



February 23, 2022

To: Washington State Legislature

The Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board (SBAB) strongly supports the statewide \$1,000 rebate for purchases of electric bicycles in Governor Inslee’s 2022 policy and budget proposal. Our board asks that you pass the proposed e-bike rebate into law.

The Washington State Legislature has committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 45% below 1990 levels by 2030. Vehicle emissions are the largest source of greenhouse gas in Washington State, and reducing emissions will require us to get fossil-fueled vehicles off the road. E-bikes are an inexpensive and effective way to do that, by [boosting cycling ridership](#) and making cycling [more accessible to people of all ages and abilities](#).

The proposed rebate also makes sense at a local level in the City of Seattle. E-bikes help solve the problems of car traffic and air pollution. They make it easy to climb the hills of the Seattle area and integrate well with our region’s growing public transit network. E-Bikes also reduce the barriers to active transportation for our aging population and Washingtonians with mobility needs. As [Rep. Sharon Shewmake said](#) about an earlier e-bike affordability bill, “the more we make this emerging technology affordable, the less we have to worry about traffic, parking, greenhouse gas emissions, and steep car payments”.

Transitioning to a carbon-free transportation system will require new types of infrastructure as well as new types of vehicles. Increased bicycle ridership from e-bike subsidies will provide political capital for Seattle and other Washington cities to continue expanding their networks of safe and comfortable bike routes.

SBAB calls on the Washington State Legislature to pass Governor Inslee’s proposed e-bike subsidy into law.

Sincerely,

The Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board

Patrick Taylor, Co-Chair
Sarah Udelhofen, Co-Chair
Kashina Groves, Co Vice-Chair
Andrea Lai, Secretary
Yasir Alfarag
Andrew Dannenberg
Meredith Hall
Jose Nino
Maimoona Rahim
Yacoov Tarko
Diane Walsh

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 bicylcing.

– City Council
Resolution 25534