

June 23, 2009

Salem City Council
555 Liberty St NE, Room 220
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Bike Lanes on Commercial Street Downtown

Dear Madame Mayor and City Councilors:

After being informed of the proposed lane reduction on Commercial Street in the downtown blocks in favor of a bicycle lane, we would like to express the following concerns:

1. The congestion on Commercial Street combined with the lack of visibility backing out of parking spaces makes the addition of a bike lane fundamentally unsafe.
2. Turning around the sagging downtown economy is a priority for us all. Reducing a lane of traffic will increase congestion making downtown less palatable for shoppers coming and going. To create a vibrant downtown shopping district we need to look at ways to reduce congestion, not increase it.
3. A bike lane already exists one block away on Front Street. A new bike lane on a safer, less congested street further away from the existing bike lane may be a better choice.
4. Slanted parking downtown is the best way to accommodate the most vehicles in a given section of street. We want to keep the slanted parking along Commercial Street unchanged so we have as much parking for our customers as possible.

Sincerely,

Business Name	Address	Signature
<u>Rinehart Law</u>	<u>117 Commercial N.E.</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
<u>Lokies Landing</u>	<u>157 Commercial St.</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
<u>Downtown Liquor Store</u>	<u>263 Commercial St SE</u>	<u>Victoria Benedict</u>
<u>Independent Artist</u>	<u>4127 Beek ave</u>	<u>Don Wilson</u>
<u>Artist</u>	<u>1296 16th</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>

