



Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board

*Stewards of the
Pedestrian Master Plan*

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Subject: SPAB support of Seattle Transit Measure renewal

Members of the City Council,

We continue to invest billions in transit vehicles and service, and the Seattle Transit Measure (STM) renewal is an important part of the city's transit infrastructure. The Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board urges the City Council to place the STM on the ballot for voter consideration in November.

- 100% of Transit Riders are Pedestrians: Buses and light rail do not exist in isolation; every trip begins and ends with walking. The funding in the Mayor's proposal for capital projects for access to transit infrastructure is a very important component in the overall transportation funding framework for the city.
- Addressing Transit Equity: Directing transit funding toward these areas corrects long-standing disparities and ensures that the benefits of public transit are shared by everyone. While we recognize that sales tax is inherently regressive, the benefits of continuation and expansion of local transit as part of the Mayor's proposed STM renewal is a progressive goal. Capital funding as part of the STM prioritizing increased accessibility and ease of access in areas that have often been underserved increases equitable access to transit.

SPAB wants to emphasize that access to transit is just as important as transit itself. Building sidewalks helps the city meet its legal obligations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and reduces liability risks associated with an inaccessible system. While the Seattle Transit Measure should be devoted to transit service funding and associated items, we also urge the Council to advance sidewalk construction and repair as quickly as possible. Working with the Transportation Levy Oversight Committee, Transportation Funding Task Force, and Transit Advisory Board to push improvements to access *and* improve the ADA Transition Plan is a priority of the Pedestrian Advisory Board as a fundamental component of transit access.

The Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board shall advise the City Council, the Mayor and all the offices of the city on matters related to pedestrians and the impacts which actions by the city may have upon the pedestrian environment; and shall have the opportunity to contribute to all aspects of the city's planning insofar as they relate to the pedestrian safety and access.

*~City Council Resolution
28791*

Improving access to transit *and* improving transit itself go hand-in-hand and we believe the Mayor's proposed Seattle Transit Measure renewal and expansion while continuing to move on additional transportation revenue priorities are effective ways to accomplish these goals. We urge sending the Seattle Transit Measure renewal and expansion to voters.

Sincerely,

The Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board