

# Merkley Brings Biden to Northeast Portland

## Visit follows campaign rally with vice president

Jeff Merkley got a boost in his reelection campaign when Vice President Joe Biden came to town last week and they made a stop at a popular ice cream shop on Northeast Alberta Street that's already received plenty of celebrity attention from the likes of Oprah, Martha Stewart, ABC's "The Chew", and The Wall Street Journal, to name a few.

Merkley and Biden took off from the Oregon Convention Center around 4:20 p.m. Thursday after Biden gave a rousing speech in support of the Democrat's race against Republican challenger Monica Wehby.

They drove through North Williams Avenue to Alberta Street. The motorcade stopped a lot of traffic, including bike traffic, but it also caused dozens of locals to stumble out of shops with their cell phones in hand ready to record the excitement.

"Jeff [Merkley] has been bragging about this place for the last 20 minutes," Biden said as he entered Salt n' Straw's Alberta location.

Biden being a chocolate fan, elected a scoop of Chocolate Woodblock and a scoop of Double-Fold Vanilla, two unique Salt n' Straw flavors.

Merkley's first choice, Marionberry, was out of season, but he quickly settled on another favorite, Stumptown Coffee and Bourbon.

"He seemed quite at home," owner Katie Malek said after the

vice president left. "I don't know if he's done this before."

Malek explains she only had a 10 minute notice that the two unique customers were headed her way that afternoon. The secret service blocked her from entering until she convinced them she was in fact the owner.

Afterwards both Biden and Merkley entertained local customers and tried out ice cream samples, until about after 5 p.m., when both men took to their motorcade and headed to the airport.



U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley takes Vice President Joe Biden to Northeast Alberta Street on Thursday for ice cream at Salt n' Straw during a campaign visit Biden made to help the Portland Democrat's re-election campaign.



## Family Mourns Father, Grandfather

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been hit - and not even realizing who was calling. She rushed to the scene, but Hill was dead by the time she arrived.

"That's my big brother out there, he lived with me the last 10 years," she told local reporters. "I already miss him so much."

Family and friends brought forth balloons, dozens of candles and flowers to create a makeshift memorial near the crash site.

It is unclear what caused the accident, and drug tests run on the driver show that he was sober.

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