

## Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date: December 7, 2022  
Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Location: City Hall Room 370 and Virtual via Microsoft Teams  
SBAB Chair: Pete Bryan (interim)  
Recorders: Simon Blenski, SDOT

### Bicycle Advisory Board Members Present:

Seat	Members	Present	Absent
1	Yasir Alfarag	✓	X
2	Max Green		X
3	Jose Nino	✓	
4	Andrea Lai, Secretary	✓	
5	Ty Bottorff	✓	
6	Doug Midgen	✓	
7	Donna McBain Evans	✓	
8	Christine Stawitz	✓	
9	Quinn Kelly	✓	
10	Peter Bryan	✓	
11	Joseph Roberts	✓	
12	Vacant, Get Engaged Member		X

**Meeting Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by interim SBAB Chair Pete Bryan

### Public Comment:

- Allen Gown: I'm a long-time bike commuter and live on Capitol Hill. I'm hoping the city can do something about the lack of bike lanes connecting to Capitol Hill, particularly on 10<sup>th</sup> Ave and 12<sup>th</sup> Ave.

### Presentations:

#### Beacon Hill Bike Route

Hallie O'Brien, SDOT

- Presentation attached
- Discussion:
  - Joseph: At the light rail station, why is the bike lane 4.5' on the one side? There is a lot of space, including a 17'-wide transit stop. Why can't both bike lanes be 5'?
  - Hallie: I can check with our design team to see if we can widen the bike lane.
  - Christine: Can you explain the difference between the transit stop design options?
  - Hallie: The shared bus stop design would have the PBL go in front of the bus shelter like the design on NE 65<sup>th</sup> St or near the Roosevelt light rail station. The

other option goes behind the bus shelter, which is a more common design. The main difference is where bikes and pedestrians are interacting.

- Joseph: The Jose Rizal Bridge currently has two one-way bikes. If you have the two-way bike lane on Golf Dr S or 15<sup>th</sup> Ave S, will you change the Jose Rizal Bridge design or will you transition before the bridge?
  - Hallie: There would be a crossing at S Charles St before the bridge, but we could look at changing the bridge to a two-way bike lane.
- Pete: I'm assuming that the facility type will be a consistent one-way or two-way bike lane along Golf Dr S and 15<sup>th</sup> Ave S. It wouldn't change halfway, correct?
  - Hallie: Yes.
- Pete: Will there be bike signals at all the transition points?
  - Hallie: We do not have those details yet but will share more after 30% design.
- Christine: What is the design guidance for selecting a one-way bike lane versus two-way bike lane?
  - Hallie: There is a big hill on 15<sup>th</sup> Ave S, so a one-way is good at managing differences in speeds. With a two-way you have more overall space 10' versus 5', which could be an issue at pinch points since the one-way would only be 4.5' wide. A two-way has more elbow room but requires more considerations at intersections and transition points. We have a survey open now, so we also want your feedback on what option you prefer.
- Joseph: I generally do not like two-way bike lanes, but I will admit that Broadway is comfortable. However, other locations in downtown have a lot of transitions are not comfortable.
- Pete: Maintenance and sweeping has been a hot topic this fall. Do you know which design will be easier to sweep?
  - Hallie: I can check on that, but generally a two-way bike lane should only need one pass while two one-ways will need two passes.
- Pete: There is a question from the chat: "Which option is safer?"
  - Hallie: Both options are safer than the existing conditions. It's just a matter of selecting the best one for this context.
- Pete: I know that this project was delayed, so I'm curious if the delay was because other projects were prioritized ahead of this one. In the future it would be helpful to know the reason for the delay. If there are good reasons, people may not be as upset.
  - Hallie: No other projects were prioritized ahead of this one, including the Green Lake PBL. We spent a lot of time evaluating route options. There were a lot of transitions the occurred over the last couple years including a new Director and new Mayor.
- Christine: Since many of us are new, can you share more info about the delay?
  - Hallie: The project was originally planned for 2023 but now construction will be in 2024.
- Pete: Another question from chat: "How has the new director been involved?"
  - Hallie: Greg has been on walks and attended the Beacon Hill Community Council.
- Pete: And one more question in the chat: "We are still all in on this, right?". I'm assuming they are asking if the project is still going to be built.
  - Hallie: Yes, our director is supportive, and there is a lot of community support.

## Seattle Transportation Plan Workshop Recap

### Board members

- Christine:
  - Donna, Max, and I attended a workshop for the STP on November 30.
  - There was a polished presentation from SDOT. Simon sent out a recording of presentation, so I will not go into a lot of detail on that, but I'll share a high-level status of where they are at.
  - The STP team has defined their plan of action and is now working on network integration by taking all the modal plans and merging them together and trying to resolve conflicts.
  - At this workshop they shared draft network maps, context types, and galleries of action.
  - All the materials will be posted soon, and they will take comments through March.
  - They are developing different street concept types including streets adjacent to light rail stations, streets adjacent to highway entrances, streets along bottlenecks, and streets at network pinch points. There is a big focus on protecting vulnerable users at these locations. They have a method to develop a street design based on these context types. Overall, the goals are great. However, I thought the approach was very ambitious and almost sounded too good to be true.
  - They also shared draft network maps. They asked us not to share them yet, but I request that Simon send out the maps when they are available. I noticed some obvious connections were missing, so I think there is a lot of room for improvement.
- Donna:
  - That was an excellent recap, Christine. I want to reiterate how much opportunity there is for our feedback. In just a short time reviewing the maps, we noticed a lot of information was missing. I think the board should take more interest in the STP.
- Max:
  - I'll add that a lot of the ideas are preliminary right now. For example, one of the goals was to reduce all bridges down to one lane in each direction to provide more space for people walking and biking. This was great, but we thought it was ambitious. We asked staff about it, but they didn't know the details yet.
  - I'm most interested to understand what we are gaining with the plan. What do we have now? What are the next biggest priorities? What will we get a few years from now? That was missing from the meeting.
- Pete: Are there timelines for building out the plan?
  - Simon: Planning horizon for the STP is 20 years.
- Pete: Thank you all for the recap. I think we should review the maps and other materials at upcoming meetings and have the board submit unified comments over the next few months.

### Public Comments:

- Clara Cantor: Hi everyone. I see a lot of new faces, so I wanted to introduce myself. I'm a community organizer with Seattle Neighborhood Greenways, which is a broad coalition of advocates. I want to offer myself and our organization as a resource for past decisions. Historically, this board been the owners of the Bicycle Master Plan. The STP is different and even more important. Individual community members will mostly have comments on specific connections but may not speak to the big picture goals. I think the board can help with that and I want to empower you to share your broad vision for the city.

## Board Business:

- Approval of November meeting minutes:
  - Quinn: Motion to approve.
  - Jose: Second
  - All: Approve
- Election of new officers: Co-chairs & LOC rep
  - Pete: First, is anyone interested in serving as the LOC rep?
    - Quinn: I had the pleasure of attending the LOC meeting last night and it reaffirmed my interest.
    - Christine: Quinn, I support you. At the STP workshop other LOC members were asking for SBAB rep, so I'm happy we are selecting you.
    - Donna: Quinn, I fully support you.
    - Pete: Is anyone else interested in serving as the LOC rep? If not, then we can take a vote.
    - Joseph: Motion to approve Quinn as LOC rep.
    - Max: Second
    - All: Approve
  - Pete: And now for the co-chair position.
    - Donna: I am interested.
    - Pete: Thanks Donna. As I mentioned in my email, I am also interested.
    - Pete: Is anyone else interested in serving as a co-chair? If not, then we can take a vote.
    - Doug: Motion to approve Pete and Donna and co-chairs.
    - Quinn: Second
    - All: Approve
  - Joseph: Last time Simon mentioned there is also a secretary position. Is that up for a vote, too?
    - Andrea: I'm currently the secretary and it just involves formatting and sending out board letters. Simon is responsible for taking minutes during meetings. I am ok transitioning it to someone else. I can send out a summary of the duties and we can vote on it next month.
    - Pete: That sounds like a good plan.
- LOC update from Quinn:
  - We received program overview from the New Sidewalks and Crossing Improvements programs and the Transit Spot Improvement program.
  - One big takeaway is that 110,000 of 450,000 blocks in the city have missing sidewalks. At the current rate of 31 blocks per year, it will take about 1,000 years to build sidewalks across the whole city. SDOT is thinking about ways to roll out lower cost treatments at about 25% the cost of a full curb and gutter sidewalk.
  - We got a summary on the Q3 Levy Deliverables Report which is basically a list of completed Levy projects.
  - Learned that \$1M has been earmarked in the 2023 budget for better bike lane barriers in D2 to upgrade paint and post PBLs with concrete.
  - This was my first meeting, so my notes may be a little scattered. Going forward I will focus my recaps on bike board-specific topics.

- 2023 Meeting Schedule
  - Simon: With the year ending, just a reminder that we will continue our regular meeting schedule in 2023 meeting on the first Wednesday of the month. In-person and virtual options will remain.
  - Quinn: It would be great if some of us could coordinate and plan some meetings where we attend in-person.
  - Max: That would be great, especially with all the new members.
  - Jose: Maybe the first person that knows they will attend in-person can email the group.
  - Pete: I'm hoping I'm to be there in January.
- Future agenda items:
  - Pete: I know we gave Simon a lot of ideas last month. Does anyone have new items?
  - Jose: I agree that we should take time to look at the STP maps when they come out.
  - Donna: I said this last time, but I'd like to hear an update on the Alaskan Way PBL.
  - Quinn: I second the Alaskan Way PBL update. I'd also like to hear about the Lake Washington Blvd.
  - Andrea: In the past we have done a joint meeting with the Pedestrian Advisory Board. It would be great to do that again.
  - Christine: Could we also connect with the School Traffic Safety Committee?
  - Joseph: For those who are interested we could have members listen into the other board meetings, like we do for the LOC.
  - Joseph: We are supposed to advise SDOT, City Council, and the Mayor's Office. I know we do a lot of the first one, but I want to talk more about the latter two.
    - Jose: Our relationship with them has been very inconsistent. As some of the previous board members were on their way out, we scheduled meetings with some of our home district Council Members.
    - Andrea: We also send our letters to the Mayor and City Council.
  - Max: I want us to be more proactive versus reactive and understand what we should be going after.
    - Jose: It's up to us to set the goals of the board. The previous co-chair, Sarah did an excellent job developing a work plan. We also developed guiding principles for looking at projects, so we do not have to reinvent the wheel for each project. It should be on the Google Drive.
    - Andrea: I can look and send it out.
    - Pete: We should have a session in the new year to review those goals.
  - Doug: I want to hear more about scooter and e-bikes and the limited space we have. They are not going away, and the topic deserves a lot more discussion. I also wanted to say that the org chart that Simon sent out is frustrating to me. It may work for delivering big projects, but what about all the little pieces? I'm not sure if a chief bike officer would be good, but we need some way to respond to all the little issues that come up. I live on Florentia St in north Queen Anne, and I've been looking to add traffic calming for over 6 years. Even with direct Council Member involvement, the only change has been to reduce the speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph. I'm frustrated by all the lack of progress and bureaucratic structure.
  - Max: Is there a way to see what BMP projects are already planned to be built?
    - Simon: I can send out a link to the BMP map and BMP Implementation Plan. Since we can't build the whole network at once, the Implementation Plan is a prioritized list of projects SDOT plans to build over the next 5 years.
- Announcements:

- Joseph: I heard back from the J Line project team about bike lane widths. The PBL on Eastlake Ave will be 5' and the PBL on Fairview Ave will be 6'. I'm following up to see if there are any pinch points or if that will be the width the whole way.
- Pete: We also had some questions for the BMP presentation last month. Did we get responses yet?
  - Simon: I shared with staff and will follow up with them for responses.
- Joseph: Going off Doug's earlier comment, what are we supposed to do with public comments?
  - Simon: It's really up to the board. The challenge is that a lot of the public comments are about streets or improvements that are not currently prioritized in the BMP Implementation Plan. You can still ask SDOT to look into some of the issues raised. Or you can apply individual comments to your broader work or future projects that come before you.
  - Pete: I can look through recent minutes to keep track of issues or themes.

**Meeting Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 by interim SBAB Chair Pete Bryan.