

Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board
April 11, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Hannah Keyes, David Seater, Patricia Chapman, Beau Morton, Bunnie Lee (Not Confirmed), Chaitanya Sharma (Not Confirmed), Gordon Padelford, Jennifer Tippins (Get Engaged), Andrea Clinkscales (Not Confirmed), Angela Davis,

SDOT Liaison: Belén Herrera, Howard Wu (Outgoing)

Minutes Approval:

- Minutes approved (4 of 5 Confirmed Members)

Public Comment:

- Doug: [Sic] Sidewalks opened to e-bikes in March. E-bikes are going over 20mph on sidewalks. Concerned that E-scooters will be more of a problem than E-bikes. Have taken policy steps to put powered wheeled transportation on our sidewalks. Something has to be done. Will the SPAB take any action? Disruptive transportation technologies are coming and have to be planned for. I will probably be saying more on this topic later. SPAB has to ask, what is a pedestrian advisory board? What values does it have, what does it defend? There are so many issues that e-scooters will enter into.
- Ryan Packer (The Urbanist): I have something to say about One Center City. There has been a 2 year process to figure out how to move people through downtown. A proposed bike lane on 4th Avenue is now deferred to 2021. An entire block of sidewalk on 4th and 5th avenue will be closed for a year during Rainier Square construction. The last One Center City update to the SPAB was a long time ago. It is shameful how the pedestrian environment has been ignored.
 - Seconded by Doug.
- Lauren from the Urbanist: There is not a current ranked scoring methodology for ranking sidewalks. Recommend using a scale different from proposed. Recommend: Excellent, substandard, hazardous (missing a couple). Hazardous is a much better word to describe the condition than poor. How does we make sure that we don't build new sidewalks with poles in them?

Sidewalk Executive Summary (Emily Burns and Susan Byers):

- Review of collection findings and data collection processes as previously described to SPAB (for the benefit of new members). See February Minutes or SDOT Sidewalk Condition Assessment Report.
- Sidewalk ranking is in line with national and international guidance. Does not include sidewalk that is completely inaccessible. This level of sidewalk is closed by SDOT.
- [Accessible Route Planner](#) shows sidewalk condition. Raw observations can be seen through Data.seattle.gov file called: [SidewalkObservations](#)
- Want to make this data more interactive. Use incentives to get repairs done. Will need to partner with businesses and property owners.

- Project website is very educational.
- Move Seattle allowed the City to hire a second person to respond to sidewalk condition claims. These people have to visit the site within 5 days, review to see whether the issue is public or private. Immediate goal is to make it safe. Plan to make a maintenance task force to focus on getting repairs done. Have a \$1.5 million budget.
- Angela: How do you prioritize? A: Safety, mobility, cost, how many people walk in the area.
- SDOT crews do asphalt (shim) repairs, beveling done by contr
- How do you use the data vs complaints to equitably distribute repairs? A: The Racial Equity Toolkit review showed that responses were equitable. We are creating a heatmap to show where complaints come from, how much is spent throughout the city. **Action Requested:** SDOT will email the board the heatmap.
- Andrea: Live in south Seattle and notice that contractors don't always follow ADA.
- Gordon: Why do you still use complaints now that you have the data? A: It's mostly a legal and political issue. Have been told that we still need to respond to complaints.
- Chaitnaya: Do you have the data on how much more efficient you could be by taking a corridor approach to repairs vs. a complaint approach? A: We are working toward that data. That is the goal.
- SDOT does not do the repairs on many of the complaints because they are not the City's responsibility. It does take the City's time and will make it safe/do the temporary mitigation, but will also send notice to property owner for long term repair.
- Will continue to ask for additional funding and look for partnering opportunities.
- Looking to create efficiencies with capital projects.
 - The cost is so much less when repairs are done in coordination with other projects.
- Patricia: What happens next? A: Improving and implementing an interactive data tool. Coordinate with PMs to build efficiencies. Decide how the department develops a sustainable program. That individual or group will come back to the board.
- Patricia: Concerned about the role of SPAB in giving recommendations. Would like our recommendations to go both to SDOT and the City Council. A: SPAB can give input on Capital Plan. SPAB should draft a response to the Executive summary that can be added as an appendix. This can be unfettered, can recommend things that maybe SDOT could not say.
- Hannah: Motion to have the SPAB write a letter of recommendations for the program and policy development as well as budget process.
 - Will send directly to Council.
 - Seconded by Patricia.
- **Action: SPAB to write letter with recommendations to be appended to the report. Patricia to write preliminary letter.**

Greenlake AAC (Christa Dumpys):

- Paving project, this is an opportunity to redesign the roadway for all modes.
- Have done surveys and open houses.
- Around 30% design mark now. Construction in Spring 2019.

- People want to make the streets safe, reduce intersection wait time, smoother streets.
- New protected and widened bike lanes.
- 3 new signals
- Upgraded pedestrian crossings
- Sidewalk repair and replacement.
- Upgraded curb ramps to meet ADA guidelines.
- Greenlake Way N & 52nd:
 - New signal for transition from 2-way bike lane to bike lane on either side of the street.
 - Push buttons for pedestrians. Have not gotten far enough to know the delay yet.
- Greenlake Way N & W Greenlake Way
 - New signal
 - Shortened crosswalks
- E Greenlake Way N & N 64th
 - New median will separate bikes from cars.
 - Bikes will stay on the lake side
 - Signal will remain the same.
- E Green Lake Way N at NE Ravenna Blvd, NE 71st St
 - Large curb bulb will extend out on the lake side.
- W Green Lake Dr & Densmore Ave
 -
- Planning many community outreach events in the summer and fall.
- Jennifer: Question about why the 2-way bike lane was chosen over 1-way each side. A: Balancing parking, this conserves the existing parking around the lake and protects bikes.
- Gordon: What percentage of the known sidewalk hazards are being repaired in the project? A: Will get back with the data.
- Chaitanya: Are you doing anything with the intersection at 50th? A: That is out of the scope of the paving project. Would be a project onto itself.
- Howard: RRFB will be added on 50th & Dayton through Your Voice, Your Choice.
- Chaitanya: Why did you go with a 2-way one-side bike lane? A: Can ask PMs. But really is about making the best use of the roadway, maintains existing parking.
 - Gordon: This also avoids intersections since it runs along the lake.

Board Business:

- Hannah: Motion to have the SPAB write a letter of recommendations for the program and policy development as well as budget process.
 - Will send directly to Council and append to the SDOT Sidewalk Condition Assessment Report.
 - Seconded by Patricia.
 - Patricia to draft letter.
- New on Levy to Move Seattle
 - SDOT is evaluating projects to see how they are doing. This is being used as a “reset” for the Levy using the anticipated lower federal funding levels.

- Chairs of the modal boards hope to have the boards coordinate. Potential for a letter from the modal boards.
- Patricia moves to empower David to advocate on behalf of the board for more pedestrian funding, no cuts, etc.
- Angela: Shared points for joint letter about SDOT director. This includes input from all of the modal boards. Angela to send to Hannah to share with the rest of the board for editing.
 - Belén will send Hannah input from Freight Board.

Actions:

- Patricia to draft initial recommendations, send to Hannah to share with the Board.
- Angela to send SDOT Director letter to Hannah. Hannah to share with the Board.

Meeting Adjourned.