



Improving Lives Through Bicycling

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January 23, 2017

Lindsey Ozbolt, Associate Planner

Sammamish City Hall

801 228th Avenue, SE

Sammamish, WA 98075

**RE: Cascade Bicycle Club's comments regarding the Shoreline Substantial Development Permit (SSDP) for the East Lake Sammamish Trail Segment 2B**

Dear Lindsey,

I'm writing on behalf of Cascade Bicycle Club's (Cascade) over 17,000 members – over 1,200 of whom live in Sammamish, Issaquah or Redmond – to express strong support for completing the East Lake Sammamish Trail (ELST). With this permit for trail segment 2B, the City of Sammamish and King County will be one step closer to completing design for the final link in a 44-mile regional trail network that extends from Puget Sound all the way to the foothills of the Cascades.

When paved, the trail will bring economic and health benefits, as well as transportation and recreation choices to residents of Sammamish and the region. It will be designed for people of all ages and abilities, whether walking with friends or commuting to work or enjoying views of lake Sammamish. It will complete the connection between Issaquah, Sammamish and Redmond and tie into the regional trail network that truly goes from the mountains to sound.

This is an opportunity to create a safe, comfortable, connected trail that works for all users. Cascade supports a trail that meets AASHTO design standards. It should be at a minimum a 12' wide paved surface, with at least 2' gravel shoulders and a 1' clear zone on each side of the trail. The AASHTO Guide to Bicycle Facilities, 4th Edition specifically calls out that wider pathways (greater than 11') are advisable when significant use by children is expected, and for paths that serve a high percentage of pedestrians amongst other uses.

At crossings, priority should be assigned to the trail, due to generally higher volumes of use than the driveways and roadways, with yield or stop controls applied to the roadway approaches as recommended in the AASHTO Guide to Bicycle Facilities, 4th Edition. Cascade also recommends using the calculation in the King County *ELST Sight Distance Triangles Memorandum from March 2014*, to ensure that all crossings of driveways are consistent and safe for all users along both approaches. The design speed of 20mph outlined in the memo is in line with AASHTO guidance and improves safety.

A well-designed trail, built to national standards, will uphold the goals of the Shoreline Master Program by protecting our shoreline areas and providing for public enjoyment. We thank the City for your leadership on this important project that will greatly benefit everyone in our community and region, and I sincerely hope you will support the SSDP2016-00415 permit for the East Lake Sammamish Trail Segment 2B.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Aken". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jeff" being more prominent than the last name "Aken".

Jeff Aken  
Regional Planning Director  
Cascade Bicycle Club

CC:  
Lyman Howard, Sammamish City Manager  
Members of Sammamish City Council  
Gina Auld, KCDNRP