

Pedestrian Master Plan - Presentation to Seattle Planning Commission December 8, 2016

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Purpose

Ian Macek from the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) will be attending the December 8 Planning Commission meeting to present the Mayor's Recommended Pedestrian Master Plan (PMP), which is scheduled for consideration by the City Council in early 2017. It is anticipated that the Planning Commission will provide testimony in support of the final PMP at a meeting of the City Council's Sustainability and Transportation Committee in January.

This plan is an update to the 2009 Pedestrian Master Plan. The updated PMP will:

- ✓ Prioritize where we will build new sidewalks and walking paths
- ✓ Identify intersections for potential crossing improvements
- ✓ Outline the toolbox of options we will use to improve walkability and accessibility

Policy Framework

The PMP policy framework includes the following goals and objectives:

- Safety – reduce crashes involving pedestrians
- Equity – make Seattle a more walkable city for all
- Vibrancy – develop a connected pedestrian environment
- Health – get more people walking to improve mobility and health
- Focus resources in areas with:
 - High existing and potential pedestrian demand
 - Safety concerns
 - Populations with the greatest need
- Establish performance trends and targets

Key Issues for SPC Consideration

1. Is the Priority Investment Network (PIN) methodology appropriate for a citywide strategy?

The PIN is a data-driven prioritization for funding capital investments, including sidewalks and other pedestrian infrastructure. These factors determine the preliminary PIN investments:

- ✓ Walksheds to Frequent Transit Network (FTN) stops
 - Walkshed distance based on transit type
- ✓ FTN arterials
- ✓ Walksheds to public schools (1/4 mile)
- ✓ Streets currently without sidewalks
- ✓ Streets with high rates of collisions involving pedestrians

These criteria respond to community priorities; help address system connectivity; and distribute investments across the city. The PIN identifies opportunities for infrastructure investments on both arterial and non-arterial streets, inside and outside urban centers/villages. Opportunities for pedestrian improvement projects will be prioritized using safety analysis and equity/health analysis. Further prioritization will refine the list of opportunities.

2. Have equity considerations been addressed sufficiently?

The Plan's intent is that pedestrian investments be distributed throughout the city based on need (as identified in the PMP demand, safety, and equity analyses), as opposed to distributing funds equally between various districts of the city. If the PMP analysis shows that certain areas of the city demonstrate a disproportionate amount of the need, the Plan supports directing investments to those locations first.

3. How will implementation be monitored and measured?

The PMP includes performance measures and targets for the following pedestrian indicators:

- Number of pedestrian fatalities and serious injury collisions
- Rate of crashes involving pedestrians
- Percent of sidewalks within the PIN completed
- Mode share
- Pedestrian activity
- Children walking or biking to or from school

Public Involvement

The updated PMP was developed with input from residents, business owners, and others from across Seattle. Revisions included updating the data used to prioritize pedestrian improvements across the city, revising the Plan's toolbox of strategies, and establishing performance targets.

Implementation Plan

- 19 implementing strategies and 64 implementing actions
- Includes performance measures and targets
- Updated regularly to reflect changing funding and leveraging opportunities
- Allows safety/equity/health data to be updated regularly

Additional Resources and Referenced Documents

- SDOT Contact: Ian Macek, 206-684-7576, ian.macek@seattle.gov
- Project website: <http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/pedMasterPlan.htm>