

## Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date: October 6th, 2021  
Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Location: Virtual via Cisco Webex  
Co-chairs: Patrick Taylor and Sarah Udelhofen  
Recorder: Tyler Vasquez, SDOT

### Bicycle Advisory Board Members Present:

Seat	Members	Present	Absent
		✓	X
1	Yasir Alfarag	✓	
2	Kashina Groves	✓	
3	Vacant		
4	Andrea Lai, Secretary	✓	
5	Vacant		
6	Vacant		
7	Andrew Dannenberg	✓	
8	Meredith Hall	✓	
9	Sarah Udelhofen, Co-Chair	✓	
10	Patrick Taylor, Co-Chair	✓	
11	Maimoona Rahim	✓	
12	Jose Nino, Get Engaged Member	✓	

**Meeting Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by co-chair Sarah Udelhofen.

### Public Comment:

- Clara Cantor, Seattle Neighborhood Greenways: I wanted to speak to the RapidRide J Line and Pike Pine Renaissance projects that are on the agenda. I hope that SBAB continues to push for connected routes and have continuous protection through the most dangerous sections. We all know that traveling by bike is only as comfortable as the most stressful intersection.

### Presentations:

#### RapidRide J Line Update

Presenters: Darrell Bulmer and Garth Merrill, SDOT

Presentation: See attached

Time: 6:06 p.m.

### Discussion and Q&A:

- SU: Is there anything that could be done south of the University Ave Bridge to protect cyclist? Currently the concept drops to just a striped bike lane.

- GM: We are looking to see if there is an opportunity to remove one of the lanes, but there are is a high level of traffic in this area and we do not want to negatively impact transit.
- PT: Is the 3 foot PBL buffer paint and post?
  - GM: At a minimum it will be paint and post. One of the constraints along Eastlake is this is a Seattle Fire Department (SFD) emergency route. With the medians and curb protection for the PBL we would not be able to maintain a 20-foot width for SFD.
- PT: Is there an opportunity at this constrained point south of the bridge to do a narrower, but more robust bike lane protection?
  - GM: We might be able to consider curb or other treatments.
  - MH: One option is to put the PBL at the sidewalk level. I understand there would be drainage issues but we need the most protection because it is the most dangerous section of the corridor.
  - SU: Flex post do not do the job. We need to build infrastructure that does not need maintenance.
- AD: How much ridership will be lost with the shortened alignment for J Line?
  - GM: The supplemental EA will provide this information. We don't anticipate losing much riders since there are multiple transit options to connect further north.
- MR: Do you think the J line and Link will reduce the traffic on the University Bridge? And could this provide an opportunity to remove a lane of traffic on Eastlake?
  - GM: The supplemental EA will provide more information about this. However, the expectation is that any shift from people driving to taking transit alone will not reach the threshold to reduce the lane south of University Bridge.
  - SU: I feel that there is a misalignment of our climate goals and infrastructure priorities.
- KG: The intersection of Eastlake and Harvard is really scary on a bike and we would want extra protection there. Do you know is there will be any changes to Harvard?
  - GM: We are looking at revisiting corner of Eastlake and Harvard for northbound traffic.
- SU: What is the next step for SBAB to provide feedback and receive any updates.
  - GM: We are 30% design now and will be at 60% design February or March of 2022. We can come back to you at that time.

#### Pike Pine Streetscape and Bicycle Improvements

Presenter: Therese Casper, Office of the Waterfront, Kenneth Loen, Toole Design, David Grant, ZGF

Presentation: See attached

Time: 6:40 p.m.

#### Discussion and Q&A:

- SU: How much loading and unloading do you expect between 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave and 4<sup>th</sup> Ave?
  - DG: We expect this area will be a utilized drop off since it is a high activity area and the Link station is right there.
  - MH: Could there be a design to mitigate bike and pedestrian conflicts at the loading zone?
  - KL: Similar to other PBLs downtown we have a design that includes a 3 to 5-foot space between the loading zone and bike zone for passengers to stand in and marked crosswalk across the bike lane.

- KG: Is there an option to continue the one-way street and left side PBL further east?
  - KL: This project only goes up to Bellevue, which is why we have to make this PBL transition at or before Bellevue.
- MR: Has a diagonal crossing been considered at Melrose?
  - KL: A diagonal crossing would increase the wait time for everyone, including bikes. It is something we look into more, but it will be hard to coordinate with the eastbound bus traffic which will have its own signal phase to prepare for the turn at Bellevue.
- KG: I'm worried that the Melrose crossing will be a safety issue and conflict with turning cars.
  - KL: One thing to keep in mind is that the Melrose Promenade project will be completed prior to this work and they are installing a raised sidewalk. It may not fully address your concern but it will calm turning traffic.
- MH: The arrangement of bike box at Melrose is not intuitive. Could it be more than paint and protected?
  - KL: We are including two bollards at the corners and may consider curb.
- SU: I find the footrest rails to be slippery. Can you add texture to increase traction? And what are the buttons through Westlake?
  - KL: They are metal discs. They do not serve any purpose for bike protection, but they delineate the bike lane from the parking and travel lane areas. Because the existing paving pattern at Westlake we are trying not to install any paint there.
- PT: I'm really excited for this project. Both the Rapid Ride J Line and Pike Pine projects are transformative for our city. The upgrades on the I-5 bridges are also great to hear.
- SU: We appreciate thought and detail put into this design. Will there be any more opportunities for input?
  - TC: We are at 90% design and will be at 100% design early next year. We can report back the board as needed.

#### **Public Comments:**

- Rachel Scheffer, Policy and Advocacy Manager with Cascade Bicycle Club: I wanted say hello and introduce myself as the new Policy and Advocacy Manager with Cascade Bicycle Club. Thank you for the presentations. I am excited for the Pike Pine project. Regarding the RapidRide J Line project, Cascade is concerned with the PBL design south of the University Ave Bridge. I wanted to reiterate that when there are more cars, there is an even greater need for bike protection.
- Oliver, Eastlake Resident: I want to ensure we are prioritizing alternate modes of transportation and emphasize the importance of bicycle infrastructure. I agree with what Meredith said about prioritizing this area for bikes since it is the most dangerous section of the Eastlake corridor.

#### **Board Business:**

- Approval of September's meeting minutes
  - Move to approve: KG
  - Second: YA
  - Vote to Approve: All
- LOC Update
  - MR: This was my first LOC meeting. I will note that I have a class schedule so I will need to miss the first 20 min of each LOC meeting. I wanted to see if this ok with the board.

There was a presentation about the Levy Portfolio Update. There is cost savings and additional funds so SDOT has draft recommendations for how to spend that. The project list includes bike projects. See slide 7 of LOC presentation.

- KG: Is this related to the proposed budget from the Mayor and City Council? I am curious because the list you shared includes projects we have not heard about yet.
- PT: Maimoona, can you get more information for SBAB and bring it back to us in the next meeting?
- MH: When is the budget approved? I'm not sure if we can wait another month. Ryan [Packer] can you share an information?
- RP: I wanted to emphasize that this project list is separate from the 2022 city budget process. All of this is unspent Levy funds and so they are going to finalize the project list after the budget is approved.
- SU: Should we meet offline to think about actions that need to be taken?
- PT: Maybe we can invite SDOT to talk on this proposed spending and give Maimoona some comments to bring back to the LOC.
  - SB: I can check get with Serena and get back to you.
- Recruitment Update
  - SB: We received 30 applications, completed interviews with select candidates, and have our recommendations to the Mayor's Office and City Council staff. We are still waiting on final decisions, but hopefully we can invite the new members to attend as non-voting members in November with formal appointment by December.
- Co-Chair Opportunity:
  - SU: We are still looking for someone to step into Patrick's co-chair position
- Announcements:
  - None

### **Meeting Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 by Sarah Udelhofen SBAB Co-Chair.