SE Uplift
NEIGHBORHOOD COALITION

Southeast Uplift
3534 SE Main St.
Portland, OR 97214
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seuplift.org

February 13, 2026

Southeast Uplift Neighborhood Coalition
Nanci Champlin, Executive Director
Matchu Wiliams, Neighborhood Planning Program Manager

Re: SE Uplift Memo in Support for More (Full) BAT Lanes on 82nd Avenue

On December 1, 2025 the Southeast Uplift Neighborhood Coalition issued **support for More (Full) BAT Lanes in the 82nd Ave Transit Project** as recommended by the Land Use & Transportation Committee.

Southeast Uplift is the district coalition office for Portland's District 3. Our mission is "to collaborate with the SE Portland community to build informed, inclusive, and participatory neighborhoods that support our social and ecological well-being." Our values emphasize relationship-building, grassroots democracy, and community involvement, recognizing that organized neighbors shape the future of their communities and that everyone has a role in determining the character and future of our city through bottom-up participation.

In keeping with this mission and values framework, SE Uplift supports transportation investments that expand access, improve safety, bolster community resilience, and align with long-term equitable development across District 3.

District 3 encompasses 6.2 of the 7+ miles being evaluated for TriMet's 82nd Avenue Transit Project. Our Board includes representation from all 19 neighborhoods, business associations, and community-based organizations serving more than 167,000 residents. After months of discussion, the SE Uplift Board of Directors formally expresses support for **More (Full) Business Access and Transit (BAT) Lanes** on 82nd Avenue.

This position reflects our alignment with community priorities, our mission-driven commitment to multimodal accessibility, and the significant regional investments underway along the corridor. Community surveys confirm broad support for 82nd Ave Transit Project and related investments.

58.8% of District 3 Community Priorities Survey respondents identified improving transit access as a high priority, and **more than half** ranked transit frequency improvements as a high priority. Enhanced Transit Lanes such as BAT Lanes are a measurable, evidence-backed way to reduce delay, increase reliability, and provide equitable access to opportunities along the corridor.

Improving speed and reliability is essential for residents traveling to work, school, medical appointments, cultural centers, and local businesses. Line 72 has the highest ridership in the transit network and those numbers are projected to grow over the next 20 years.

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SE Uplift's mission emphasizes the importance of building *informed, inclusive, participatory neighborhoods* that support community wellbeing. Expanding BAT Lanes ensures residents of all ages and incomes can reliably reach destinations, by responding to clear resident priorities for improved transit access and frequency the project supports community involvement and development, by supporting mode shift and reducing vehicle emissions for every person electing to take transit the project supports climate goals, and aligns with climate-responsive transportation strategies.

82nd Avenue is undergoing significant long-term investments such as with the establishment of the **82nd Avenue Tax Increment Financing District** to citywide commitments around climate, housing production, small business vitality, safe streets thanks to Building a Better 82nd Project, and development of the civic corridor and neighborhood centers along the route. Supporting More (Full) BAT Lanes helps make the transportation infrastructure aligned with these commitments.

With the TIF District anticipated to generate **hundreds to thousands of new housing units** over the next two decades, reliable high-capacity transit is necessary to meet increased demand and keep 82nd Ave accessible for current and future residents. Families, youth, retirees, and workers heavily rely on Line 72. The demand for fast, frequent, and predictable transit will continue to grow as additional housing is added. Improving reliability now through expanded BAT Lanes is a necessary step to long-term corridor mobility.

We trust that Trimet will work closely with its partner agencies to bridge gaps in funding without compromising the safety, reliability, and accessibility of transit service on **82nd Ave with More BAT Lanes**.

Respectfully,

Matchu Williams, SE Uplift Neighborhood Planning Program Manager

By the authority of Nanci Champlin, Southeast Uplift Executive Director on behalf of the Board of Directors as decided December 1st, 2025.