

## Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

### AGENDA:

**Date:** August 5, 2020  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Virtual via Cisco Webex  
**Co-Chairs:** Emily Paine and Patrick Taylor  
**Recorder:** Simon Blenski, SDOT SBAB Liaison

### Minutes Distribution List:

See Attachment A

### Members Present:

	Present ✓	Absent ✗
<b>Pierre Brunelle</b>	✓	
<b>Gunner Colleen, Get Engaged Member</b>	✓	
<b>Andrew Dannenberg</b>	✓	
<b>Benjamin Estes</b>	✓	
<b>Kashina Groves</b>	✓	
<b>Meredith Hall</b>	✓	
<b>Connor Inslee</b>	✓	
<b>Andrea Lai, Secretary</b>	✓	
<b>Alexander Lew</b>	✓	
<b>Emily Paine, Co-Chair</b>	✓	
<b>Patrick Taylor, Co-Chair</b>	✓	
<b>Sarah Udelhofen</b>	✓	

### Guests:

- Adonis Ducksworth, SDOT
- Brock Howell, Bicycle Security Advisors
- Bryant Mason, Ballard-Fremont Greenways
- Ching Chan, SDOT
- Clara Cantor, Seattle Neighborhood Greenways
- Corey Ford, Ballard-Fremont Greenways
- Jakob Ward, Toole Design Group
- Jeff Sangillo, CDM Smith
- Kay Yesuwan, SDOT
- Madison Linkenmeyer, SDOT
- Margaret McCauley, School Traffic Safety Committee
- Michael Bjork, CDM Smith

### MEETING CALL TO ORDER

- Co-Chair Emily Paine called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

### INTRODUCTIONS

- See above

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Margaret McCauley: Hi, I'm with the School Traffic Safety Committee. Our committee is looking to coordinate with SBAB on overlapping issues.

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

##### Eastlake PBL

Presenters: Ching Chan and Adonis Ducksworth, SDOT

Presentation: See attached

Time: 6:12pm

##### Discussion and Q&A:

- Meredith: Are there improvements at the I-5 off-ramp on the south end? How will people access the start of the northbound bike lane?
  - Andy: Yes, that is a confusing area.
  - Sarah: For context the block between John St and Thomas St is right by the REI.
- Alex: Layover is also used by Sound Transit and Community Transit. Where will those buses go?
  - Ching: The layover will be a combination of on-street spaces between Mercer St and John St and off-street spaces between Mercer St and Roy St.
- Andy: Buses need to cross the bike lane to access the layover zone. There probably won't be high volumes of buses, but how will buses and bikes interact?
  - Alex: Agree, queued buses on the street could create blind corners. Not sure if the on-street spaces can be set back.
- Sarah: What side will the bike lane be on?
  - Adonis: On the west side, the bike lane will be adjacent to the curb and the parking will be outside the bike lane next to the travel lane. The same configuration will be on the east side except the parking lane will be a bus layover space.
  - Ching: The one exception is on the east side between Mercer St and Roy St where there is the shared use path.
- Alex: How wide is the shared use path?
- Meredith: How will eastbound bikes coming from Thomas St and Harrison St access the northbound bike lane on Eastlake Ave E?
- Patrick: Philosophically, how does SDOT view this project from a network perspective? The RapidRide J Line project includes PBLs on Eastlake Ave N north of here. Is this PBL project the primary route into downtown? Or would the primary route continue on Fairview Ave N? If this is the main route, it will be important to resolve the southern end connection.
  - Adonis: This project will stop short of the Denny/Stewart intersection. A connection will be made at some point.
  - Sarah: The Bicycle Master Plan (BMP) includes a PBL continuing on Fairview Ave N. The Fairview Bridge will also include a 2-way PBL.

- Meredith: We are pretty familiar with the BMP Implementation Plan and I didn't realize that this was a project. Happy that there are improvements here, but we should consider other priorities in the city.
  - Adonis: This project was initiated by the King County Metro layover project. SDOT learned that Metro was going to make improvements to the street so we seized the opportunity to implement the BMP.
- Meredith: We recently got a presentation on Thomas St through South Lake Union. It will be important to make that connection.
  - Ching: Thomas St is on pause due to budget reductions, but we hope to continue through 30% design.
- Ching: Thanks for all your feedback. I will work with Simon to follow up and get responses to your questions.

### Reconnect West Seattle

Presenters: Madison Linkenmeyer and Adonis Ducksworth, SDOT

Presentation: See attached

Time: 6:42 pm

### Discussion and Q&A:

- Meredith: The number of bike trips seems really low.
  - Madison: It's 60 bikes per hour, not per day.
- Kashina: Are there proposals from community organizations for non-design solutions or out-of-the-box solutions such as e-bike incentives?
  - Madison: Yes, bike share and other programmatic ideas are part of the overall Mobility Action Plan.
  - Adonis: We have also heard from groups like West Seattle Bike Connections that weather is a big barrier to biking. Encouragement ideas like a "ride in the rain day" have been proposed.
- Meredith: There has been some outreach in South Park and to Duwamish Valley Safe Streets. I submitted some questions, but have not heard back. While I want people to get people to bike, the reality is that South Park will continue to see more traffic while the bridge is closed. Getting more people to bike is good, but it is a drop in the bucket. It is important to think about traffic calming and reducing traffic as much as making bike improvements. And when I bike on West Marginal Way, I am impacted by idling trucks. Would like to see air quality monitors added. I also heard that most ideas in the survey were existing projects and there was not much room for new ideas.
  - Adonis – All ideas included in the survey were from community.
- Ben: I ride the bus across the low bridge and it seems like a lot of people are not following the rules. Has there been any data about the Low Bridge?
  - Madison: There are restrictions on the Low Bridge. When SPD is not enforcing, we see higher levels of traffic that start to approach levels where emergency response times would be impacted. Long term, the goal is to use automated enforcement that could recognize buses and license plates.
  - Adonis: *Shared graph of Low Bridge traffic throughout the day.*
- Meredith: That is really compelling data. Has SDOT done any communication campaigns to show people that if they don't follow the rules, they are impacting emergency responders?

- Adonis: We have done a number of blog posts and communications. However, there's just a lot of people who want to use the Low Bridge. It's hard because there are a lot of people with medical conditions or businesses that relied on the Low Bridge and request to use it. Unfortunately, we have this policy and have to say no. However, we are monitoring and there is always room for improvement. We have published alternate detour routes other than South Park, but it's tough because we do not just want to send more traffic through other cities.

#### Route 40 Transit Plus Multimodal Corridor

Presenters: Kay Yesuwan, SDOT, Jeff Sangillo, CDM Smith, and Mike Bjork, CDM Smith

Presentation: See attached

Time: 7:12 pm

#### Discussion and Q&A:

- Sarah: There is a lot of detail in the concepts and I look forward to reviewing them. How will those draft concepts be shared more widely with the community?
  - Kay: With COVID-19, we have doing mostly virtual outreach. People have been emailing our inbox with feedback. We are also working with our community outreach team to share project information. We did receive a lot of ideas from the Ballard-Fremont Greenways group and are considering those ideas now.
- Patrick: There are a lot of northbound bikes north of the Fremont Bridge, but there is not PBL there.
  - Mike: There are a lot of people coming of the bridge as well as 4 major bus routes. To allow that transit and bike traffic to operate we have a bus/bike only lane northbound between N 34<sup>th</sup> St and N 35<sup>th</sup> St. Northbound right turns will also be prohibited at N 35<sup>th</sup> St. We are looking at adding a northbound bike box and lead bike signal phase at N 34<sup>th</sup> St to allow bikes to get ahead of bus traffic. We are also considering a shared bus stop design like on NE 65<sup>th</sup> St.

#### Fremont Bridge Pilot Proposal

Presenters: Bryant Mason, Ballard-Fremont Greenways

Presentation: See link to proposal below

Time: 7:38 pm

- Bryant Mason presented the proposal from Ballard-Fremont Greenways for an emergency bike lane on the Fremont Bridge:
  - [A short summary of the Fremont Bridge bike lane proposal](#)
  - [A detailed Safe Healthy Bridges assessment](#) covering both the Fremont and Ballard Bridges
- Ballard-Fremont Greenways is looking for SBAB support on the proposal, asking SDOT to consider building this concept. The Montlake and Ballard bridges have issues, too but the Fremont Bridge is the best location to pilot an emergency bike lane.

#### Discussion and Q&A:

- Emily: The bridge has metal grating. Would you do anything to improve that for bikes?

- Bryant: SDOT has made improvements to the metal grating on the University Bridge, so we hope they can do a similar treatment here.
- Alex: Overall, I support this, but I'm curious what type of barrier would be used? The 2-way PBL would be next to opposing traffic, which can be stressful.
  - Bryant: Agree we would need to have an adequate barrier. Speeds are generally low on the Fremont Bridge, so it should be a pretty calm environment compared to other locations like the Ballard Bridge.
- Patrick: You are asking SBAB is a letter of support, correct?
  - Bryant: Yes.
- Kashina: Have you talked to the Pedestrian Advisory Board yet? They would probably support this because they don't want bikes on the sidewalk.
  - Bryant: Not yet. SBAB is our first meeting.
- Meredith: I struggle with this proposal. Tonight, we had two presentations about the north end and one presentation about the south end that really just highlighted a problem with no clear solution. We are hearing from people who have the time to approach us. Is there a way that we could support this, but also do something on the South End?
  - Patrick: As a fellow Southsider I hear you. Could we support this concept, but ask SDOT to apply this design to other bridges, too? I can reach out to Rainier Valley Safe Streets and Beacon Hill Safe Streets to understand their priorities.
- Kashina: The reason this bridge is an issue is because it is a pinch point. Could we also highlight other pinch points in the city?
  - Sarah: That is a good idea. I hope that the Fremont Bridge concept can be inspiration for other locations. Happy to draft letter as a start.
  - Ben: I agree that this project is great and should be a model for other locations. There are certainly other pinch points that don't get as much attention like S Albro PI over I-5.
- Patrick: Sarah volunteered to draft a letter. Are we ok to approve in concept now or wait until September?
  - Alex: Yes, let's approve now since summer is ending.
- Alex: Motioned to approve letter in concept.
  - Kashina: Second.
  - All members approved motion in concept.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Simon: Received two emails in the SBAB inbox (will share emails after this meeting)
  - Michael Foster (provided by email on 6/8/20) 40th Street hillclimb 2040: Make ONE-WAY the "upper" leg of 40th starting from Burke Gilman at UW heading West from 7th to Latona. That makes room for a bike lane without losing ANY street parking. From Latona make a one-lane westbound bike lane to climb the hill for 3 blocks. That takes riders safely uphill into Wallingford where they can access backstreets on 41st or Sunnyside. That costs only 1 block of street parking on one side of 40th.
  - Samantha Everett (provided by email on 6/11/20) Bike lane request for Marine View Drive SW-West Seattle: Dear Seattle Bike Board, I would like to make a request that a bike lane be put in on Marine View Drive from the intersection of SW Wildwood Place and 45th Ave SW (near Endolyne Joes restaurant). 45th Ave

SW turns into Marine View Drive SW. There is a tiny shoulder now. Cars often rev up and race past bicyclists like me and it can be quite scary. I don't even think there is a place for pedestrians to safely walk up and down that hill. Even something as simple as a "slow down for bikes" sign, a reduced speed limit, or maybe even a brighter white lane marker or something to get cars from getting so close to bikes on that road? It doesn't have to be a green lane with biking logos. I see quite a few bikers on the hill so know it is a well-traveled road. Thank you for your consideration. Samantha Everett, West Seattle, 206-375-2744.

## **BOARD BUSINESS**

- Approval of meeting minutes: July 1, 2020
  - Patrick: Motioned to approve.
    - Emily: Second.
    - All: Approved.
- POAG updates
  - Alex: At the last meeting we discussed signal policy, cycle lengths, and how long certain phases should be. We have not got into anything meaningful yet. Hope to have a better sense for where things are headed at the next meeting.
- School Traffic Safety Committee coordination
  - Meredith: Ben and I attended their meeting last month. There is interest in filling the gap between school improvements and street improvements. The Committee presented a list of cascading issues with the street improvement plan process. The BMP has lines on the map, but does not address site-specific issues. Need to think about how we can be aware of those issues and how we can think about our work more holistically.
    - Emily: There is talk about updating the BMP at some point so we could include better language about schools with that update.
  - Emily: Is there is a specific ask from the Committee at this time?
    - Meredith: No, but I will keep tracking and let SBAB know if there is anything.
- Remote meeting access letter
  - Patrick: This is a letter I drafted with other boards that would allow virtual meeting options to continue after the pandemic. This would allow us to improve access and options for board members and community to participate.
  - Meredith: Would we alternate every other month between in-person and virtual?
    - Patrick: No, this letter asked for in-person and virtual options to be provided at every meeting, every month.
    - Andy: Does it specify video as the virtual format? The city will need better equipment.
    - Meredith: I'd like to review the letter before approving.
    - Emily: Let's come back to this in September.
- Diversity work group and recruitment
  - Simon: I'm working with the Mayor's Office and Council Member Pedersen's office, we have drafted this recruitment schedule for your review:
    - Draft schedule:

- August: Work with diversity subgroup to identify diversity outcomes and related recruitment strategies
  - September: Roll out recruitment and accept applications
  - October: Review applications and conduct interviews
  - November/December: Appointments
- Under this schedule, the 6 members seeking reappointment can stay on as official members until further notice. Ideally appointments and reappointments would occur all at once after recruitment is complete.
- Meredith: When do we get a new get engaged member?
  - Simon: Normally in September, but the process is delayed this year by a couple months.
- Patrick: Are there any members willing to help think about recruitment?
  - Meredith: I am very interested and have started to talk with past members of color to understand their experience on SBAB.
  - Kashina: I am interested in participating. I had been meaning to pull the diversity subgroup together.
  - Gunner: I am interested.
  - Patrick: I am interested, too
- Patrick: What do people I think of the draft schedule?
  - Kashina: I think there needs to be flexibility in changing how SDOT thinks about the recruitment process. It might not make everyone's lives easier.
  - Emily: Agree, there is general skepticism that the recruitment approach will change. We have had goals in the past to increase diversity, but not much has changed.
  - Meredith: I think we need to take it upon ourselves and leverage our own networks, such as Seattle Neighborhood Greenways and Cascade. SDOT has limited capacity and that is a systemic issue.
  - Emily: Ok, the diversity subgroup will meet and continue discussing.
- Gunner: Have folks had a chance to review my letter?
  - Patrick: Thanks for reminding us. Yes, I am in favor.
  - Alex: I am working with Clara and Seattle Neighborhood Greenways on how to get armed enforcement out of public spaces in the context of traffic safety. Such a big issue to unpack. We may have more to report later on have more to report.
  - Emily: Like that the letter echo's the SPAB letter.
  - Connor: I think there is a lot to do, but I'm reluctant to say we support defunding SPD. Not sure if this is the right approach.
    - Kashina: Do you have an alternative?
    - Meredith: At the end of the letter, we do discuss where that money can be reallocated.
    - Sarah: We can more about talk about where funds could go and tie better to active transportation.
    - Emily: Do we need a simple majority to pass a motion?
      - Simon: Yes, just a simple majority.
  - Kashina: The letter needs some clean up.
    - Andy: I would like to see cleaned up version before voting.

- Gunner: I can clean it up and send out.
  - Emily: Could we wait until September to vote?
    - Sarah: Our letter is saying a lot of the same things as other groups. It's probably good to vote now in concept.
  - Emily: Motion to approve letter in concept.
    - Alex: Second.
    - Motion passed: 8 favor, 1 oppose, 1 abstain
- Announcements
  - Patrick: Emily and I are the current co-chairs. The intent of the co-chair model is that every year one person rotates out and a new member can serve as a co-chair. If anyone is interested, let us know.
    - Emily: This year, I would be rotating out and you would work with Patrick over the next year.
  - Patrick: As it was alluded to earlier, this is Gunner's last meeting on SBAB. We wanted to thank Gunner for serving and all his work to push us on topics like diversity.
    - Gunner: Thanks everyone! I'll be moving on to pursue a Master's in Public Health at Columbia.

#### **MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.



## **ATTACHMENT A**

### **Meeting Minutes Distribution List:**

- Jenny Durkan, Mayor, City of Seattle
- Brian Hawksford, Office of the Mayor
- Edie Gilliss, Office of the Mayor
- Transportation and Utilities Members
  - City Councilmember Alex Pedersen, Chair
  - City Councilmember Dan Strauss, Vice-Chair
  - City Councilmember Lorena Gonzalez
  - City Councilmember Lisa Herbold
  - City Councilmember Tammy Morales
  - City Councilmember Debra Jaurez
- Sam Zimbabwe, Director, SDOT
- Dongho Chang, City Traffic Engineer, SDOT
- Monica DeWald, Bike Master Plan and Neighborhood Street Fund Manager, SDOT
- Serena Lehman, Senior Transportation Planner, SDOT
- Simon Blenski, SBAB Liaison, SDOT
- Sam Assefa, Director, Office of Planning and Development (OPCD)
- Kathy Nyland, Director, Department of Neighborhoods (DoN)
- Meeting Presenters
- SBAB Members
- Individual Meeting Attendees