



The City of Seattle

Ballard Avenue Landmark District Board

Mailing Address: PO Box 94649, Seattle WA 98124-4649
Street Address: 600 4th Avenue, 4th Floor

BLD 16/22

MINUTES OF THE MAY 5, 2022 MEETING

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: Virtual via WebEx

BOARD MEMBERS

Kaia Wahmanholm, Vice Chairperson

Tommy Patrick

Sandy Wolf, Chairperson

Angela Economou

STAFF

Minh Chau Le

ABSENT:

Joseph Herrin

Cass O'Callaghan

Mark Durall

In-person attendance was prohibited per Washington State Governor's Proclamation No. 20-28.5.

Meeting participation was limited to access by the WebEx Event link or the telephone call-in line provided on the agenda.

050522.1 CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chairperson Sandy Wolf called the meeting to order at 9:14 and determined a quorum was present. She asked Board members to disclose any conflicts related to the proposal.

050522.2 PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

050522.3 INFORMATIONAL BRIEFINGS

050522.31 Public Right of Way

Ballard Ave NW between 20th Ave NW and 22nd Ave NW
Presenters: Aditi Kambuj, Seattle Department of Transportation
Jonathan Williams, Seattle Department of Transportation

Informational briefing on near-term safety improvements on Ballard Ave NW

Aditi Kambuj of Seattle Department of Transportation stated the successes of public life activation and one way only traffic operations on Ballard Ave NW were also bringing about new challenges regarding safety in the right of way. SDOT was seeking temporary safety enhancements that would be respectful of the District's unique historic qualities and compliant with District values.

She identified the areas of focus being between 20th Ave NW and 22nd Ave NW and cited redundant signage, informal loading activities, cars driving closely to dining structures, speeding, wrong way travel, narrow sidewalks, and double parking as issues of concern. She added that compatibility with the Farmer's Market was a high priority for proposed improvements.

She presented materials showing proposed elements: new stop signs at 20th Ave, 22nd Ave, and Vernon Pl; the addition of one-way traffic signs; roadway striping, curb bulbs, removable posts and planters for the curb bulbs; loading only signs; new tree pits; removal of temporary barricades; removal of redundant signage. She said further outreach would be conducted and the timeline for implementation would be summer 2022.

Jonathan Williams said that loading and deliveries were critical to businesses and signage would be important. He said that ADA parking spaces was also a high priority.

Angela Economou stated support for the new stop signs and said sight lines at intersections were poor, particularly at Vernon Pl. She supported the planters of lower height from the presentation materials. She said the proposal would be an enhancement and make the area more welcoming.

Sandy Wolf advised against brightly colored planters, as they conflicted with District guidelines.

Tommy Patrick supported plantings but emphasized they must be well maintained and fully planted. He supported the proposed designation and demarcation of loading zones. He asked why the four-foot buffer was being proposed between parked cars and the sidewalk.

Aditi Kambuj said the alternative of leaving a buffer on the street side encourages double parking.

Jonathan Williams said placing the buffer between the sidewalk and parked cars was helpful for rideshare loading and unloading.

Tommy Patrick said the loading zones served the multiple purposes of deliveries by day and rideshares by evening.

Minh Chau Le stated that the proposal is eligible for administrative approval under current legislation and would be reviewed in that manner, taking into account the Board's guidance which included planter color, planter height, and signs. She invited final in person comment from the Board.

Tommy Patrick said that loading signs should be placed on the return side of the outdoor structures where they would be more visible.

Aditi Kambuj said written comment following the meeting would be welcome as well.

050522.4 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tommy Patrick made a motion to approve the minutes of March 3, 2022 as presented.

Angela Economou seconded the motion.

4 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained. Minutes were approved.

050522.5 BOARD BUSINESS

There was none.

050522.6 REPORT OF THE CHAIR

There was none.

050522.7 STAFF REPORT

Minh Chau Le reported that one administrative approval had been made since the last report was made, for a temporary dining shelter in front of Ballard Pizza. She stated that applications for the positions of Architect and Community Historian are open through May 30. She asked Board members their current preferences and readiness to transition meeting in person and acknowledged there are varying preferences among the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 am

Submitted by Minh Chau Le, Board Coordinator