

[EXTERNAL] Support a Seamless Downtown Waterfront Trail

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To: Commission-Public-Records <commission-public-records@portseattle.org>

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Dear Port of Seattle Commissioners,

Please support a seamless and safe downtown waterfront trail!

With the still-under-construction waterfront trail ending at Pier 62 next to the Aquarium, and the Elliot Bay Trail not starting until the Sculpture Park, we are left with **a dangerous and unpleasant gap** that must be closed. Thousands of people walking, biking, rolling, running, and scooting will be attempting to connect these two trails every day.

Thankfully, SDOT is working to build a trail to close this gap. But last year the Port of Seattle asked SDOT to detour everyone using the future trail across the busy Alaskan Way roadway, twice, just to continue onto the rest of the trail. This is not an acceptable solution.

We must create a direct and safe waterfront trail on the water-side of the street that provides a convenient, safe, and intuitive experience for everyone. If necessary, exceptions could be made for *temporary and short* detours during heavy cruise ship loading and unloading times. As a cyclist who commutes along Alaskan Way, having cyclists crossing the street twice will decrease efficiency, add to commute times, and make it more likely that bikes will merge with cars for these few blocks (which is frustrating and dangerous for everybody).

By supporting a seamless trail connection, the Port of Seattle would improve safety, reduce emissions, increase healthy physical activity, and create a legacy we can all be proud of. Please support a seamless connection.

Thank you.

Christine Larson

Seattle resident and bicycle commuter