

From: [Hannah Archambault](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Subject: support for improved bike infrastructure, N. Mountain
Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 9:09:45 AM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Dear Scott Fleury,

I hope that this email finds you well.

I live on North Mountain Avenue, am a professor at SOU, and ride my bike to campus daily. I am writing to show my support for the proposed protected bike lane on North Mountain Avenue. The current infrastructure on Mountain Avenue is really inadequate. Where a lane exists, it is in many very narrow, squeezing cyclists between fast-moving traffic and the danger of parked car doors opening. I am eager to learn of the proposed improvement of a protected lane for cyclists.

I am a lifelong cyclist and a strong believer in how cycling infrastructure can improve towns and cities, making it safer not just for cyclists but for pedestrians and drivers as well. I am grateful for everything that Ashland has already done to support cyclists and hope that the city will continue to improve in this regard. I understand that this sometimes includes hard/unpopular decisions, including the removal of existing vehicle parking and the expense of new infrastructure, but I believe these hard decisions are worth it, and help to carve out a more sustainable and healthy future for Ashland's citizens.

Thanks for all your hard work-

Dr. Hannah Archambault

From: [Harlan Bittner](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Cc: info@ashlandclimate.org
Subject: Protected Bike Lanes - North Mountain Avenue
Date: Monday, September 18, 2023 12:09:22 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Transportation Advisory Committee members:

I support the addition of protected bike lanes on North Mountain Avenue from North Main to the Bear Creek Bridge, and the construction of sidewalks, where missing, throughout the project's length.

Adding protected bike lanes on N. Mountain and on other major streets in Ashland will give residents and visitors a safe alternative to the way they get around town. Without protected bike lanes, bicycling will never be a practical way to make short in-town trips; the risk of serious injury or death is too high for most people.

Bicycling is fun, healthy, helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduces congestion, boosts the local economy, and saves people money.

Thank you,

Harlan Bittner
3126 Alameda St #107
Medford OR 97504

From: [Nancy Boyer](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#); [Joe Lessard](#); [City Council](#); [Paula Hyatt](#); [Dylan Bloom](#); [Gina DuQuenne](#); [Tonya Graham](#); [Jeff Dahle](#)
Subject: Fwd: Mountain Ave Rehabilitation?
Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 1:10:43 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Nancy Boyer <boyerbeware@yahoo.com>
Date: September 20, 2023 at 9:49:31 AM PDT
To: Nancy Boyer <boyerbeware@yahoo.com>
Subject: Fwd: Mountain Ave Rehabilitation?

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Nancy Boyer <boyerbeware@yahoo.com>
Date: September 20, 2023 at 9:46:56 AM PDT
To: Nancy Boyer <boyerbeware@yahoo.com>
Subject: Mountain Ave Rehabilitation?

To Scott Fleury n the TAC.

I am opposed to “rehabilitating” Mountain Ave., narrowing the traffic lanes and removing parking for many people!

Looking at the traffic studies, there most often 2-4 bikes to over 1000 cars, in the same time frame!

What cost to the city will this involve for the few?

The problem has been identified as mostly speed!

Let’s reduce the speed limit to 20mph. Ticket the speeders!

Paint the bike lanes green as some have suggested, and forgo the expense of buffering the bike lanes. Put a reflective stripe delineating the the bike lane, alongside the green paint.

Put the money to better use finding another escape route to I-5 !
N Mt., is currently inadequate as an escape route , and to “rehabilitate” this with your proposals, only exacerbates the problem!
Let’s fix the many streets in Ashland that are in disrepair first and spend our money wisely!

Note: During the council's "Business Round Table", (to encourage tourism), discussion, 9-18-23, it was noted the south entrance to our city needed some aesthetic improvements, for visitors entering our city!

The same application with green painting and reflective striping along side, for the bike lanes, could be applied on Ashland St., allowing for a cleaner and more inviting look, for those entering our city!

I am strongly opposed to this "Rehabilitation" project!

Thanks, Nancy K Boyer and 45 year resident.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Lisa Brill](#)
Cc: [Scott Fleury](#); info@ashlandclimate.org; [Siskiyou Velo BOD-GoogleGroup](#)
Subject: Support for proposed protected bike lanes in Ashland
Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 9:39:51 AM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Dear Scott,

The Siskiyou Velo cycling club supports the addition of protected bike lanes on North Mountain Avenue from North Main to the Bear Creek Bridge, and the construction of sidewalks, where missing, throughout the project's length. Protected bike lanes are an integral part of infrastructure improvements to make cycling and other non-motorized transportation safer for everyone.

Adding protected bike lanes on N. Mountain and on other major streets in Ashland will give residents and visitors a safe alternative to the way they get around town. Without protected bike lanes, bicycling will never be a practical way to make short in-town trips; the risk of serious injury or death is too high for most people.

Bicycling is fun, healthy, helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduces congestion, boosts the local economy, and saves people money.

All Ashland residents deserve streets that motorists can drive to and through with ease, which people can access safely and conveniently on their bikes or by foot, and where businesses can thrive. We encourage the City of Ashland to install dedicated bike lanes on North Mountain Ave. during the upcoming re-paving projects.

Sincerely,

Lisa Brill, President, [Siskiyou Velo](#)
Harlan Bittner, Ann Smith, Advocacy Co-Chairs, [Siskiyou Velo](#)

From: jack.cannon
To: [Scott Fleury](mailto:Scott.Fleury)
Cc: info@ashlandclimate.org
Subject: Protected bike lanes
Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 12:07:32 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Hello,

I would like to add my name to those in favor including protected bike lanes on North Mountain Avenue when it is repaved. We have a limited number of ways of getting over the tracks safely when we're on our bikes and this would be a great way to support that. Please help make biking in town as safe as we can.

Thanks you.

Sincerely,
Jack Cannon
453 Williamson Way
Ashland, OR 97520

To: Transportation Advisory Committee, TAC
CC: Ashland City Council
From: Climate Environment Policy Advisory Committee, CEPAC
Date: September 13, 2023
RE: Addition of Protected Bike Lanes on North Mountain Avenue

The CEPAC recommends:

- The TAC endorses the addition of protected bike lanes on North Mountain Avenue from North Main to the Bear Creek Bridge.

Members of the CEPAC appreciate the opportunity to offer testimony as a part of the TAC's September 21st public hearing on the North Mountain repaving project. We understand the challenges associated with change especially when it happens on a street in front of someone's home or business.

Removing parking is controversial and we know that it may create a hardship on some property owners. But ultimately CEPAC members concluded that the city must modify its transportation system to be more efficient, safe, and convenient for all road users. We're pleased to say that is exactly what the TAC and Council did on Ashland Street by adding protected bike lanes. We hope that you will recommend to the Council do the same on North Mountain.

There are specific goals/policies in the [Climate and Energy Action Plan \(CEAP\)](#), and the [Transportation System Plan \(TSP\)](#) that support this recommendation. They are listed below along with brief statements describing why the addition of protected bike lanes on North Mountain is required, pursuant to the city's adopted goals.

CEAP Goal - Reduce community and City employee vehicle miles of traveled and greenhouse gas emissions.

The CEAP goal can only be achieved by fostering more walking, rolling, bicycling or transit use. The city, as a principal provider and owner of the transportation system, is uniquely responsible for transforming the existing auto-centric transportation system in ways that will make it safe, practical and efficient for people to accomplish in-town travel by any means that they might find convenient. To foster choice, the pedestrian and bicycle networks must support travel, from anywhere to everywhere, for people of all ages and abilities—and be equal or more convenient and safer than travel by auto. Adding protected bike lanes on major roads, such as North Mountain, is crucial to achieve the goal.

TSP - Goal # 1: Create a “green” template for other communities in the state and nation to follow.

The addition of a protected bike lane on Ashland Street is the first of many that will be needed on major streets within town in order to constitute a “green template.” Since at least 2013, the year the city’s TSP was adopted, cities in Oregon and throughout the nation have been adding protected bike lanes, building off-street multi-use paths, and modifying residential streets through traffic calming. Together, these efforts help reduce congestion, improve human health, lower transportation costs, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The city has made and needs to continue to make progress on this goal.

TSP - Goal # 2: Make safety a priority for all modes of travel.

The addition of protected bike lanes on major streets alters the street environment and makes them safer. Protected bike lanes have the obvious benefit of making bicycling safer by placing a physical barrier between people riding bicycles and people driving cars/trucks. But, as importantly, they serve to make it safer for all road users. [see: Why Cities with High Bicycling Rates are Safer for All Road Users]

According to Wesley Marshall, PhD, PE, assistant professor in the College of Engineering, Design and Computing at CU Denver and the author of the above cited study, “...bicycling seems inherently dangerous on its own. So, it would seem that a city with a lot of bicycling is more dangerous, but the opposite is true. Building safe facilities for cyclists turned out to be one of the biggest factors in road safety for everyone.”

We recognize that the Transportation Advisory Committee is keenly focused on safety. Adding protected bike lanes on N. Mountain will help improve safety and will also have the potential to boost the number of people bicycling for some of their short in-town trips.

Thank you again for giving CEPAC an opportunity to provide its recommendation on this vital project.

From: [Sean Chon](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Cc: info@ashlandclimate.org
Subject: Protected Bike Lanes - North Mountain Avenue
Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 3:56:23 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Transportation Advisory Committee members:

I support the addition of protected bike lanes on North Mountain Avenue from North Main to the Bear Creek Bridge, and the construction of sidewalks, where missing, throughout the project's length.

Adding protected bike lanes on N. Mountain and on other major streets in Ashland will give residents and visitors a safe alternative to the way they get around town. Without protected bike lanes, bicycling will never be a practical way to make short in-town trips; the risk of serious injury or death is too high for most people.

Bicycling is fun, healthy, helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduces congestion, boosts the local economy, and saves people money.

Thank you,
Sean Chon
100 Schofield St.

From: [Sonya Daw](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Cc: info@ashlandclimate.org
Subject: Protected Bike Lanes - North Mountain Avenue
Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 8:20:04 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Transportation Advisory Committee members:

I am a life-long bicycle commuter, and I support the addition of protected bike lanes on North Mountain Avenue from North Main to the Bear Creek Bridge, and the construction of sidewalks, where missing, throughout the project's length.

Adding protected bike lanes on N. Mountain and on other major streets in Ashland will give residents and visitors a safe alternative to the way they get around town. Without protected bike lanes, bicycling will never be a practical way to make short in-town trips; the risk of serious injury or death is too high for most people.

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Thank you,
Sonya Daw
Ashland, Oregon

--

Sonya Daw
([she/her](#))

From: [Manuel De Aquino](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Subject: bike lane and street side parking elimination
Date: Thursday, September 14, 2023 11:48:50 AM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Dear Mr. Fleury,

I'm writing about the proposal to install protected bike lanes on N. Mountain Ave. I support adding these bike lanes. Even though some on-street car parking will be eliminated, it is worth it.

I regularly bicycle around Ashland for shopping, errands, recreation, etc. Even though I'm an experienced cyclist and don't mind "taking the lane", the section on N. Mountain between Village Green and E. Main is not bike friendly. And, it is along a route used to access schools.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and I hope the project to install these bike lanes goes through.

Sincerely,
Manuel De Aquino
481 N. Mountain Ave.
Ashland, Oregon
541-625-0391

From: [Gabriela Fernandez-Coffey](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Subject: Protected bike lanes on N Mtn
Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 7:58:52 AM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Hey Mr. Fleury,

Just a quick note to communicate our support for protected bike lines on N mountain avenue! We are a family of four who own our home in Ashland and want to see Ashland continue to grow in safe, healthy and green ways. Let's leave our cars in the driveway unless we head out of town! Let's make our beautiful community as bikeable and walkable as possible!

Thanks for your support!
Gabriela Fernandez
Tim Getman
Clara (8) and Rosie (4)

From: [Jim Hartman](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Cc: [Info](#)
Subject: Protected Bike Lanes on Mountain Avenue
Date: Monday, September 18, 2023 1:15:05 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Dear Scott and the Transportation Advisory Committee

I wanted to encourage the City of Ashland to create protected bike lanes on North Mountain between E. Main and Bear Creek during the upcoming repaving project. We need to make biking a more attractive option in this town. I realize some parking spaces will be lost but citizen's do not have a right to free on-street parking by their house. Streets are for public use, not for private parking. Overall these protected bike lanes will improve the livability of our city and help reduce our greenhouse gas emissions. More and more people are open to getting around on electric bikes. Protected bike lanes make this option more attractive.

Sincerely,

Jim Hartman

From: [Kathleen Hering](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Subject: Protected bike lane on Mt. Ave
Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 12:12:53 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Hello,

I am an avid bicyclist that lives on Mountain Ave. I have long been an advocate of protected bike lanes and think this would be win win for motorist and riders. I have ridden in San Francisco and Portland. I always feel safer if there is a barrier between me and the traffic. I am glad that Ashland is making moves to make our streets safer for all.

Kathleen Hering
236 N. Mountain Ave
Ashland OR 97520
541-778-5206

From: [FRANK HUBBARD](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Subject: Protected Bike Lanes
Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 6:35:32 AM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Dear Scott,

I am an avid cyclist and have been a rider for forty years. I have ridden in rural and urban locals. Even though I am comfortable throughout the Rogue Valley, I am aware that many are not.

It is a shame to have many avoid the bicycle because of fear of being struck. And that fear is justified! I was a trauma surgeon in NC, and I saw the effects of motor vehicles on pedestrians and bicyclists.

Protected bike lanes and adequate sidewalks will help separate cars from non motorized traffic. Just the other day I saw a motorist talking on their cell phone pinned against their shoulder making a turn with a baby on board! What?!?!

Thank you for considering increasing protected bike lanes!

As always,
F. Alan Hubbard, MD
434 Courtney Street
Ashland, OR 97520

Sent from Hubs' iPad

From: [Marcia Hunter](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Cc: [Lorrie, Rick and Candace](#)
Subject: Protected Bike Lanes - North Mountain Avenue
Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 1:20:07 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Transportation Advisory Committee members:

I support the addition of protected bike lanes on North Mountain Avenue from North Main to the Bear Creek Bridge, and the construction of sidewalks, where missing, throughout the project's length.

Adding protected bike lanes on N. Mountain and on other major streets in Ashland will give residents and visitors a safe alternative to the way they get around town. Without protected bike lanes, bicycling will never be a practical way to make short in-town trips; the risk of serious injury or death is too high for most people.

Bicycling is fun, healthy, helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduces congestion, boosts the local economy, and saves people money.

Thank you,
Marcia Hunter
2105 E. Main St.
Ashland, OR 97520

From: [Frances Iba](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Subject: Protected bike lanes in Ashland
Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 1:23:22 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Hello Scott,

I understand a protected bike lane on North Mountain Ave. from N. Main to the Bear Creek Bridge is being considered.

This is an excellent idea as it will give an additional opportunity to travel safely around town. As a 66 year old occasional cyclist, this would increase my likelihood to travel by bicycle and not just my car.

Thank you,
Frances Iba

From: [Katherine Jimison](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Subject: bike lanes on North Mountain Avenue
Date: Monday, September 18, 2023 8:29:59 AM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Transportation Advisory Committee members:

I support the addition of protected bike lanes on North Mountain Avenue from North Main to the Bear Creek Bridge, and the construction of sidewalks, where missing, throughout the project's length.

Adding protected bike lanes on N. Mountain and on other major streets in Ashland will give residents and visitors a safe alternative to the way they get around town. Without protected bike lanes, bicycling will never be a practical way to make short in-town trips; the risk of serious injury or death is too high for most people.

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Thank you,
Katherine Jimison
4023 Crystal Springs Dr.
Medford OR

From: [Tim Learmont](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Cc: info@ashlandclimate.org
Subject: Protected Bike Lanes on North Mountain Ave.
Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 1:24:48 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

I strongly encourage all of the Ashland Transportation Advisory Committee to help provide for protected bike lanes and necessary sidewalks along North Mountain Ave. from North Main St to Bear Creek. We must continue to make it safer and easier for people to use non-car transportation. This is becoming even more important with the increase of electric assist bikes which allow many people who wouldn't have ridden a bike in hilly Ashland to now actually use a bicycle as transportation. North Mountain is a perfect example of a road that might have been daunting before eBikes, but now is do-able. BUT, without protected bike lanes, many people will be hesitant to ride along North Mountain, and will continue to use cars, adding to our climate change problem.

Can we really complain about smoke/fire/drought problems if we aren't working to reduce the underlying causes?

Tim Learmont

502 Allison St., Ashland

From: [Steve Levesque](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Subject: Bicycle Safety
Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 7:02:19 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

TO: Scott.fleury@ashland.or.us

Cc: info@ashlandclimate.org

Subject: Protected Bike Lanes - North Mountain Avenue

Transportation Advisory Committee members:

I support the addition of protected bike lanes on North Mountain Avenue from North Main to the Bear Creek Bridge, and the construction of sidewalks, where missing, throughout the project's length.

Adding protected bike lanes on N. Mountain and on other major streets in Ashland will give residents and visitors a safe alternative to the way they get around town. Without protected bike lanes, bicycling will never be a practical way to make short in-town trips; the risk of serious injury or death is too high for most people.

Bicycling is fun, healthy, helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduces congestion, boosts the local economy, and saves people money.

Thank you,
Steve Levesque
3986 Jonathan Way
Central Point, OR 97502

From: [Alcyon Lord](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Subject: Bike lanes on Mountain
Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 4:32:04 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Hi,

I am a former resident of Ashland and I still visit Ashland numerous times throughout the year. When I am here, I like to use my bicycle for many errands as well as recreative purposes. I would love to see protected bike lanes on all major north-south and east-west routes, as well as traffic quieting on major neighborhood streets.

I use North and South Mountain to navigate on a daily basis.

Please improve safety and access for all alternative transportation in town!

Alcyon Lord

From: [Ray Mallette](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Cc: info@ashlandclimate.org
Subject: Building Protected Bike Lanes in Ashland
Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 9:23:12 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Transportation Advisory Committee :

I would like to see the addition of protected bike lanes on N. Mountain Avenue as part of the repaving project. I think adding protected bike lanes for this project would be a good start to see how they work to increase bike ridership and decrease car use (and emissions) for a major commuting street in Ashland, especially with a connection to the Central Bike Path. As an avid biker I have observed the need for the increased safety that comes by separating bicyclists from cars and trucks, especially for younger and older riders. Putting in protected bike lanes on N. Mountain Avenue will give us data on how to increase bicycle ridership and safety while managing traffic flow, parking and lane cleaning that we can use for future decisions.

Ray Mallette

Ashland

From: [David Minter](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Subject: Protected bike lines.
Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 1:04:16 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Hi Scott. I support protected bike lanes on North Mountain Ave. from East Main to the Bear Creek Bridge. I am an avid cyclist and I am aware that protected bike lanes raised above the road are highly effective at protecting cyclists. Both of my children were born deaf and this extra support raised bike lanes provides them with a added safety measure when biking around town. The present painted lines for bike lanes have little provided safety benefits from motorists swerving into them.

Thanks for the consideration.

David Minter, LCSW, QMHP

Behavioral Health Clinical Lead/ Mental Health Therapist at
La Clinica School-Based Health Centers, Central Point and

Mae Richardson Elementary

dminter@laclinicahealth.org

541-494-6749

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From: [Katherine Nabielski](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Subject: Protected bike lanes
Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 3:07:17 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

We need protected bike lanes on N Mountain Avenue. Protected bike lanes provide safer streets for riders and motorists. They also provide equity among street users and make a healthy choice for people to travel and fight climate change.

A designated crosswalk with lights is need at the top of the hill connecting the park to the neighborhood walkway. This crossing is a blind spot to traffic making it hazardous for pedestrians.

An addition of sidewalks on both sides of the street are needed as well.

Adding these requests will improve riders and pedestrians safety.

Katherine Nabielski

From: [Barret O'Brien](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Date: Saturday, September 16, 2023 12:50:44 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Mr. Fleury.

Thanks for your time and for all you do for the city of Ashland. It is recognized and appreciated.

I am writing to express my deep support for protected bike lanes on Mountain Avenue. As a daily bike commuter and a father of two children who are attempting (though it often feels very dangerous) to ride with me, protected bike lanes would a a strong symbol to the town of the equality of roads for all citizens (not just those who choose to/are able to drive automobiles).

Thanks for anything you can do to make this vision a reality. My and my children's safety applaud you.

sincerely,
Barret O'Brien.

--

Barret O'Brien
Adjunct Professor of Acting
Oregon Center for the Arts @ Southern Oregon University
[he/him/his](#)

From: [jeanodonnell](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Subject: N Mountain Protected Bike Lane
Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 9:55:02 AM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

I live on Starflower Lane two blocks over from N Mountain Ave. I ride a road bike and sometimes my route takes me onto N Mountain either heading out toward Emigrant Lake or the other direction past Mountain Meadows toward Pilot View. I am very uncomfortable on N Mountain in tight quarters with so many cars. I would love a protected bike Lane.

Also, I see three little kids ride their bicycles in front of my house and heading out to N Mountain to go to and from school. Being little kids I think they are squirrely, unpredictable riders and am surprised they are allowed to ride on N Mountain at all. I think the little kids would be much safer in a protected bike lane.

Jean O'Donnell
364 Starflower Lane
Ashland

Sent from my Galaxy

From: [Vicki Orendurff](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Subject: Support for Protected Bike Lanes on N. Mountain Ave
Date: Monday, September 18, 2023 4:03:20 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Scott & all of the Ashland Transportation Advisory Committee,

Thank you for your service to our community.

I strongly support the installation of protected bike lanes on N. Mountain Ave from E. Main to the Bear Creek Bridge. The loss of parking is a small price to pay for the benefit that will be gained. So many more people would ride bikes to do their in-town trips if they felt safe. Protected bike lanes on main arterials in Ashland would help get more people using alternative, climate friendly forms of transportation and out of their cars, helping to reduce CO2 emissions and help Ashland get on track to meet its stated climate goals.

I just read the following from CNN “The world has just experienced the hottest summer on record, according to a new report from the European Union's Copernicus Climate Change Service. Data shows the planet experienced its hottest June followed by the hottest July, as triple-digit heat seared parts of the US and popular global travel destinations. July and August were also estimated to have been 1.5 degrees warmer than pre-industrial levels — a key threshold scientists have long warned the world must stay under to prevent the most catastrophic impacts of climate change.”

We just had another smoky day yesterday. I’m wondering how many more we have to have before some people stop supporting more car infrastructure and get on board with building bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. Without aggressive measures to stop our greenhouse gas emissions, we will not reach our goals as a City and we will continue to breath unhealthy air year after year. Let us follow the lead of other cities in Oregon like Portland, Eugene, and Medford in making our streets safe for bike commuting and healthier for everyone. Rarely do I see a cyclist in Ashland who doesn’t have a smile on their face. Cycling compared to driving is cheaper, healthier, often quicker, better for the environment and more fun!

Vicki Orendurff
432 Parkside Dr
Ashland

From: [Carl Prufer](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Subject: protected bike lanes
Date: Sunday, September 17, 2023 4:18:12 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Transportation Advisory Committee members:

I support the addition of protected bike lanes on North Mountain Avenue from North Main to the Bear Creek Bridge, and the construction of sidewalks, where missing, throughout the project's length.

Thank you
Carl Prufer
502 Herbert st.
Ashland, OR 97520

From: [Paul Rowland](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Cc: info@ashlandclimate.org
Subject: Protected Bike Lanes - North Mountain Ave
Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 10:28:45 AM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Transportation Advisory Committee members:

I support the addition of protected bike lanes on North Mountain Avenue from East Main St. to the Bear Creek Bridge, and the construction of sidewalks, where missing, throughout the project's length.

Adding protected bike lanes on N. Mountain and on other major streets in Ashland will give residents and visitors a safe alternative to the way they get around town. Without protected bike lanes, bicycling will not be a practical way to make short in-town trips; the risk of serious injury or death is too high for most people.

Bicycling is fun, healthy, helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduces congestion, boosts the local economy, and saves people money.

Thank you,
Paul Rowland
1030 Clay St., Ashland

From: gshaff@gmail.com
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Cc: info@ashlandclimate.org
Subject: I Support Adding Protected Bike Lanes on North Mountain
Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 2:24:15 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Madam Chair and members of the Transportation Advisory Committee,

I support the addition of protected bike lanes on North Mountain Avenue. North Mountain, like other major streets in Ashland, is unsafe for people riding bicycling. I bicycle and I can attest to that fact.

Because the city's transportation network is unsafe for people bicycling serves to explain why so few people bicycle for short in-town trips. Most residents are afraid to share the road with motor vehicles and are unwilling to risk serious life-altering injury or death to do everyday trips; get to school or work, shop, go to the library, get to soccer or baseball practice, visit a friend or family, or countless other errands.

The Transportation Advisory Committee's mission is to ensure(s) that we (members of the community) "will have the opportunity to conveniently and safely use the transportation mode of our choice." Adding protected bike lanes to North Mountain by converting existing on-street parking (between E. Main and the top of the hill on North Mountain - near the electric substation) is the only option to ensure that people of all ages and abilities can safely and conveniently bicycle on North Mountain.

I've included the entirety of Committee's mission statement, below, for your convenience.

Thank you,
Gary Shaff
516 Herbert St.

Ashland Municipal Code 2.13.010 Purpose and Mission

Mission. The need for a Transportation Commission is emphasized in the Transportation Element:

"Ashland has a vision - to retain our small-town character even while we grow. To achieve this vision, we must proactively plan for a transportation system that is integrated into the community and enhances Ashland's livability, character and natural environment. ...The focus must be on people being able to move easily through the City in all modes of travel. Modal equity then is more than just a phase. It is a planning concept that does not necessarily imply equal financial commitment or equal percentage use of each mode, but rather ensures that we will have the opportunity to conveniently and safely use the transportation mode of our choice, and allow us to move toward a less auto-dependent community."

From: [Linda Serbu](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Subject: Bike lanes
Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 4:14:58 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

[i](#) want bike lanes in Ashland! I am a lifelong bike rider. My daughter got hit near the Coop on a street with no bike lane. C'mon! It's so obvious! This will make Ashland better just like all the other place that promote biking! We should have a shuttle downtown also while I'm at it!

Thank you,
Linda Serbu

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Shereen Vesalpour](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Subject: Bike Lanes on N. Mountain Ave
Date: Monday, September 18, 2023 8:28:03 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Hi Scott,

We need protected bike lanes on N. Mountain Ave.

Thank you,
Shereen Vesalpour

From: inwardwego@gmail.com
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Subject: N. Mountain bike lane
Date: Monday, September 18, 2023 2:42:27 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Greetings Scott,

Please consider including protected bike lanes for N. Mountain Avenue. It is a well used bike path and would provide a safer environment for bikes and cars. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Philippe Sprague
Long time Ashland resident and bike rider.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Steve Thomas](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Cc: [Ashland Climate Collaborative](#)
Subject: In Support of Protected Bike Lanes on North Mountain Street
Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 12:43:00 AM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Dear Scott and Transportation Advisory Committee Members,

I am writing you to express my support for including protected bike lanes along the upcoming road improvement project route along North Mountain Avenue. Being an experienced bicycle rider on all kinds of city streets as well as long distance country highway roads, I can personally attest to the need for continuing improvements for bicycle and pedestrian user safe routes along the City of Ashland's roads as well as many more of our Rogue Valley roads.

I work with Mike Veerger as a volunteer fixing bikes to give to people in need almost every Thursday at the Grove bike workshop in Ashland. I see his commitment to advocating bicycle riding safety education for everyone, especially our elementary school children. I've attended some of his bicycle safety education classes/lectures and they are excellent. However, along with education, I feel as many other bicyclist do that better bike and pedestrian safe road improvements are needed. The project scheduled for North Mountain street in the near future is a prime opportunity to make that happen for another majorly traveled road in Ashland. Many autos, bikes and pedestrians do so every day but so many more would if it were truly made safer by adding protected bicycle lanes.

Just one month ago, on August 16th, I rode my bike to North Mountain Park to attend an ice cream social in honor of the many Ashland Parks and Recreation volunteers of which I am one because of the wonderful collaboration of the parks department with RVTD (whom Mike Veerger is an employee of and his job includes the above mentioned bicycle safety education classes provided to many of our Ashland elementary school children). I've ridden that route hundreds of times for over 40 years of living in Ashland and can tell you that the auto traffic on North Mountain Street has increased enormously since all the housing and business development that has taken place!

Unfortunately, I had a harrowing experience that day on the way to the volunteer ice cream social. As I'm sure you are all aware, there is yet another huge development project happening just beyond the railroad crossing while heading to North Mountain Park. As I was about to enter that area, riding in the bike lane, an ambulance and three fire trucks came speeding past me with lights flashing and sirens blaring. As I was trying to come safely to a stop while the last fire truck was about to pass me, I was distracted from watching the bike lane and all of a sudden started to slip and slide because the bike lane was covered in sand from all the construction! There was no signage warning of this hazardous condition of the bike lane nor had any attempt been made by the construction crews to block off the bike lane because of it!

Fortunately, I am an experienced bicycle rider and was able to finally come to a safe stop just as the fire truck was next to me but all I could envision at the time was sliding in front of or underneath the fire truck and likely seriously injured or killed. Soon after, I called the Ashland Street Division to register my concern of not having any attempt made to warn bicyclists of the potential danger or just closing the bike lane all together. My call was not answered because a message said there was no one available in the office at the time (just after 2 PM?). So I proceeded to call the Ashland Police Department to report the situation and was told that an officer would be sent to drive by the area and assess it. I had occasion to drive past that same section of North Mountain Street just last week, approximately one month later and the only change made was a large orange "BUMP" sign just before the construction area where there is still sand in the bike lane...great.

I believe a protected bike lane there would have gotten much more attention paid to it for making it safe to detour bicycle riders around the hazardous section.

Please seriously consider adding protected bike lanes to North Mountain Street and any other Ashland City streets when road improvement projects are being planned. Just one more bicycle user of our community streets is one less auto potentially adversely impacting bicycle and pedestrian traveler's safety...as well as helping reduce our carbon footprint and ultimately global warming.

Thank You In Advance.

Sincerely,

Steven C. Thomas

From: [Daniel Thorndike](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Subject: Bike Lanes on North Mountain
Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 1:56:33 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Dear Scott and Transportation Advisory Committee members,

As a longtime cyclist and Ashland resident, I am writing to support the installation of protected bike lanes wherever and whenever possible. This would include in conjunction with the upcoming improvements on North Mountain Avenue.

Frankly, I am either brave or stupid enough to ride with motor vehicle traffic in most settings. In many places, of course, there is no choice if one needs to get from point A to point B. However, I can assure you that many riders do not share this attitude and many simply won't ride (or let their children ride) on the hope that motor vehicles will, indeed, share the road.

Also, the recent explosion in e-bike usage has significantly changed the demographics of the bicycle riding public. Our road infrastructure needs to change and accommodate this shift, for the safety of all concerned. Protected bike lanes are one answer.

Thank you very much,

Dan Thorndike

From: [Mike Vergeer](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Cc: info@ashlandclimate.org
Subject: installation of protected bike lanes on N. Mountain Ave.
Date: Monday, September 18, 2023 1:47:24 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Hello Mr. Fleury and members of the TAC and city council:

I write today in favor of installing protected bike lanes (PBLs) on N. Mountain Ave.

One could weigh the pros and cons to arrive at a prudent decision.

Cons:

- Removing parking spaces will require drivers of cars to walk further when they park.
- People fear that, because of reduced travel lane width, emergency evacuation would be slowed. While this may not be true, Nextdoor.com suggests that the fear is real.

Pros:

- Greater safety is conferred to ALL road users (not just those on bikes).
- Residents (including young and old) could choose from among transportation options. Only the very bold and assertive among us are currently choosing to ride bikes.
- Boost public health.
- Meet our climate goals.
- Attract visitors, new residents, and investment, because people see safe bikeability goes hand in hand with a high quality of life.
- PBLs help make Ashland more affordable for folx with low incomes. With safe streets, households could choose to get around without using a personally-owned car. Essential workers could live in town rather than commute from nearby communities. (<https://247wallst.com/city/cost-of-living-in-ashland-oregon>).
- New state planning law will require protected bike lanes be planned for major roads. We can start now (<https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewSingleRule.action?ruleVrsnRsn=293043>).

Neither pro nor con:

- The city's own Evacuation Time Estimate Study (among other studies elsewhere) suggests travel times would not change substantively (https://www.ashland.or.us/Files/KLD_Ashland_Final_ETE_4-13-2021_red.pdf).

Note: I work for RVTB promoting transportation options. My email today does not purport to convey any RVTB endorsement. I will say, however, that in my line of work, people tell me all the time that if we build a connected network of safe streets, they will come and ride them on bicycles. And that would be great for everybody.

--Mike Vergeer
300 Creekside Rd
Ashland OR 97520

From: [Sarah Wardwell](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Subject: I support protected bike lanes!
Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 3:28:02 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Transportation Advisory Committee members:

I support the addition of protected bike lanes on North Mountain Avenue from North Main to the Bear Creek Bridge, and the construction of sidewalks, where missing, throughout the project's length.

Adding protected bike lanes on N. Mountain and on other major streets in Ashland will give residents and visitors a safe alternative to the way they get around town. Without protected bike lanes, bicycling will never be a practical way to make short in-town trips; the risk of serious injury or death is too high for most people. I lived and biked in Washington DC and these protected bike lanes were a game changer!

Bicycling is fun, healthy, helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduces congestion, boosts the local economy, and saves people money. Please make it easier for everyone to bike in Ashland!

Thank you,

Sarah Wardwell
650 Liberty St.

From: [Lori Wolfe](#)
To: [Scott Fleury](#)
Subject: North Mountain
Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 1:58:37 PM

[EXTERNAL SENDER]

Hello Scott,

I spoke with Chuck today and he said you would be the best person to contact with my questions and comments. Here goes .

- We live on North Mountain - nearest side street is Village Green. How long the construction is expected to last and what they will be doing next? We are happy to see the infrastructure upgrade, just wondering on the timeline.
- Will you be adding speed bumps? Traffic always speeds down North Mountain and many of the residents hope - like on Hersey - speed bumps will be put in. If speed bumps are not planned already can the residents put in a request or signatures on a petition or something like that to get them added?
- Regarding taking away parking and adding a protected bike line. We are very against this. As you know, there is already only parking allowed on one side of the street.
 - Most of the houses need that parking when having friends visit.
 - Most houses have very short driveways that don't offer parking other than for residents.
 - Havurah Synagogue needs extra parking for special events.
 - Parked cars on North Mountain actually help keep the speeding down.
 - There is already parking only on one side of North Mountain.
 - With the new development the need for additional parking only increases.

Thank you for thinking considerately about not taking away parking and adding speed bumps to North Mountain.

Lori Wolfe

Fun To Teach

