



Southeast Uplift  
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2024 February 16th

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
United States Senate  
221 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jeff Merkley  
United States Senate  
313 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**Re: Support for the City of Portland's Congressional funding request for the Brentwood-Darlington Crossroads Safety Project**

Dear Senator Wyden and Senator Merkley,

The Southeast Uplift Neighborhood Coalition strongly supports the Portland Bureau of Transportation's Brentwood-Darlington Crossroads Safety Project. This project will improve safety at the intersection of SE Flavel Street and SE 72<sup>nd</sup> Avenue in Portland, Oregon. This location feels dark and unsafe for our community. The high number of crashes, particularly at night, and proximity to more than 250 students and staff accessing Whitman Elementary makes this a priority for our organization.

Southeast Uplift collaborates with the SE Portland community to build informed, inclusive, and participatory neighborhoods that support our social and ecological well-being. The Brentwood-Darlington neighborhood is a unique part of our city and community. Most of the area was annexed by Portland in the 1980's and is lacking much of the basic infrastructure that allows people to move around safely. This funding would improve safety for all roadway users and help address historic inequities. This funding will also significantly improve access to Whitman Elementary, a Title 1 school, which is just one block away. Additionally, the project will update corner ramps to current ADA standards and improve paving to create accessible crossings. Safety and accessibility improvements at this location will greatly benefit our community and help our neighborhood thrive.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and for supporting this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Dave Weaver'.

Dave Weaver  
Board President  
SE Uplift, Portland, Oregon

***Uplifting community advocacy since 1968.***

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