



May 8, 2021

To the Mayor and Council,

The Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board (SBAB) urges the Seattle City Council to follow the outreach process it mandated when passing a \$20 vehicle license fee (VLF) in November 2020 and adopt the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) proposed spend plan without amendment. SDOT engaged stakeholders and struck a careful balance in its spending proposal that incorporated the City's stated priorities of safety, climate action, mobility justice, and equity. SDOT's proposal would invest 73% of the VLF on walking, rolling, and biking, while spending 24% on bridge maintenance. The proposed spending plan would support currently unfunded work in support of adopted city policies such as the Climate Action Plan, Vision Zero, the Bicycle, Transit, and Pedestrian Master Plans and the Race and Social Justice Initiative. Ongoing money for bicycle, transit, and pedestrian projects work have traditionally been difficult to obtain compared to road projects, and should not be sacrificed for projects that have a wider range of funding options.

The amendment adopted in committee to CB 120042 does the opposite, flipping the spending priorities. Instead of valuing input from the City's modal boards, transportation stakeholders, and equity stakeholders, the adopted amendment ignores people's work, meaningful community engagement, and devalues the valuable time that stakeholders have provided in crafting a recommended spending plan for the VLF. Instead of having ongoing funding to support what we say we value as a city, we will quickly bond and spend 20 years worth of money on a small number of road projects.

Our city is failing to meet its goals around climate change, visions zero, and equity. This is an opportunity to put actual money behind our value statements instead of so many empty words. The city says it values input from diverse stakeholders, this is a chance to heed their recommendations. Please support the SDOT spend plan that reflects citizen input without amendment.

Thank you for your time,

Sarah Udelhofen
Co-chair

Patrick Taylor
Co-chair

Patrick Taylor, Co-Chair
Sarah Udelhofen, Co-Chair
Alex Lew, Co Vice-Chair
Kashina Groves, Co Vice-Chair
Andrea Lai, Secretary
Yasir Alfarag
Andrew Dannenberg
Benjamin Estes
Meredith Hall
Jose Nino
Emily Paine
Maimoona Rahim

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 planing processes insofar as they relate to bicycling.

- City Council
Resolution 25534