



Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board

*Stewards of the
Pedestrian Master Plan*

Emily Davis, Chair
Maria Sumner, Vice Chair
Erin Fitzpatrick
Fallon Boyle
David Frantz
Wes Mills
Chelsea Morrison
Natasha Riveron
Emilie Szeto
Chris Grgich
Rohit Ammanamanchi
David Flasterstein

Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board (SPAB) Meeting Minutes

August, 2022 - Virtual:MS Teams, In-Person: City Hall 370

Attendees:

Board Members

Emily Davis
Maria Sumner
Erin Fitzpatrick
Fallon Boyle
David Frantz
Wes Mills

Chelsea Morrison
Natasha Riveron
Emilie Szeto
Chris Grgich
Rohit Ammanamanchi

Non-Board Members

Belén Herrera, SDOT
Brian Dougherty, SDOT
John Carini, Sound Transit
1 by phone – Doug McDonald
Eldon Jacobson
Cory

Kyler Danielson
Lee Bruch (ARC)
Ryan Packer
Bryan Townley
Erica Barnett
“Lake City Way for People” Representative

Welcome, Roll Call, and Vision Zero Update

- Latest July 2022 traffic fatalities/injuries:
 - 2 fatalities (14 for the year)
 - 16 serious injury collisions (108 for year)
 - 82 injury collisions (808 for year)

Public Comment

- Lee Bruch – Aurora Reimagined Comm. I’m here and available to help prepare for your September walk.
- Eldon Jacobson – Live in Roosevelt and part near a new project a few blocks away. Adjacent property owners place fences at the edge along the sidewalk. Is there a policy or rule to be a certain distance from the sidewalk? I would request a mailer to inform property owners of policy.
- Doug McDonald – Been attending since 2015. I’m a senior citizen and don’t drive. Haven’t had a license since 2007. The Move Seattle Levy is nearing the end and encourages SPAB to advocate for funding in the new upcoming Levy. Concerned about the e-scooter issues and their ongoing safety problems, especially with ADA like the visually impaired, including me. Scooters should be in the streets and not on the sidewalks.

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

Sound Transit Update on Vertical Conveyances

John Carini, Deputy Director, Vertical Conveyances

- Fancy term for elevators and escalators – operations and maintenance
- Performance tracker link included:
- New signage that have not yet been deployed for out of service due to X,Y,Z reason and include a QR code for tentative information of when it will be replaced and back in service
- We found we are the most transparent organization regarding equipment
- Sound Transit doesn't own the downtown tunnel and saw underperformance in those 4 light rail stations to bring them up to par – Jan 2021 we assumed ownership
- Report on downtown light rail stations progress of procurement, design and updates
- Q/A:
 - Is there braille on the signs?
 - A: The new signs are a pilot and only stickers at this point. Will use this feedback for future signage.
 - Follow up question: Requiring QR code – have you thought about users who don't have tech access?
 - A: We have thought about it, the website has the most up to date information. A-boards were a bit dated and constantly changing. Our goal is to steer folks towards the website. We are open to suggestions.
 - Rohit - I have a suggestion. A short link would be great to add to those posters. Can use this when you don't have internet access.
 - Q: Timeline for unit 23/24?
 - A: We are piloting 5 of the 20. We have 2023/24 to install all out of 20 but we have over 190 assets and want to be realistic.
 - Q: Find it Fix It App connect?
 - A: We are looking at other solutions to the QR code or security. Twitter has been super helpful.
 - Q: Have you tested that website for accessibility?
 - A: yes it has been tested
 - Q: Wes – Appreciate the announcement from the train operator. Like the announcements on the tvs but can be wordy with so many announcements going on in the station. Could AD boards with slides be used?
 - A: New signage is a pilot and phase 1. Once we deem new signage using. Second phase – How do I know before I get to the destination/equipment. In the middle of design for eye-level signage. Working to include visuals.
 - Q: Is there a system in place for folks to make rounds and inspections?
 - A: We've had security concerns and two new vendors we brought on to regularly inspect.
 - Q: Is a feedback option for reporting thematic issues to elevator/escalator manufacturer(s) utilized?
 - A: We do not talk directly to the manufacturer(s), but we work it out during design and specifications. We are doing a better job of tracking.
 - Maria Q: Is there a plan to increase % target, feels like traveling myself feels like a lot. Would you increase in the future?
 - A: City equipment we would still have to take out of service on a monthly basis for maintenance. Can we do during non-revenue hours = 3 hours of work and expensive. We are still working at hitting our goal targets we've set. We look at trends, spikes, and regular conversations of how we mitigate a lot of problems.

- Q: Is the general public going to be given visibility into the timelines you just presented, so that they can proactively make contingency plans (use a different station, leverage buses > light rail, etc.)?
 - A: We're in a procurement process for the CID. Next work with our Comms team and impacts for messaging about how long, which stations, signage, etc. This replacement program is ongoing. Yes we will have a ton of messaging going out.
- There was not sufficient time to cover all these questions and explored collecting additional questions to have answered via email:
 - Are escalators and elevator parts still hard to acquire?
 - Are future stations being designed with redundancy in mind?
 - Why are modern escalator logic controllers refrigerator-sized? Most electronics are so much smaller than that in the 2020s.

15th Ave W/NW and Ballard Bridge Paving Project

Belén Herrera on behalf of the Project Team

- Project Limits: W Emerson St to NW 57th St
- Project Scope:
 - Mill and overlay asphalt on 15th Ave W/NW
 - Mill and overlay asphalt on Ballard Bridge
 - Replace expansion joints on Ballard Bridge
 - Waterproofing on construction joints on Ballard Bridge
 - Panel replacement on the ramps off the bridge to NW Leary Way
 - Base repair and panel replacement where needed
 - Maintains existing channelization/operations
- Additional scope with funding partners (along 15th Ave NW, north of the bridge):
 - Spot sidewalk repair in priority locations (valued at \$500k)
 - Tree replacement and tree pit expansion as funding allows
- Project Schedule:
 - Just reached 30% Design Milestone
 - Design: Now through early 2023
 - Construction: as soon as summer 2023 through late 2024
- More info:
 - Website: <https://www.seattle.gov/transportation/15thAveBallardBridgePaving>
 - Email: 15thavew_nwpaving@seattle.gov
- Q: Have they come to the board before?
 - A: No, it sounds like a maintenance project with limited scope and no plans for redesign/rechannelization. Feel free to email Belen or the project manager.

7:15 pm – Board Business – 35 min

- Return to in-person meeting/hybrid options
 - For those meeting at City Hall, Board members are encouraged to arrive shortly before 6pm. Elevators and doors lock promptly at 6pm and a security guard would need to let folks in.
- Seattle Sidewalk Accessibility Guide
 - The Seattle Sidewalk Accessibility Guide (previously Sidewalk StoryMap) website is now live! <https://www.seattle.gov/transportation/projects-and-programs/programs/pedestrian-program/sidewalk-accessibility-guide#Homeowner>
- September Field Trip Logistics
 - Discussion on location for walk:
 - Aurora Reimagined suggested starting at 125th and walking 5 blocks along Aurora to 130th.

- Motion to use the Aurora Reimagined suggestion and start on NW corner of 125th, walk 5 blocks along Aurora Ave N to 130th, then cross the pedestrian bridge.
 - Second and approved!
- Open to inviting stakeholders, including:
 - District 5 & 6 Councilmembers
 - New head of SDOT (if he's confirmed by then)
 - Ask to invite WSDOT rep since it's their corridor
 - Regional Housing Authority
 - King County Metro for E-Line
- Comment: name tags or shirts to identify board members would be good
- Some places don't have a sidewalk and shoulder is wide but exposed – could SDOT bring High Viz vests or flags for safety
- Request the 15th Ave Project Team return
- Meeting minute approval process

Public Comment

- Eldon – Vision Zero: We have no enforcement of speeding. When the speed limit was initially lowered folks slowed, but now folks are back to driving at 35 mph. We are encouraging folks to ignore the speed sign. SDOT should be raising the speed limits back to match realistic speeds for roadway use/design.
- Cory – Grateful for the new Vision Zero Slow the Flock Down slogan and congrats to SDOT for making that happen.

7:50 pm – Meeting Adjourn