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77 cars parked at Wildwood and Leif Erikson trailheads Jan 1, 2018, 2:45PM

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Hi Kevin,

On January 1 starting around 2:45 PM (not peak usage, which is around noon), I photographed 77 cars parked at the Wildwood and Leif Erikson trailheads in Forest Park. 25 were around the Wildwood trailhead (6 parked outside of the lots, on the road shoulder), 52 around the Leif trailhead (16 parked outside the parking lots, along the road shoulder). Cars parked on the shoulder outside the lots had various amounts of shoulder to park on, some were very close to the fog line, which is dangerous for all concerned. Bikes are allowed on Leif Erikson, but not on Wildwood. Firelane 10 (bikes also allowed) also has a trailhead above the Leif Erikson lots.

The photo files are large (4 to 5.5 Mb each), so I'm not sending them all with this email, just one showing 22 cars parked below the Leif Erikson trailhead on January 14 at around 3:35PM (some in a lot, some on both shoulders). The photo only shows cars on the shoulder below the trailhead (there were more cars on the shoulder above the trailhead).

There were very similar numbers of cars parked at those trailheads on January 14th at roughly 3:30PM. I have photos from that day as well. There were another 17 cars parked on the shoulder of Skyline near the Firelane 15 trailhead (bikes are allowed on Firelane 15). There is no parking lot there. There were another 9 cars parked near the end of the Wildwood Trail at Newberry Road (officially that road is closed, the only access is from Skyline). There is no parking lot there, there is only limited parking on the road shoulder, and only pedestrian use is allowed on the Wildwood Trail.

This last weekend (February 4) there was a larger number of cars parked on the shoulders of Germantown around these trailheads, but I didn't have time to count them or take photos.

According to Google Maps, it is about 9 miles and 12 minutes of driving time from the intersection of Hwy 30 and NW Kitteridge to the north end of McNamee Road. It shows roughly 4.4 miles and 8 minutes of driving time from Hwy 30 and NW Kitteridge to the Leif Erikson trailhead on Germantown Road. If you've put your bike on your car, 4 minutes isn't much additional drive time to discourage folks looking for a great off-road cycling experience.

My concern is that Metro's proposed parking lot won't accommodate the likely number of visitors arriving by car, given the proposed number of trail miles and inclusion of a type of trail (single track) for off-road cycling that is supposed to be in high demand and limited supply in the Portland area. Which means that people will inevitably park on the shoulder of McNamee Road, which will be dangerous. Metro designed the trail system for Burlington Creek specifically to provide opportunities for longer duration bike rides, so it is unlikely that parking spaces will turn over frequently (as they might at a site with only a half mile trail, for example).

Let me know if you have questions.

Thanks,

Exhibit D.4



Cars parked west side Gtown at Leif 011418.JPG
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