

**SBAB Advisory Comments on the Move Seattle Levy, Tuesday, June 2, 2015 Public Hearing
Presented by SBAB C0-Chair, Kristi Rennebohm Franz**

The Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board advises City Council to lead boldly on the Move Seattle Levy, knowing that many residents support making Seattle safer on our streets and sidewalks.

SBAB supports having the Move Seattle levy fund 50% of the BMP, including additional funding for important Catalyst Projects...so that more residents of all ages and abilities, not just the most intrepid bicyclists, will choose to ride bikes for transportation because the city has more Protected Bike Lanes, Neighborhood Greenways and Off-Street Facilities.

It is imperative to have people who are experienced bicycle riders, people who are capable but cautious riders, and people who are new riders separated on our roadways from people who drive freight, transit and cars...so that all modes, ALL MODES, experience increased safety, reduced possibility of collisions, less road congestion and less confusion on who is to be where when. With each additional resident choosing to ride bikes for transportation needs, we reduce the numbers of residents in cars and those who need to drive cars have space to do so safely.

Specifically, SBAB supports priority of levy funding for our consistently identified and increasingly dangerous streets, sidewalks and intersections, including:

Southeast Seattle communities living along and near Rainier Avenue and MLK Jr Way where we need protected bike lanes and greenways to connect people to their destinations and encourage new ridership. This includes fully funding and implementing the Accessible Mt. Baker Project near Franklin School, an imperative for road safety and long term success of BMP projects. SBAB now has Southeast Seattle Working Group being led by Lara Normand who represents this area of the city on our board.

Northgate communities with funding for the Northgate Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge, extended Bikeshare network and Safe Routes to School there where students routes to school do not all have sidewalks.

We advises funding projects for **West Seattle communities** including funding for the Fauntleroy Boulevard Project and funding near-term improvements to **Ballard Bridge** to implement critically needed safety measures. SBAB has a Ballard Bridge Working Group and will be giving you input on the Connect Ballard recommendations you received last week. These funding priorities support the Bicycle Master Goals of Equity, Safety, Connectivity, Ridership and Livability.

SBAB strongly advises funding the Safe Routes to School at a higher level than presently proposed.

And, SBAB advises flexibility in the Move Seattle levy to adjust to the 2035 Comprehensive Plan while also insuring accountability for project commitments in the levy.

Thank you for all your work on making our Seattle streets and sidewalks safe.

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