



## OVERLOOK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (OKNA)

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2209 North Schofield Street  
Portland, Oregon 97217

Commissioner Hardesty and Director Chris Warner,

The Overlook neighborhood was saddened to learn of the tragic accident on N Going St. that occurred 11/6, resulting in one woman's death and another man being severely injured.

Per Portland Police Bureau's most recent statement:

"This is the **55th** traffic fatality in Portland this year. Of those, **22 cases involve pedestrians**. That ties 2020 and 2017 for pedestrian-involved fatal crashes. If we get one more, it would be a record since 1972, nearly 50 years ago, when there were 30 pedestrian fatalities in the City of Portland."

It comes with even more weight in our hearts that this record-tying mark happened in the middle of our neighborhood early Friday morning on N Going St below N Interstate Ave.

The victim was Laurie Lawyer, a Portland resident and nearby neighbor who lived in the Woodlawn neighborhood. She is not a statistic, she was a neighbor, daughter, and Portlander who did not need to die.

We urge both of you to take immediate steps to address the epidemic of traffic fatalities on PBOT's streets. Overlook is not alone in neighborhoods that have seen too much bloodshed due to the dangerous roads and behaviors of drivers.

**The OKNA and undersigned organizations urge that PBOT do these immediate actions to limit traffic fatalities throughout the City:**

1. Place message boards at each location of traffic fatalities immediately after they happen warning all roadway users of the dangers this roadway poses
2. Vastly hasten the implementation of the Fixed Speed Safety Camera network. Commit to include all high crash corridors and intersections by the end of 2022.
3. Require PBOT and PPB analyze and respond to each fatality with immediate implementation of temporary design changes to address any dangerous road conditions found at cause.

**To address the safety issues at N Going and Interstate specifically, we ask:**

1. Lower the speed limit of N Going St from 40 MPH to 30 MPH. This corridor was designed as an expressway to prioritize freight. As it stands, today it is a vital thoroughfare for more than freight, but also for people walking, people riding bicycles and scooters, and many other vulnerable road users in the heart of Overlook.



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2. Provide signage to mitigate speeding WB vehicles coming from the I-5 off-ramp to N Going St.
3. Review and place the intersection of N Going St and N Interstate Ave on the city's high crash network. This intersection was historically designed to favor freight movement. However in more recent years, it has grown to become a high-density mixed-use center with many more vulnerable road users relying on this intersection. As it currently exists, it does not serve Overlook and should be reviewed for redesign in the city's long-range framework.
4. Install more street lighting on N Going St, for both the roadway and the multi-use path. If lack of lighting was responsible for what happened (and not the driver), it should be immediately corrected.
5. Install speed-reduction traffic calming measures for the I-5 off ramp and westbound N Going St corridor. Neighbors can agree that not enough is done to slow traffic as it exits I-5 and heads along the westbound/downhill portion of N Going St to Swan Island.

The Overlook Neighborhood Association is concerned that without proper action by PBOT, a similar accident could happen again. We would welcome the opportunity to sit, ride, or walk with your team to review and provide input into these and other possible remediations.

***This letter as printed has been approved by the Overlook Neighborhood 11/16/2021.***



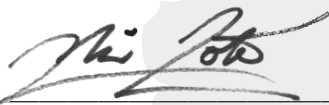
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