



# Grant Park

## Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 13102, Portland, OR 97213

**To:** Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty Chris Warner, PBOT Director

**From:** Grant Park Neighborhood Association<sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

**Re:** Pedestrian Safety on NE Broadway<sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

**Date:** Approved by the Board of Directors, October 12, 2021

Dear Commissioner Hardesty and Mr. Warner,

We join the Sullivan's Gulch and Lloyd Neighborhood Associations in asking that PBOT prioritize low-cost improvements to make NE Broadway safer for pedestrians and cyclists.

The Vision Zero crash map shows over 19 pedestrian crashes or injuries on Broadway between NE MLK and 37<sup>th</sup> Ave. from January 2019 to December 2020, including four pedestrian crashes. Driving speeds along this corridor severely limit the walkability of the street, limiting the ability of businesses to attract foot traffic. *While Broadway is identified as part of the city's high crash network, no vision zero improvements (changes to road infrastructure, speed limit reductions, speed cameras) have been planned or implemented on this street to date.*

Despite two studies of the area since the 1960s and a further study proposed (with no date set), no improvements have been made to make this street more hospitable to pedestrians, cyclists, and transit riders during that time, while traffic has continued to increase. Given that the recommendations of the 1996 Broadway Weidler Corridor study have not been implemented, we are unsure of the value of further study to this area without a commitment to act to improve the walkability and livability of this essential street.

We request PBOT prioritize making the following low-cost improvements to reduce traffic speeds on NE Broadway to make it safer and more welcoming to pedestrians and cyclists:

- Lower the posted speed limit to 25 mph; re-time signals to keep traffic flowing<sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>
- Post signs indicating that the signals are timed to the speed limit (even if speed limit is not lowered)<sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>
- Install speed cameras on NE Broadway and NE Weidler<sup>[1]</sup><sub>[SEP]</sub>

All of these improvements share the goal of reducing traffic speeds on Broadway, protecting vulnerable road users and making pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers safer. These changes are also needed to support businesses on Broadway and create a vibrant, livable economic center within our neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

Ron Laster, President  
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