



# City of Seattle

Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor

## Seattle Transportation

Grace Crunican, Director

*Seattle  
Pedestrian  
Advisory  
Board*

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November 10, 2007

Members of the City Council:  
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Councilmember Jan Drago  
Councilmember Jean Godden  
Councilmember Nick Licata  
Councilmember Richard McIver  
Councilmember Tom Rasmussen  
Councilmember Peter Steinbrueck

Seattle City Council  
P.O. Box 34025  
Seattle, WA 98124-4025

Re: 2008 Proposed Budget

Dear Councilmembers:

We at the Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board are greatly encouraged by a number of actions that are being taken by the City to create a better environment for pedestrians. Pedestrian-focused programs can, if fully implemented, reduce our dependence on motorized transportation, making a powerful contribution to reducing Seattle's climate altering carbon emissions, as well as fostering a more livable, vibrant city.

The 2008 proposed budget contains a number of items that we believe will help us get closer to that goal. First, we encourage you to fully fund the development of the City's Pedestrian Master Plan to ensure that this extremely important document will produce tangible objectives that will noticeably improve the pedestrian experience in the city.

We also recognize the importance of projects with a local, neighborhood focus and support their funding as well. For example, there is a proposed increase in the Neighborhood Street fund of \$1,260,000 for small neighborhood projects and \$1,500,000 for larger projects that we strongly encourage you to approve. These are precisely the types of projects that affect people's lives the most, simply because they are closer to home.

Our city is growing, both as a commercial and a residential center. Also, tourists visit in ever-increasing numbers. All of this means more pedestrians. One excellent way to

The Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board shall advise the City Council, the Mayor, and all departments and offices of the City on matters related to pedestrians and the impacts which actions by the City may have upon the pedestrian environment; and shall have the opportunity to contribute to all aspects of the City's planning processes insofar as they may relate to pedestrian safety and access.

City Council Resolution  
28791



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improve their experiences is to ensure they feel safe, and to that end we strongly encourage you to fully fund the police emphasis patrols in downtown and southeast Seattle. These have had a noticeable effect in deterring street crime. If people feel safer, they will walk more. And the more people who walk, the safer everyone will feel.

We thank you for your consideration and for your efforts to improve the safety and convenience of walking in Seattle. We support the proposed investments in infrastructure, enforcement, and education in the 2008 budget that will improve the experience of Seattle's citizens and visitors when they are traveling by foot and wheelchair. We look forward to continuing to work with you, the Mayor, the City's various departments, as well as community groups and individuals, to make Seattle the nation's most walkable city.

Sincerely,

Celeste Gilman, Chair  
Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board