



City of Seattle

Jenny A. Durkan, Mayor

Department of Transportation
Sam Zimbabwe, Director

Seattle Freight Advisory Board

Seattle Freight Advisory Board Meeting Summary

Date and Time: September 24, 2019

Location: City Hall Boards and Commissions Room L280

Members Present:

Warren Aakervik	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	Warren Aakervik	<input type="checkbox"/>	7	Vacant
Todd Biesold	<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Todd Biesold	<input type="checkbox"/>	8	Pat Cohen
Kristal Fiser	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	Kristal Fiser	<input type="checkbox"/>	9	John Persack
Jeanne Acutanza, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4	Jeanne Acutanza (Chair)	<input type="checkbox"/>	10	Frank Rose
Johan Hellman	<input type="checkbox"/>	5	Johan Hellman	<input type="checkbox"/>	11	Kris DeBuck
Mike Elliott	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6	Mike Elliott	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	12	Geri Poor (Port of Seattle)
Vacant						
Pat Cohen						
John Persack						
Frank Rose						
Kris DeBuck						
Geri Poor						

Guests Presenters:

Diane Wiatr, SDOT – Ballard Interbay Regional Corridor Study
Chisaki Muraki, SDOT – Ballard Interbay Regional Corridor Study

Public Present:

NONE

SDOT Staff Present:

Venu Nemani – Board Liaison
Treysea Tate – Assistant to Board Liaison
Bill LaBorde – Council Liaison
Cass Magnuski - Transcription

1. Welcome and Introductions

Board Members and Attendee introductions on the call

2. Public Comment

NONE

3. Approval of Minutes

Corrections and comments for previous meeting minutes have been forwarded to Cass Magnuski.

4. Announcements & Chair's Report

Questions from SDOT/Tate to the Board regarding meeting minutes and the website overhaul.

SDOT/Nemani will create 2-page "interim" minutes until Chris Eaves' return

The Seattle Freight Advisory Board shall advise the City Council, the Mayor, and all departments and offices of the City in development of a functional and efficient freight system and on all matters related to freight and the impact that actions by the City may have upon the freight environment.

City Council Resolution
31243

Board Chair/Acutanza noted that the minutes should ultimately be longer than 2-pages and the presentations are equally important to the group.

SDOT/Tate noted that the files will be batch uploaded (minutes, agendas and presentations) by City IT.

Board Chair/Acutanza requested feedback from Board member attendees to the Ballard Bridge Study event:

- Board/Aakervik noted the following:
 - The study is in its preliminary stage; study team is looking for feedback.
 - Conflicting positions/opinions from freight, community cyclists and local hobby mariners.
 - Potential congestion creation by Amazon, Uber and Lyft – the community will no longer be able to leave home due to “delivery” congestion.
 - Of the three preliminary Ballard bridge options consensus appears to be same height or slightly taller; taller bridge may present sight distance issues, and push congestion deeper into Ballard neighborhoods.
 - Concern over multi-modal mix within a tunnel of that distance
 - SPU Ship Canal Water Quality project (2.7-mile long, 18.83-ft diameter tunnel, ~84-ft below the canal will extend from Ballard to Wallingford
- SDOT/Nemani noted the following:
 - The tallest bridge option of the three presented would have the longest touchdown point on either end – out to Market Street to the north and Nickerson to the south – creating additional issues to be mitigated.
 - Bikes and pedestrians add grade limitations
 - Tunnel options was also being discussed
 - Discussion centered around the connections on either end, which make the most sense and how to reconnect this bridge to the various options.
 - The SDOT study team will be finishing their preliminary findings late Fall 2019/early Spring 2020; Updates to the draft will be provided to the Board for comment before the study report is finalized.

Board/Poore announced that Terminal 46 Cruise Ship Environment will be starting up next month.

- The northern 29-acres will be converted to a cruise ship terminal
- There is no official scoping period set yet
- Scooter bikes may be big for that

5. Pioneer Square UPDATE – Venu Nemani, SDOT

Commercial Load Zone Relocations

- Work done thus far consists of the implementation on 1st Avenue which was the most critical corridor

- SDOT will now be looking at all the side streets connected to 1st Avenue Arway as many may need similar weight restrictions. These restrictions will likely be implemented.
- SDOT/Nemani is the lead for signage implementation scheme; signs identical to those used at 1st Avenue. Will need to determine where to pick up restrictions and were to place signage for maximum visibility.
- Expect complete October 2019.
- SDOT internal meeting on Thursday September 26th to discuss Next Steps

SFAB Comments / Questions:

Do the project visuals show alleys or only the streets?

Only the streets, not alleys

Can the project visuals be updated to show alleys?

An update can be provided at a subsequent meeting.

Can alley deliveries provide a faster fix to curb load restrictions?

SDOT attempting to determine the implications for trucks entering/leaving alleys, for example, trash collection – how will that be managed? Will locals bring trash to the street? This poses additional challenges. There are conversations taking place between the solid waste team. There are also challenges for emergency access and the fire department has been brought into the conversation.

Can solid waste collection be performed with smaller trucks?

SDOT does not have an immediate answer. The weight restriction of 10,000 lbs. is the challenge – that is the equivalent of a single Ford F-150 truck. Cannot speak to the types of structural reinforcements are being considered at the entrances to the alleys.

6. Scooter Share Pilot Project – Venu Nemani, SDOT

Several jurisdictions in and around Seattle have implemented their use.

Early-2020 is expected outreach, then pilot program launch; unsure of exact pilot locations.

SDOT is looking for feedback - please review and complete the exercise on the back of the handout as well. The exercise is also online

SFAB Comments / Questions:

Board/Aakervik and Board/Elliott voiced numerous concerns:

- Wherever there is the convergence of a truck street and a trail, there is a blind spot during truck turns – is there a control feature that will define who has the right-of-way?
- Trucking safety is already significantly challenged by bikes and other slower, smaller modes passing on the right; there should be legislation restricting passing on the right at intersections.
- Truck left-turn movement safety is challenged; queuing in the intersection, waiting for crossing pedestrians/cyclists/other non-motorized vehicles. Increasing pedestrian/bike crossing signal phases increases the associated risks.
- Trucks idling in the intersection increases congestion and pollution
- Board recommends “ensuring safety with others, especially on major truck street”

Develop specific direction on where and how these scooters may be used and placed – there are issues with existing share-program vehicles blocking alleys, curbs, ADA ramps, and other modes. Potentially develop reporting and confiscation system.

Develop programs to establish public awareness of electric vehicle operational safety and compliant use. Scooters users need to exercise heightened awareness when using truck routes. There should be defined usage separation between scooters and pedestrians, cap on speed.

There is a need for greater SPD enforcement of traffic laws – this is a critical element of public safety. There is also a need to define safe usage; define appropriate penalties for non-compliance; and draft the supporting legislation.

7. West Seattle to Ballard – Initial Assessment on Freight, Impacts and Considerations – Venu Nemani, SDOT

Two handouts are presented for the Board’s consideration – “Arterials and Initial Assessment” and the three alignments being considered. Sound Transit is requesting comment online

Proposed stations align with pedestrian and cyclist perspective

This project will be primarily grade-separated, at-grade alignment in SODO, potential tunnel SDOT operations evaluating traffic analysis methodology, early stage

Liaison/Nemani will channel Board comments to interagency SDOT staff, referencing previous Board letter. Draft email for Board to review and comment.

SFAB Comments / Questions:

What is the timeline for comment? Is Sound Transit scoping?

The three-week comment period includes initial recommendations from the Board and community. Sound Transit will have a meeting in October 2019 and the Board will make decisions.

Board notes its important to comment on the impacts of mixed use in the industrial area and protecting freight mobility/truck routes

The Port has very clear position on location of West Seattle alignment near Terminal 5 which was included in Board letter.

In SODO, potential freight mobility improvements without an extension overpass

E3 bus service is beneficial to keep transit off 1st Avenue and 4th Avenue

Board is looking forward to the final EIS report accounting for impacts from the completion of the Lander Street Grade Separation

8. Ballard Interbay Regional Corridor Study (BIRT) – Diane Wiatr, SDOT and Chisaki Muraki, SDOT

- New and improved Vision and Mission for Ballard; added equity and sustainability
- 2019 WA State Legislature allocated \$700,000 for SDOT to perform study of transportation in the Ballard-Interbay area.
- SDOT recently completed the Magnolia Bridge Study, developed alternatives
- Ballard Bridge Study is in development – expect complete late 2019

- November 2, 2020 – Report to WSDOT demonstrating how to maintain current and future capacities of Magnolia and Ballard Bridges
- Inter-agency partnerships with King County, Sound Transit, Port of Seattle, WA State Military, SDOT
- Not expected to scope public opinion; purely technical study. Public information will be available online
- Consultants expected to review all previous bridge data, assess and report findings. Findings will provide for draft recommendations report. Interagency partners will review and provide feedback

SFAB Comments / Questions:

Is the Ballard-Interbay Corridor study a new name for what used to be the Ballard -Magnolia Bridge Study?

This is more of a regional study, not just the Magnolia Bridge

Is this a “typical” legislative review? Similar to FMSIB?

SDOT is actively gauging their level of engagement, reporting requirement

Will an economic study be performed by the consultant?

Yes

Board has requested SDOT/Wiatr provide updates on legislative reporting hierarchy and where the Board may best insert feedback and updates to the graphics indicating importance to the Board

9. Good of the Order – All SFAB Members

- Potential upcoming agenda items
 - Maritime / Industrial Land Use strategy – addressing BIMAC and SODO stadium
 - Unused Lander Street Grade Separation monies and potential project uses
 - In-City development and integration with existing freight routes
 - Warehousing and distribution in the Green River Valley
 - Freight Master Plan budget update including potential deliverables
 - Blue Seattle expenditures
 - Georgetown bike connections
- Status of potential Board Member, Joseph

Adjourn

11:00AM