

From: Renay Bennett [<mailto:renaybennett@msn.com>]
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2014 7:41 AM
To: 'floewenherz@bellevuewa.gov'; 'MIngram@bellevuewa.gov'
Subject: Comments on Draft Transit Plan from Bellecrest Neighborhood Association Board
Importance: High

Hi Franz and Mike,

Thank you both for all your help in helping me figure out where to find information and providing me with additional information.

After careful review of the information you both have provided, the Bellecrest Neighborhood Association Board opposes the proposed HOV lane on 112th and respectfully ask that it be removed from further review.

The median provides a graceful entrance to our city and a visual respite to everyone who enjoys this stretch of roadway. Removing the median will not only degrade the views of the wetland, but will remove the view of the median itself, as well as further allow more noise pollution into our neighborhood. Removing the tree canopy from this median undermines the consistent support to improve our environment that the city of Bellevue prides itself on.

Further, the flyer sent to a small part of our community states that traffic will INCREASE in Bellecrest, while DECREASING in other areas. Our neighborhood has been on record for decades now in trying to work with the city to address the excessive traffic and speeding that creates a serious safety concern for our neighbors. It would be irresponsible to purposefully add more traffic to an already unsafe condition in a single family neighborhood appears.

If the intent is to have more transit riders, and we are forced to endure significant impacts for light rail ridership, shouldn't the amount of traffic decrease? This analysis appears confusing.

We are concerned that this has never come up before in any documents that we are aware of and has never been discussed with the neighborhoods. As you are aware, our community stands to be highly impacted by the Sound Transit alignment. This additional impact to our community is not appropriate, nor is it right to inflict so much negative impact on so few neighborhoods.

There are many comprehensive plan policies that support retaining this median, and it's tree canopy. There are also many comprehensive plan policies that support the arboreal nature of the Southwest Bellevue Subarea. Finally, there are numerous comprehensive plan policies that emphatically state that the our neighborhoods are the most important asset in Bellevue. It is a thoughtful reminder where our priorities are.

After all, aren't we called a 'City in a Park' not a 'City in a Parking Lot'?

Please pass our communication and concerns along to the Transportation Commission, and other appropriate departments/personnel.

Thank you for your assistance,

The Bellecrest Neighborhood Association Board

Renay Bennett, President

Allan Smith, Vice President

Heidi Drake, Secretary

Erin Powell Dilloo, Treasurer

Tricia Hardie

Kathy Krohn

Mark Landes

Nanette Lescher