

Kristi Rennebohm Franz,
Chair
Adam Bartz, Vice-Chair
Merlin Rainwater, Vice-Chair
Don Brubeck, Secretary

Jeff Aken
Jed Bradley
Leah Curtiss
Steve Kennedy
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Lara Normand
Phyllis Porter
Michael Wong

November 2, 2015

To: SDOT Director Scott Kubly

Re: **Support for SDOT Draft Director's Rule 10-2015 Pedestrian Mobility in and around Work Zones**

Request for enforcement, education and revisions to SDOT Director's Rule 3-2013 Traffic Control Manual for In-Street Work, for bicycle traffic

The Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board strongly supports the new proposed SDOT Director's Rule 10-2015 Pedestrian Mobility in and around Work Zones. We believe that safe and accessible mobility for people who walk is inseparable from our primary goal of safe mobility for people who ride bikes. Both former and current members of SBAB have collaborated in the development of these rules.

We understand that additional site inspectors will be hired to make sure these rules are implemented and enforced both within Construction Hub areas and in other construction zones.

In announcing this draft Rule, SDOT states that safety for people who ride bicycles is a priority for Seattle. SBAB commends the renewal of this commitment.

SDOT Director's Rule 3-2012 *Traffic Control Manual for In-Street Work (TMC)* includes requirements and guidance to ensure the safety of people riding bikes in or near work zones. **SBAB recommends increased enforcement and education by SDOT** for contractors, flaggers and traffic control officers to aid in compliance, with special attention to the following:

- Add signage to indicate slower speed zones coming into, passing through and exiting construction zones. (ref. TMC II.G Speed Control)
- Maintain bike lanes whenever possible during construction. This may mean temporarily using parking lanes or general-purpose lanes for bicycle lanes. (ref. TMC VII.A)
- When bike lanes must be closed, a nearby detour route must be determined and marked with signs placed within several blocks from all approaches to the closure. Notice should also be posted several days in advance of the closure, informing users of the impending detour. (ref. TMC VII.C.3&4).

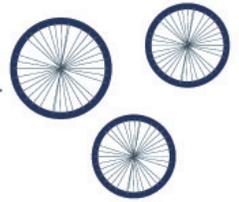
SBAB recommends these revisions to the TMC:

- Change the wording of the signs W4-1A and W4-1B for shared use of general purpose lanes from "BIKES MERGE WITH TRAFFIC" and "TRAFFIC MERGE WITH BIKES" to "DRIVERS YIELD TO BIKES", to indicate that drivers may need to slow to accommodate shared use of lane.

The Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board shall advise the City Council, the Mayor, and all departments and offices of the city on matters related to bicycling, and the impact which actions by the city may have upon bicycling; and shall have the opportunity to contribute to all aspects of the city's planning processes insofar as they relate to bicycling.

- City Council
Resolution 25534

Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board



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- When a bike lane is closed, and it is not feasible to separate bicycle and pedestrian detour routes, in addition to sign M4-1A, a sign should also indicate that *people on bikes yield to people walking*.
- Require SPD traffic control officers to ride and/or walk the site before work begins to insure safety measures are in place

SBAB recommends education by SDOT for construction contractors, flaggers and SPD traffic control officers to give priority for safety of people on bikes and pedestrians while directing construction truck and other vehicular movements entering and exiting a construction zone.

SBAB leadership has taken a proactive role in meeting with representatives of Sellen Construction, SDOT's Director of Street Use Division, Brian DePlace and SDOT Inspector Lead, Liz Sheldon. The above recommendations reflect SBAB's collaborative efforts with these and other stakeholders, and are also an expression of the shared interests between the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Boards. We look forward to ongoing collaboration with these groups, and the rigorous implementation of the proposed rules.

Sincerely,



Kristi Rennebohm-Franz
Chair



Adam Bartz
Vice Chair



Merlin Rainwater
Vice Chair



Don Brubeck
Secretary

c: Tom Rasmussen, Chair, City Council Transportation Committee
Jean Godden, City Council Transportation Committee
Mike O'Brien, City Council Transportation Committee
Howard Wu, SBAB Liaison, Pedestrian Advisory Board
David Goldberg, Chair, Pedestrian Advisory Board
Anthony Auriemma
Brian DePlace
Liz Sheldon
Nicole Freedman
Bill Laborde

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