate to be a project in the next round of new projects. As a part of that project, a crossing improvement could be supported at Couch Park/MLC School.

Finally, we are working with Portland Parks and Recreation on the possibility of a signal where the Wildwood Trail crosses Burnside. This area also falls into the Burnside High Crash Corridor program, and we hope that together we will be able to create a safe crossing that serves both recreational trail and transportation outcomes.

Thank you again for reaching out. Neighborhood desires and priorities do help us guide how projects are built and I am happy to work with you and the NWDA to work towards transportation improvements that are beneficial to all.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss any of these projects and priorities in more detail.

Best regards,



Toby Widmer  
Interim Director, Portland Bureau of Transportation

CC: Portland Mayor Charlie Hales  
Jason Tell, ODOT, Region 1

**FLOWERS Jeffrey A**

**From:** Phil Selinger [selingep@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 03, 2013 11:05 AM  
**To:** FLOWERS Jeffrey A  
**Cc:** Dustin Posner; Greg Aldrich; Jeanne Harrison; Jonathan Winslow;; juliet@easystreet.net; nwda.archive@gmail.com; patig57@gmail.com; 'Steve Pinger'; 'Wayne Wirta'; 'Bertelsen, April (PDOT)'; 'Leclerc, Mauricio'; 'Lear, Mark'; 'Stephanie Routh'  
**Subject:** 150% STIP Project E 22: Downtown I-405 Pedestrian Safety and Operational Improvements  
**Attachments:** image002.jpg

Dear Jeffrey and the Region 1 STIP Project Selection Committee:

This e-mail is provided in support of one of the proposed *Enhance* projects that “enhance, expand or improve the transportation system”. The City of Portland’s Northwest District Association presented this urgent bike and pedestrian safety-related need to the City and ODOT two years ago and were pleased with a collaborative plan that was brought back to the community by both the City and ODOT. We applaud that the plan is on the 150% project list under “Streetscape/Bike/Pedestrian Connectivity Projects” as project E22 with the title “Downtown I-405 Pedestrian Safety and Operational Improvements” and a STIP budget request of \$2,009,952.

We believe this project potentially fits the following STIP programs:

- Bike/pedestrian facilities on or off the highway right-of-way
- Modernization projects
- Transportation Enhancement
- Projects eligible for Flexible Funds (bike/pedestrian, transit and Transportation Demand Management projects, plans, programs and services)
- Safe Routes to School infrastructure projects

The Couch Street crossing of the I-405 NB on-ramp is the only non-signalized on-ramp along the I-405 corridor. It presents a challenge to both bikes and pedestrians and it is potentially the most dangerous street/ramp intersection in the area. The current design has the northbound I-405 on-ramp cutting across Couch Street at an angle. This design encourages cars to accelerate just as they approach an active crosswalk. This means bikers and pedestrians are without any protective controls at this critical intersection and the design appears inconsistent with both the city and ODOT’s policies to protect and enhance bicycle and pedestrian movements. Couch Street to the immediate east is a major pedestrian street and is a signed bike access road between NW Portland and the Pearl District and downtown. We provided recommendations to PBOT and ODOT which were incorporated into the plan provided with this STIP funding application.



We were pleased to receive a prompt and coordinated presentation from PBOT and ODOT staff regarding our first priority addressing the I-405 at Couch overcrossing. This is an urgent safety consideration and is the Northwest neighborhood’s top transportation related priority. It is critical that ODOT and the City continue to work with the community to encourage safe alternatives to driving in our increasingly active, urban neighborhood. This need was highlighted last year during the Con-way Properties Master Plan development process, which highlighted increasing pressure on neighborhood portals as Con-way’s extensive properties within this neighborhood continue to develop.

Thank you for considering placement of this project on the 100% list and recommendation for STIP inclusion to the Oregon Transportation Commission. We welcome your questions or updates.

Best regards –  
 Phil Selinger

Northwest District Association

6/4/2013

Board President  
Outgoing Transportation Committee Chair  
504-224-5122



# Portland Pedestrian Advisory Committee

1120 SW 5th Avenue Suite 800  
Portland OR 97204

June 18, 2013

## Members

David Aulwes  
Roger Averbeck  
Don Baack  
Carolyn Briggs  
Marianne Fitzgerald  
Rebecca Hamilton  
Erin Kelley  
Doug Klotz  
Rod Merrick  
Elizabeth Mros-O'Hara  
Marian Rhys

ODOT Region 1 STIP Project Selection Committee  
Oregon Department of Transportation  
123 NW Flanders  
Portland, OR 97209

## Re: ODOT STIP Enhance Program Project Application Support

To ODOT Region 1 STIP Project Selection Committee members,

On behalf of the City of Portland Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC), I am writing in support of multiple ODOT STIP Enhance Program project applications on the 150% Project List submitted by the City of Portland and other agencies. The Pedestrian Advisory Committee supports the projects and urges that funding be awarded to build these projects. Funding these projects will further advance City policies to enhance public health, sustainability and opportunities for people to walk, bicycle, take transit and transfer between these modes.

There are a number of good projects submitted by the City and other agencies. The PAC considered a filtered list of priority projects and provided strong endorsement for five projects that address pressing access and safety concerns, especially for lower income residents. These projects will enhance access to transit and improve safety for pedestrians. The PAC recommends they be funded first as top priority projects. They are listed below.

### PAC Top Priority Projects for Funding on the ODOT STIP List:

- E84 Barbur-99W Corridor Safety & Access to Transit (\$ 3 ,144,140) (TriMet)
- E87 Powell-Division Corridor Safety & Access to Transit (\$ 2 ,982,745) (TriMet)
- E29 SE Foster Road Safety and Sidewalk Enhancement Project (\$ 2 ,243,997)
- E32 St. Johns Truck Strategy Phase II ( \$ 2 ,927,890)
- E21 Connected Cully (\$ 2 ,877,641)
- E22 Downtown I-405 Pedestrian Safety and Operational Improvements (\$ 2 ,009,952)

In addition, the PAC supports the following projects, but to a lesser extent:

- E23 N Broadway Safety Crossing Enhancement Project (\$ 1 ,389,458)
- E33 Sullivan's Gulch Trail Under crossing of I-205 (\$ 1 ,555,921)
- E69 I-205 Path at Johnson Creek (\$1,250,000) (ODOT)
- E60 Willamette Greenway Trail: Chimney Park/Kelley Pt Park (\$5,000,000) (Metro)

The PAC would like to see the design of the Sullivan's Gulch Trail Under crossing of I-205 revisited and refined to better serve pedestrians.

As an advisory body to the City of Portland, the PAC strongly supports efforts to complete the pedestrian network, enhance opportunities for walking, bicycling, and riding transit and promote growth of vibrant communities within our city. We urge you to fund these proposed projects.

Sincerely,

David Aulwes  
Chair, Portland Pedestrian Advisory Committee

CC: Dan Bower, PBOT  
Alan Lehto, TriMet

## HOPES Christina

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**From:** STIP Enhance Apps Region1  
**Sent:** Friday, August 09, 2013 6:59 AM  
**To:** HOPES Christina  
**Subject:** FW: Please fund active transportation projects!

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**From:** Spencer Barrett  
**Sent:** Friday, August 09, 2013 6:58:45 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** STIP Enhance Apps Region1  
**Subject:** Please fund active transportation projects!

ODOT,

I am an Oak Hills (Beaverton) home owner and FULLY support the trails on the west side. I'm writing to ask that you fully fund all of the Regional/State Trails Projects and Streetscape/Bike/Ped Connectivity Projects on this list:

- <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1/STIP/DRAFT150EnhanceList-ByType.pdf>

## HOPES Christina

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**From:** STIP Enhance Apps Region1  
**Sent:** Friday, August 09, 2013 12:25 PM  
**To:** HOPES Christina  
**Subject:** FW: Please fund active transportation projects!

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**From:** dgoodyke@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Friday, August 09, 2013 12:25:12 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** STIP Enhance Apps Region1  
**Subject:** Please fund active transportation projects!

I'm writing to ask that you fully fund all of the Regional/State Trails Projects and Streetscape/Bike/Ped Connectivity Projects on this list:

<http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1/STIP/DRAFT150EnhanceList-ByType.pdf>

## HOPES Christina

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**From:** STIP Enhance Apps Region1  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 08, 2013 7:07 PM  
**To:** HOPES Christina  
**Subject:** FW: Please fund active transportation projects!

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**From:** Sandy Joos  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 08, 2013 7:06:58 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** STIP Enhance Apps Region1  
**Subject:** Please fund active transportation projects!

I'm writing to ask that you fully fund all of the Regional/State Trails Projects and Streetscape/Bike/Ped Connectivity Projects on this list:

<http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1/STIP/DRAFT150EnhanceList-ByType.pdf>

## HOPES Christina

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**From:** STIP Enhance Apps Region1  
**Sent:** Monday, August 12, 2013 7:54 AM  
**To:** HOPES Christina  
**Subject:** FW: Please fund active transportation projects!

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**From:** Nikki Katz  
**Sent:** Monday, August 12, 2013 7:53:52 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** STIP Enhance Apps Region1  
**Subject:** Please fund active transportation projects!

I'm writing to ask that you fully fund all of the Regional/State Trails Projects and Streetscape/Bike/Ped Connectivity Projects on this list:

<http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1/STIP/DRAFT150EnhanceList-ByType.pdf>

## HOPES Christina

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**From:** STIP Enhance Apps Region1  
**Sent:** Friday, August 09, 2013 6:31 PM  
**To:** HOPES Christina  
**Subject:** FW: Transportation project funding

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**From:** Olsen, Neil  
**Sent:** Friday, August 09, 2013 6:31:12 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** STIP Enhance Apps Region1  
**Subject:** Transportation project funding

Please fund all of the Regional/State Trails Projects and Streetscape/Bike/Ped Connectivity Projects in Southern Oregon.

-Neil Olsen

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