

## Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date: February 1, 2023  
Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Location: City Hall Room 370 and Virtual via Microsoft Teams  
Recorders: Simon Blenski, SDOT

### Bicycle Advisory Board Members Present:

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

**Meeting Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by SBAB Chair Donna McBain Evans.

### Public Comment:

- Rachel Schaeffer, Cascade Bike Club: I'm glad to see the news about West Marginal Way and excited that we will fully connect and protect the Duwamish Trail. It is cool to have the temporary detour in place and stay up, and I'm excited to hear plans for the permanent version.
- Rohi Ammanamanchi, SPAB member: Hi, as a member of the Pedestrian Advisory Board, I'm here to say hello and excited for a potential joint meeting soon. Let me know if there are any topics we can coordinate on.

### Presentations:

#### West Marginal Way SW

Sara Zora, SDOT  
Presentation attached

### Discussion:

- Joseph: You said there will be stop lines for trail traffic but not for trucks? Why are we putting the burden on vulnerable users?
  - Sara: Truck drivers have to wait in the center turn lane for a gap on a roadway with high speeds. This design helps make users all aware of what is happening at these locations.

And since we are finally filling the gap in the network, we anticipate a lot of new riders using the trail and want them to be aware of the activity at these busy driveways.

- Quinn: One of your slides mentioned median islands. Can you share more?
  - Sara: Yes, we anticipate the PBL will help slow speeds on the north end. For the rest of corridor, we plan to add median islands in the center turn lane to reduce speeds closer to Highland Park Way SW. We installed one with the Reconnect West Seattle program and we plan to add more.
- Joseph: I know you might not be involved in this, but for future planned closures of the Spokane St swing bridge, we really need to have the temporary 1<sup>st</sup> Ave S PBL in place again.
  - Sara: We are not sure the timing and length of the of the closures yet, but I will have the project team follow up when we know more.

## **Seattle Transportation Plan Draft Network Maps**

### Board discussion

- Donna: I will start by discussing our comments on the draft goals. Instead of wordsmithing the proposed goals, we made general comments:
  - Use safety data to prioritize projects
  - Prioritize projects in historically underserved areas of the city
  - Specify that arterials may be needed for some bike facilities where no other options are available
  - Parking removal should always be an option to provide safe routes for bikes
  - Fill in gaps in the network
- Christine: Just to confirm, these are comments are for the draft STP goals, not the SBAB vision document?
  - Pete: Yes, this is just for the STP.
- Joseph: I recommend adding bike parking to goal about parking.
- Doug: I think bike parking is too micro of an issue, but there is no harm in including it.
- Christine: I agree with Joseph that bike parking is an issue, particularly near light rail stations.
- Doug: I'm not sure if this is place, but I really wish there was a mechanism for community to raise issues to SDOT with accountability. I've had bad experiences with SDOT and want more accountability when community raises concerns.
- Pete: Next we will discuss the network comments. I wanted to call out two major themes:
  - There are still many gaps in the network.
  - There is a disconnect in what is planned versus what routes people use.
- Joseph: After diving into the details, I don't feel like it is a transformational plan.
- Donna: I think it is important to have transformational change and specifically mention removing lanes and parking to improve biking.
- Pete: Agree, there are so many streets in north Seattle that are designed for vehicles. We need to change that.
- Andrea: For the letter I think we should mention that the short trip and long trip terminology is confusing. Also want more info about resolving conflict when you have overlapping networks like bike and freight routes in SODO.
- Christine: I really want to echo Andrea's comment. The terminology was confusing and there is no way to tell which routes exist and which routes are proposed. If this our only chance to comment, then I think our feedback will be weak because we do not fully understand what is being proposed. Also agree that we need more info about overlapping networks.

- Max: Going back to major themes, I think there are missing connections between Seattle and neighboring cities. For example, there are missing connections between Seattle and Renton, and from Georgetown to the south.
- Doug: Does the STP address scooters and e-bikes? They are a huge issue due to speed differential and need to be addressed.
  - Quinn: Yes, they are definitely part of the plan.
- Pete: Comments are due by February 21, so we need to write a letter by then. This is before our next meeting so Simon said we can approve the letter in concept. Does anyone want to volunteer to write the letter?
  - Joseph: I can help.
  - Max: Me too.
- Pete: Great, thanks. To summarize the themes to include in the letter:
  - Lack of existing/proposed designations and confusion about short/long trip route designations limits the ability to provide quality feedback; hope updates can be made with another round of feedback.
  - Proposed network still has many key gaps.
  - Proposed network has many routes that do not align with existing usage/desire lines.
  - Proposed network lacks key regional connections to the north and south of city limits.
  - Proposed network should use arterials where there are no other good parallel alternatives.
  - Questions about resolving conflicts on overlapping networks (transit, freight).
  - Overall, want the plan to be transformation; think current plan is incremental.
- Approve the letter in concept:
  - Donna: Motion to approve
  - Jose: Second
  - Quinn: Abstain
  - All others: Yes

**Public Comments:**

- None

**Board Business:**

- Approval of January meeting minutes:
  - Jose: Motion to approve.
  - Christine: Second.
  - All: Approve.
- Board work plan and vision
  - Donna: I updated the work plan and board vision based on everyone's comments. Quinn had a few comments about safety and comfort.
  - Quinn: I thought it was important to not limit safety just to crashes and design. I want to acknowledge that safety has a different meaning to different people, such as harassment or fear of law enforcement. The language seems to reflect that now, so I think it is ok.
  - Christine: Donna, thank you for the updates. I think they are clear and succinct.
- Spokane St bridge detour
  - Pete: Folks from West Seattle Bike Connections, Cascade, Joseph, and I rode the whole detour when it was in place a few weeks ago. It was great to see the route. While there

were some minor signage and route issues, we felt like it was a success and gave people a safe route and could be a good template for future situations. Our big area of concern was the intersection of 1<sup>st</sup> Ave S/East Marginal Way S/S Michigan St which is very complex and busy. We talked about an alternative route that would add more length to the detour, but that route still has issues. It just shows how this area of the city has no good options for biking. We also noted some drainage issues. On 1<sup>st</sup> Ave S parking was preserved, so that pushed bikes to the curb where there were puddles.

- Joseph: SDOT did a surprisingly good job on short notice. I hope it was a good learning experience and showed the necessity for doing something. Look forward to the future planned bridge closures to see if SDOT has learned good lessons.
- LOC update:
  - Quinn: The LOC does not meet until next week. SDOT is going to talk about Levy-funded bike projects. I sent out a list of the projects. We don't have time to discuss tonight but let me know if you have any feedback about the projects or info that I should share.
- Joint meeting with SPAB
  - Donna: We will have a joint meeting with the Pedestrian Advisory Board on March 8. We are still figuring out the agenda topics.
  - Pete: STP could be a priority, but if you have other ideas let us know and we can coordinate with the Pedestrian Board.
- Announcements
  - Joseph: I emailed the board significant concerns about I-90 Trail detour at Judkins Park Station. The issue was brought up a Central Seattle Greenways meeting. It is rather critical issue and want to know if there is something that can be done.
  - Doug: Still confused about how issues like this get resolved. Request that something be added to Find It Fix It app.
  - Simon: Joseph, you can email the letter and I can try to route to the appropriate staff.
  - Donna: Simon is also looking into a possible presentation on maintenance and the Find It Fix It app.

**Meeting Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned by interim SBAB Chair Donna McBain Evans.