

Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: March 2, 2016/ 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Chair: Kristi Rennebohm Franz
Recorder: Jeff Aken
Location: Seattle Municipal Tower, Room 5040

Minutes Distribution List:

See Attachment A

Members Present:

Jeff Aken
Jed Bradley
Don Brubeck
Steve Kennedy
Riley Kimball
Lara Normand
Merlin Rainwater
Kristi Rennebohm Franz
Michael Wong

Members Absent:

Adam Bartz
Phyllis Porter

Guests:

Andy Baker
Bob Edmiston
Tom Fucoloro
CJ Holt
Chloe Johnston
Sydney Miller-McGraw
Zach Shaner, Seattle Transit Board Liaison
Emily Reardon
Kyle Rowe
Gabriela Vega
Fred Young

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rennebohm Franz called the meeting to order at 5:37pm

INTRODUCTIONS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Board member Rainwater made a motion to approve the February Bicycle Advisory Board meeting minutes and this was 2nd by Board member Brubeck. Meeting minutes were approved unanimously by the board.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Andy Baker commented that he was hopeful that the Center City Protected Bicycle Lane Network would no longer fall below national best practices as City Council directed in the Bicycle Master Plan (BMP) adopting resolution.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- None

PRESENTATIONS**Freight Master Plan**

Time:

Presenters: Gabriela Vega

Purpose: Bring the board up to date on where the Freight Master Plan is and how to provide comment.

- Goal of the effort is to develop a citywide freight plan
- Update the network for the first time in 20 years.
- Develop design guidance, including Major Truck Streets and “Last Mile” industrial connectors that are “designed for” large trucks with optimal geometry for them; and other streets designed “to accommodate” trucks with less-than-optimal geometry to make access possible while prioritizing pedestrian crossings or other modes.
- Develop prioritization of projects and performance measures
- Track truck flow via accurate counts and GIS mapping
- Plan will be released in the next few weeks for a 45-60 day comment period
- Mayor’s recommended plan is due in June with potential City Council approval later in the summer of 2016

Questions, Answers and Comments:

Q: What about urban delivery strategy (using bikes or smaller trucks)?

A: Many operators are switching to smaller trucks. Off-peak deliveries (at night) are currently a challenge due to Seattle’s noise ordinance. Operators would like to use more off-peak deliveries.

Q: It would be nice to have cargo or delivery bicycle pictured next to other truck types in the design considerations?

A: This section is on street design considerations for various truck types. Delivery bicycles would be represented in bicycle standards. There are pictures of cargo bikes elsewhere in the document.

Q: Is it financially feasible for bicycle delivery and is it possible to include aspirational guidance around electric trucks.

A: Yes, but low cost of fuels right now make these investments harder, gas is cheap right now so the market is going with that.

Q: What is the timeline for the 55 projects?

A: Those 55 projects represent billions in cost. We will prioritize projects and develop cost of top ten projects and work on those.

Comment:

- Thanks to SDOT for hard work on this plan. Many elements are complimentary to the Bicycle Master Plan and deserve SBAB's support.
- Electric vehicles would help with off-hour delivery strategies and complying with the noise ordinance.
 - A: Both Dunn Lumber and Charlie's Produce have switched to smaller trucks and hybrid trucks. We expect more of this to happen going forward.
- SBAB will be informed when comment period is open for the Draft Freight Master Plan
- Thanks to Don Brubeck, the SBAB liaison to the Freight Board, for his work on this issue.

SBAB Recommendations:

- Many items such as safety (e.g., sideguards and separation of bike and truck traffic), equity, education and enforcement, lowering of emissions are complimentary to the BMP and deserve SBAB support.

Center City Network Update-Signals and Safety Upgrades to 2nd Ave

Time: 6:10

Presenters: CJ Holt and Emily Reardon

Purpose: Update the Board on Safety upgrades and new signals planned for the 2nd Ave Protected Bicycle Lane Extension from Pike to Denny

- Two-way bike lane on east side, protected by permanent planters.
- 3 New Signals are planned at Clay, Cedar and Vine Streets
- Signal upgrades at 11 intersections
- Curb bulb removal and landscape improvements along the length of the corridor
- Conceptual Cross Section of extension is two general purpose travel lanes and a mixed turn/parking lane.
- Currently reaching out to businesses and conducting outreach on loading needs and unique characteristics or issues they may have.
- Broader outreach to come that will include community "walkshops", door to door flyering and project area mailer.

Questions, Answers and Comments:

Q: What about current section of the 2nd Ave Protected Bike Lane (Pike to Yesler) that only has bollards?

A: SDOT is currently looking at planters for 2nd Ave and hopes to have improvements made by May (Bike Month) but continuing to upgrade the signals will be a longer process.

Q: Would it make sense to have a SBAB member join the SDOT outreach team in some of these meetings with local businesses to learn about issues and offer up a bicyclists input?

A: That is a great suggestion and SDOT will see how to make that happen.

Comment:

- The recent signal at 2nd/University is much more clear for all users and we would like to see those in the whole corridor.
- Commute Seattle led a bike business meet up last year--SDOT should look for opportunities to partner with them.

- Commercial Real Estate is an important stakeholder in the corridor and SDOT may want to reach out to that sector to understand how tenants are impacted and work directly with property brokers.

SBAB Recommendations:

- Make signal upgrades, similar to the ones at 2nd University along the whole corridor
- Look to replace bollards/flexposts with a more permanent barrier like the planters being considered for the northern extension of the corridor.

SBAB Reports & Advisory Letters

Time:

Presenters: Kristi Rennebohm Franz

Purpose: Approval of letters is now following a new protocol to comply with City Attorney advice regarding Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA). Letters may be drafted by a working group sub-committee of the Board comprised of one or several members, but less than a majority. The final draft may be emailed to all Board members for information but no discussion prior to Board meetings. Proposed letters will be reviewed and voted upon at Board meetings before sending.

Critical Safety Issues Advisory Letter

Chair Rennebohm Franz has drafted a letter in response to discussion at February meeting. Board members Rainwater and Bradley will form a working group to discuss and draft proposed letter.

City Center Advisory Letter from SBAB needs approval:

- Disappointment that Center City Bike Network has been postponed due to the City Center Mobility Plan
- Need to move forward on critical projects
 - Expand the spine on 2nd Ave to the north (Denny) and the south (Jackson and International District)
 - Improve signals on existing 2nd Ave lane
 - Expand connections to the east/west via Pine/Pike
 - Move forward on connections to the waterfront
 - Enforce changes made in the 2nd Ave project about turn restrictions
 - Don't wait for more plans when safety can be improved now.

Questions, Answers and Comments:

Comment:

- Ensure enforcement focuses on drivers (not cyclists). Vehicles are much more dangerous.
- Where 2nd Ave meets Jackson is dangerous with streetcar tracks and dual turn lanes.
- Chair Rennebohm Franz moved to approve the letter with Board member Rainwater's comments added. Board member Brubeck 2nd.

Right of Way Improvement Manual (ROWIM)

- The board submitted comments on the draft ROWIM

- Board members Lara Normand, Don Brubeck and Steve Kennedy led this work and created an extremely detailed and thoughtful comments.
- Comment: This should be a living document that embraces emerging standards.
- Board member Riley moved to endorse the comments, requesting a cover letter and submittal to Susan McLaughlin at SDOT. Seconded by Board member Bradley. Passed with all in favor.

PRONTO

- Nicole Freedman updated the board on recent PRONTO news regarding the proviso lift. The request for \$1.4 million will go to City Council for a vote on March 14 after a 4-2 vote in favor from the Sustainability and Transportation Committee.
- SBAB is forming a working group on Pronto consisting of Chair Franz and Boardmembers Brubeck, Kimball, Rainwater and Porter.

BMP Five Year Implementation Plan

Presenters: Kyle Rowe and Chloe Johnston

Purpose: Gather additional feedback from Board on both the 2016-2020 BMP Implementation Plan and the 2015 Progress Report

Summary:

- Updated copies of Implementation Plan and Progress Report were handed out
- Kyle reviewed timeline with SBAB comments due by March 16th (Revised from March 9th)), desired SBAB endorsement of the Annual Progress Report on March 23rd and delivery to City Council on March 31st.
- Kyle appreciated feedback and comments of all those who were able to attend the working session on February 11th.
- Presented slides of before/after progress on recently completed projects
- A new All Ages and Abilities (AAA) map is included in this update
- Don't yet have a great grasp of Multimodal corridor projects yet, so they are included in the Major Projects update of the Implementation Plan

Progress Report and Implementation Plan:

Questions, Answers and Comments:

Q: What was the spot improvement in W. Seattle (Spokane/Alki Trail)

A: Kyle Rowe will check and respond.

Q: Is 2.8 collisions per 100 cyclists correct? Seems very high.

A: Will double check that number. Based off bike counts?

Q: Is BMP implementation all paid for by the Transportation Levy to Move Seattle (and Bridging the Gap in the past)

A: Most of it is. Some grants and Vehicle License Fee revenue as well.

Q: What is the 2016 carry forward?

A: Grants for the Downtown Protected Bike Lane Network

Q: What is the total Neighborhood Greenway Mileage being completed in Q1 2016?

A: Will double check those numbers.

Comment:

- On connectivity: Miles of network completion is not the best metric. It doesn't mean you get where you are going.
 - (Kyle—also included is key travel-sheds completed to try and get at this issue. Also, see Clusters map for connections.)
- Trends don't tell the picture, what about other measures to look at equity like investment level.
- Measurements in the progress report (from the 2014) BMP don't reflect where the board is now on equity and other issues, SBAB would like to work with SDOT on additional metrics that help us track progress on the five goals of the BMP.
- West Seattle is falling behind in this implementation plan. It represents 20% of the city and many years have no projects happening in SW Seattle/South Park and 2016 projects are actually delayed 2015 projects. Constituents there worked hard to ensure the Move Seattle Levy passed, attended numerous meetings and aren't getting the projects needed to make it safe. People are getting upset that implementation is not happening with proportionality and equity in SW Seattle.
- A second to this comment for the whole city, need to make the implementation equitable, you shouldn't have to advocate to get safe infrastructure.

SBAB Recommendations:

SBAB forming a working group on BMP Implementation Plan and Progress Report endorsement. Will hold special meeting before March 16th to finalized comment.

SBAB UPDATES AND NEXT STEPS

No additional steps beyond those noted above. Special meeting to be announced.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06

ATTACHMENT A

Meeting Minutes Distribution List:

Edward Murray, Mayor, City of Seattle
Andrew Glass-Hastings, Transportation Advisor, Office of the Mayor
City Councilmember Mike O'Brien, Sustainability & Transportation Committee Chair
City Councilmember Rob Johnson, Sustainability & Transportation Committee Vice-Chair
City Councilmember Kshama Sawant, Sustainability & Transportation Committee Member
City Councilmember Lisa Herbold, Sustainability & Transportation Committee Alternate
Scott Kubly, Director, Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT)
Nicole Freedman, Active Transportation Director, SDOT
Dongho Chang, City Traffic Engineer, SDOT
Kevin O'Neill, Planning Manager, SDOT
Sam Woods, Manager, Bicycle and Pedestrian Programs, SDOT
Diane Sugimura, Interim Director, Office of Planning and Development (OPCD)
Allie Gerlach, SDOT Communications
Kathy Nyland, Director, Department of Neighborhoods (DoN)
Christa Dumpys, Karen Ko, Thomas Whittemore, Tim Durkan, Laurie Ames, Yun Pitre,
Kerry Wade, Jenny Frankl, DoN Neighborhood District Coordinators
Meeting Presenters
SBAB Members
Individual Meeting Attendees