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:

- 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.
- 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.
- 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,

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GRAHOR LLC	OWNER: BUSH-BREY BLOCK & ANNEX 179-195 COMMERCIAL N.	E. Colum Hyabenhorst Je
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MARTIN GOLTE / Autiques	265 Court St.	Spring Gozaf
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