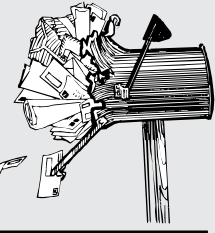


# Consider alternatives to the city's \$19 million Capitol Highway solution

## Letters to the Editor



The Southwest Portland Post  
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As a proud resident of one of Portland's more storied and expressive locales, I wanted to make sure that my voice is heard when it comes to roadways that my family uses on a daily basis.

There has been a conversation about changing the configuration of Capitol Highway from Taylors Ferry Road to Garden Home Road.

The motion that was approved for improvements by the Multnomah Neighborhood Association was put forward by me, and worded as a result of the presentation made to us by the city engineer about what needed to happen if there were improvements made to the roadway.

However, the proposal was not unanimous, and would have been significantly altered had we known there were alternatives.

The engineer, who did a great job, basically informed us that there was only one way to do the improvement, and that was going to be at a massive cost to taxpayers.

Namely, change the road in a manner unacceptable to the landowners, and create a situation unfavorable to many residents of Multnomah Village.

At the latest neighborhood association meeting, it was brought up that there are clearly alternatives to the proposed solution, including permeable asphalt, not using the city standard sidewalks, and using a bike/walking lane with no sidewalks.

Additional alternatives include reducing the speed limit to 25 mph on the road from Barbur Boulevard to Capitol Highway (as it is from Hillsdale to the Village) and installing sidewalks only; adjusting the walking path on the east side of the road only; or any combination of the above.

Seeking an alternative to the proposed extremely costly solution is the right thing to do for several reasons:

1. The city cannot afford the proposed solution. Therefore, if we don't seek an

alternative, nothing will be done, and that is a considerable concern.

2. Getting something done will make the road safer for all stakeholders, embrace the "walkable neighborhood" desires of the city, and provide much needed and oft overlooked infrastructure to Southwest Portland.

3. It puts people to work, increases the accessibility of Multnomah Village, and thereby increasing the local and state taxes out of southwest.

4. The residents of Multnomah Village, school children, those who use public transit, bikers, casual walkers, and people with disabilities who depend on safe pathways will finally get what they need on a daily basis.

Please note that what we have is largely unacceptable as it functions

poorly and negates several stakeholder groups.

Please seek less expensive alternatives that can be done. The residents of our community are in need of something, and we are not asking for, nor do we want a comprehensive overhaul of our streets.

We are merely looking for a safe, reliable place to walk, run, bike and commute by foot.

Jay Etnier  
Multnomah

*Editor's Note: Due to space limitations, what appears above is an excerpt from a longer letter regarding streets in Southwest Portland. The Post welcomes reader response.*

### COMMUNITY LIFE

By Don Snedecor  
The Southwest Portland Post

**4 MAC Open House is a fun, free community event**, celebrating the arts and artists at Multnomah Arts Center, 7688 SW Capitol Hwy. Event happens Friday, November 4, 5:00 to 8:30 p.m. and includes gallery reception, art demos and hands-on activities, and faculty music and dance recital. For more information visit [www.MultnomahArtsCenter.org](http://www.MultnomahArtsCenter.org) or call 503-823-2787.

**Mystery/Ghost Walk in Multnomah Village** takes place on Friday, November 4, at 7:00 p.m. Meet at the Key Bank parking lot, SW 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue at Troy Street. Social time/ hot drinks planned for the end of the walk. Sponsored by the Multnomah Historical Association.

Check out [www.multnomahhistorical.com](http://www.multnomahhistorical.com) for more information.

**11 Discover easy ways to save energy** at home at a free workshop in South Waterfront. Pre-register for the workshop ([energy-trust.org/events](http://energy-trust.org/events) or 1-866-368-7878) and receive an Energy Saver kit including light bulbs, showerhead, faucet aerators and more! It's Tuesday, November 11, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Umpqua Bank, 3606 SW Bond Ave.

**12 Second Saturday Family Dance** is Saturday, November 12. Fun dancing for kids and families with live music and Caroline Oakley calling! Fulton Community Center, 68 SW Miles St, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. \$6/adults, \$5/kids, \$20/family max. For more information call 503-775-6537.

The draft Portland Plan, which will set public policy for public activities and private development, is now available at [www.pdxplan.com](http://www.pdxplan.com).

The Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission will hear public testimony on the draft at hearings on November 8 at Jefferson High School, 5210 N. Kerby Ave.; November 15 at Parkrose High School, 20003 N.E. Shaver St.; and November 29 at the 1900 S.W. Fourth Ave. building downtown. All three hearings will be 5:30 to 9:00 p.m.

The public can also submit written testimony through November 30 via e-mail at [psc@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:psc@portlandoregon.gov), or via U.S. mail to PSC, 1900 S.W. Fourth Ave., Portland, Ore. 97201-5380. In both cases, please include the subject line Portland Plan Testimony in the address.

Lee Perlman contributed to this calendar.

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