



June 28, 2021

To: The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Re: City of Seattle East Marginal Way Corridor Improvement Project  
RAISE grant application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am pleased to write in support of the City of Seattle's application for US Department of Transportation RAISE grant funding for the East Marginal Way Corridor Improvement Project.

East Marginal Way is Seattle's most critical freight corridor running the length of the SODO Qualified Opportunity Zone connecting Port of Seattle terminals, freight rail yards, industrial businesses, local Manufacturing and Industrial Centers (MICs) and the national highway system, including Interstate 5 and the terminus of I-90. With so much freight and other daily usage, this roadway is in critical need of investment to allow continued accommodation of heavy hauling freight activity and to support safe usage by community members. In addition to the critical freight need this project is designed to address, a protected bike lane (PBL) between S Atlantic St and S Spokane St will provide full separation between the nearly 1,000 commuters biking on the corridor and people driving and delivering goods, increasing safety for vulnerable users. The separation between bicycle and vehicular traffic will increase safety for riders and create greater predictability for drivers. East Marginal Way will include rebuilding the signals at Hanford St to safely manage all bicyclist and motorist movements, also potentially relocating the railroad tracks at S Hanford St to provide more space between truck traffic and the bicycle facility. Construction of a new traffic signal at S Horton St will provide a protected diagonal crossing for bicyclists and encourage more consistent bicycling movements in this area. This route has been on the Seattle Bicycle Master Plan since its adoption by City Council in 2014 and is consistent with the City's Vision Zero plan to eliminate road deaths.

This bike lane will support a growing number of bicycle commuters as demonstrated by census data and counters showing an increase both in the city at large and in this corridor. In our increasingly congested rapidly growing city this project will provide a safe alternative for residents.

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



For the above-stated reasons, the Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board strongly urge the US Department of Transportation to consider and support the City of Seattle's application for RAISE funding to complete the East Marginal Way project.

Sincerely,

Sarah Udelhofen  
Co-chair

Patrick Taylor  
Co-chair

Andrea Lai  
Secretary

Cc: Senator Patty Murray  
Senator Maria Cantwell  
Governor Jay Inslee  
Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal  
Congressman Adam Smith  
Mayor Jenny A. Durkan

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