

June 30, 2014



Newport Way Sidewalk Committee
14250 SE Newport Way
Bellevue, WA 98006

RE: Cascade Bicycle Club's support for the Newport Way Sidewalks and Bike Lanes from SE Allen Road to 150th Ave SE.

To Whom it May Concern:

Cascade Bicycle Club (Cascade), on behalf of its 16,000 members, strongly supports adding sidewalks and bike lanes to Newport Way from SE Allen Road to 150th Ave SE. Cascade's mission is to create better communities through bicycling and this is a project that will advance that mission. Increasing opportunities for walking and cycling brings multiple benefits to our neighborhoods. Bike lanes and sidewalks along Newport Way will help to create a healthier neighborhood, one with more transportation choices, safer streets for those walking and biking while also providing environmental benefits.

Newport Way is an important connection for regional cyclists and is critical for local access. Regionally, it offers a shady, gradual climb west to connect with Issaquah and points beyond and for cyclists on the south end of Lake Washington, it creates an alternative for traveling eastbound, avoiding higher traffic volumes around Factoria and on SE 36th St. For local cyclists, it will create complete convenient connections to Tyee Middle School, the Newport Way Library and the South Bellevue Community Center along with connecting to existing bicycle facilities.

This project on Newport Way, along with the Mountains to Sound Greenway and efforts to create safe connections in downtown Bellevue for those choosing to ride a bike, will help increase opportunities for how people get around Bellevue and will create a better community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Aken'.

Jeff Aken
Principal Planner, Cascade Bicycle Club

Creating A Better Community Through Bicycling