

Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date: October 4, 2023
Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Location: City Hall Room 370 and Virtual via Microsoft Teams
Recorders: Sarah Udelhofen, SDOT

Bicycle Advisory Board Members Present:

Seat	Members	Present	Absent
		✓	X
1	Yasir Alfarag	✓	
2	Max Green	✓	
3	Nia Ransom		X
4	Amy Conroy	✓	
5	Ty Bottorff	✓	
6	Doug Midgen	✓	
7	Donna McBain Evans, Co-Chair		X
8	Christine Stawitz		X
9	Vacant		X
10	Peter Bryan, Co-Chair	✓	
11	Joseph Roberts, Secretary	✓	
12	Eli Davis, Get Engaged Member	✓	

Meeting Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by SBAB Co-chair Pete Bryan.

Public Comment:

- None

Presentations:

Levy to Move Seattle Update

Serena Lehman, SDOT

See presentation attached

Discussion:

- Joseph: I'm intrigued that bike parking added/year has been in such sharp decline over years you reported. Curious about the reasons why?
 - Serena: We came out running hard in the bike rack program. We underestimated the costs to deliver on our bicycle network, so after those first years, we prioritized using funding to build protected bicycle lanes – we knew we would still meet our bike parking goals with that change.
 - Joseph: So it is not that SDOT does not want to build bike parking, it's just that the funding isn't here, right?
 - Serena: Yes, exactly.
- Amy: What types of bike parking is this referring to?

- Serena: It includes bike corals and racks, not secure bike boxes – those are maintained by Sound Transit.
- Doug: Is there interest/ability to do bike lockers?
 - Monica: Hi, I'll introduce myself first – I have been working for the city for 24 years and am someone who rides my bike in Seattle a lot. Christiana Farrell currently leads the Bike Team. We don't have funding to develop our bike parking program. These types of recommendations can be built into the Seattle Transportation Plan (STP).
 - Christiana: As part of the STP, we have a whole section on bike parking and coordinating with other entities like Sound Transit to incorporate these designs.
- Max: The miles of bike path that were shown as part of the Levy – how is Seattle doing overall relative to other major cities? How is the Levy helping us to accelerate?
 - Serena: The Levy is helping us meet our goals for bike infrastructure. A friend of mine always said if you want to know a city's priorities, look at their budget. In terms of how we compare to other cities, there are reports out there, but we have devoted a significant portion of our budget to active transportation infrastructure.
 - Monica: There are various other biking organizations that track and compare how cities are advancing with bike facilities, it's not something that SDOT keeps updated data on. Seattle, because of the Levy, is often coming in on top.
- Pete: Do you track any other impact metrics such as number of journeys taken by bike? VMT (Vehicle Miles Travelled)? Is the Levy's success measure based on how much gets built?
 - Serena: For the Levy, we're specifically tracking how much gets built. Before a levy can make it onto the ballot, there needs to be an ordinance with key goals and metrics that we commit to voters to complete through the life of the levy. We do have other sub goals – as we look towards the future, we are considering how other metrics can play into this.
- Joseph: Does the Seattle Transportation Plan have in it any similarly measurable outcomes that you anticipate being able to attach to the new Levy?
 - Serena: There are some key outcomes as part of the Seattle Transportation Plan.
 - Joseph: having trouble finding hard and fast metrics in the STP.
 - Christiana: From the STP, we're hoping to have implementation plans that have more of the annual goals, those haven't been developed yet.
 - Monica: If you have any specific input like this for the STP, you should definitely consider providing it to the STP plan team (we can provide contact info).
 - Serena: The Seattle Transportation Plan is a plan and guiding document while the Levy is a funding mechanism, they go hand in hand, but they are different.

NE 130th and NE 125th Mobility and Safety Project

Quinn Kelly, SDOT

See presentation attached

Discussion:

- Pete: Project scope/limits - a block or two west of the vision zero safety corridor we have the Interurban Trail, and a bit east of Lake City way we have the like lane on 35th Ave. Is there scope of expanding the limits to connect with the existing bike routes?
 - Quinn: For this project, we're really focused on the station access piece. We do have a project in the early planning stages that will continue west all the way to Greenwood, so that will incorporate connections to the Interurban Trail.

- Joseph: How wide is that shared-use path? It trades vehicle conflict for ped conflicts which is why I'm curious how much space there will be to share. How will you make that fast downhill bike lane on Roosevelt safe? How wide will it be? How will fast-moving downhill bikes not be a hazard to bus riders?
 - Quinn: We have a goal of all ages/abilities facilities, so we prioritize creating spaces where all ages can travel safely out of the way of traffic. We do not necessarily prioritize getting bikes to travel through a space at the fastest speed possible. There will always be a subset of people riding bikes who choose to ride in the road, and that is their choice, but we are designing a space where people feel safe riding.
- Max: In one direction, there's a multimodal path – how is SDOT thinking about scooters/rented bikes and how we avoid congestion there? How are you thinking about facilitating people with bikes or families with many bikes getting from street level to the upper station? In terms of things like bike lockers and making people feel safe leaving bikes at stations, how are those topics being considered?
 - Quinn: Sound Transit is doing the station planning, I'll be honest that I am not intricately familiar with all details of the design of the station area, I will have to get back to you on that.
- Doug: How are e-bikes, e-vehicles, micromobility, etc. considered as part of the equation?
 - Quinn: It certainly is a consideration with the design of any project. Discussions around that issue in particular are happening at higher levels (like the STP and Streets Illustrated - documents that provide design guidance). It certainly continues to inform all our bicycle, pedestrian, and transit projects throughout the city.
- Doug: Is there a way to measure what the capacity is for a facility like a bike lane?
 - Quinn: There is methodology that can be used. When we're designing these facilities, we're mostly carving out as much space as we can for active transportation. There is guidance to guide designers on how wide facilities should be and how to avoid conflicts between users and to maximize the level of service of a facility.
- Pete: On the I-5 overpass section, between the path and the travel lane, will there be a barrier?
 - Quinn: Yes, we are planning for a physical barrier.
- Pete: There are a few changes in bike lane configuration as we go along this path. Have you all gotten to the specifics of the design with that?
 - Quinn: At 8th Ave & Roosevelt, we are planning to include a two-stage crossing to get folks from the two-way shared path to the facilities that are 1 way on each side. There will be a signalized crossing to safely get across here and continue riding on the south side of street.
- Max: Only comment is that I hope your team Quinn is putting pressure on the station to deliver comprehensive biker amenities at the station or else all the infrastructure you're describing today may go underutilized

Board Business:

- Approval of September minutes
 - Max motion to approve
 - Doug seconds
- Seattle Transportation Plan Comment Letter
 - Deadline to respond to the team is later on in October, so we wanted to get approval from the board for sending a letter. Donna has begun drafting that, some of you may have already reviewed that.

- Joseph motion to approve the letter
 - Amy seconds
- LOC update
- Future agenda items
 - November: discuss and reprioritize focus areas
 - Doug mentioned continued discussion of maintenance
- Announcements
 - Joseph: I bumped into Alex Liu and chatted – in the past, in between meetings, they had subcommittees or workgroups where people worked on continued other topics. I would like if we considered doing that.
 - Simon: For those who may have missed it, here is the maintenance presentation from August:
https://www.seattle.gov/documents/Departments/SDOT/BoardsCommittees/SBAB/Bike%20Facility%20Maintenance%20SBAB_2023.08.02.pdf

Public Comments:

- None

Meeting Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by SBAB Co-chair Pete Bryan.