



*Stewards of the
Pedestrian Master Plan*

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Gordon Padelford, Vice Chair
Beau Morton
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Afia Mashhadi
Janine Blaeloch
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Paul Muldoon
Carly Nations (Get Engaged)

Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board 2016 Annual Report

Overview and Responsibilities

The Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board (SPAB) is chartered with four tasks:

- Advise the Mayor, City Council and all departments and offices of the City on matters related to pedestrians, including the impact that actions by the City may have upon the pedestrian environment;
- Contribute to all aspects of the City's planning and project development processes insofar as they may relate to pedestrian safety and access;
- Promote improved pedestrian safety and access by evaluating and recommending changes in City Design guidelines and policies;
- Prepare an annual report on the status of its work program and achievement of its goals to the Mayor and City Council.

In addition, the Pedestrian Advisory Board also tracks implementation of the Seattle Pedestrian Master Plan. The most recent update is scheduled to be adopted by the Mayor and City Council in early 2017.

2016 Highlights

During 2016, the SPAB focused on updating the Pedestrian Master Plan, provided input on a range of projects across city agencies, and participated in community planning efforts. The board heard and provided feedback on 20 issues/projects during regular meetings. Members attended 37 pedestrian and transportation related meetings, conferences, and public hearings outside of the board meetings. The board wrote five letters of support for various City projects during the year. Finally, the Board engaged in advocacy that resulted in \$400,000 in funding for a sidewalk condition assessment and worked with Neighborhood Greenways to increase funding for Vision Zero that resulted in \$1 million additional funding for the Rainier Ave Safety Corridor Project.

Projects and Policy Issues Presented to the SPAB for Input, Comment and Review during Regular Monthly Meetings

- CPRS 2016 Work Plan
- Curb-cuts Lawsuit
- 8th Ave S Pedestrian Safety Project
- New Project Development Division Update
- Center City Bike Network

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*-City Council Resolution
28791*

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- S Lander Street Overpass: 2 presentations
- Waterfront Seattle
- Freight Master Plan Update
- SR 520 West Approach Bridge South & Montlake Lid Project
- Director's Rule "Pedestrian Mobility Around Work Zones
- 2017/18 Paving Projects
- Rainier Ave S Hazard Mitigation Project
- Rainier Ave S Road Safety Corridor Project Field Trip
- City of Seattle Design Review Program
- One Center City
- The Levy to Move Seattle
- Center City Connector
- Access Map-Open Sidewalks
- Fremont Transit Improvements
- 2017 Neighborhood Parks & Street Fund Process

Participation in Pedestrian Related Meetings/Events Outside of Board Meetings

- 7 Move Seattle Oversight Meetings
- Monthly Neighborhood Greenway Meetings
- 3 ROWIM Advisory Group meetings
- June, Lake City Greenways presentation to Northeast Rotary Club
- June, July, August: Meetings with SDOT regarding Safe Routes to School at Cedar Park
- July and September, Meetings with Mike O'Brien, Chair of Transportation Committee
- August, Meeting with Terry Martin to get educated on sidewalk conditions and what it would take to get a full assessment
- August, 35th Ave Improvement Meeting
- September, ST3 press conference at site of NE 130th Street light rail station with CM Debora Juarez
- September, Vision Zero press conference about reducing speeds on city streets
- October, Age Friendly Conference in Chicago sponsored by AARP (pedestrian issues are a big part of Age Friendly Cities)
- October, City of Seattle Budget Hearing Testimony
- October, Georgetown Open Space Visioning Project - Open House (hosted by Seattle Parks Foundation)
- October Northeast Seattle Vision Zero gathering/press event

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- November, Lynnwood Link Light rail station planning meeting
- November, District 5 greenways organizers priority meeting
- November, World Day of Remembrance mounting of silhouettes to mark traffic deaths
- November, World Day of Remembrance event at City Hall
- December, Fremont Ave safety meeting

Advisory Remarks and Comment Letters

- Sent a letter to SDOT about Right of Way Improvement Manual pedestrian issues.
- Co-wrote a joint letter to SDOT the Parks Commission, Bicycle Advisory Board, Planning Commission, Commission for People with Disabilities, Transit Advisory Board regarding the Right of Way Improvement Manual.
- Sent a letter about 32nd Ave W and W Raye Street intersection in Magnolia related to traffic calming
- Letter of Support for Lander Street Bridge Fast Lane Grant
- Sent a letter to SDOT for the Pedestrian Master Plan Update

Pedestrian Master Plan Involvement

- There were 6 PMP updates held during our regular meetings
- The board asked for more in depth presentation about the performance measures and a number of board members attended a workshop held outside the regular board meeting on 4/5
- Sent a letter to SDOT as part of the public review part of the process with comments and questions about existing sidewalk conditions, new sidewalks Complete Streets and Neighborhood Greenways, curb ramp study and Accessible Pedestrian Signals. The main thrust of our comments was concern over inadequate funding for completing the sidewalk network, much less maintaining existing inventory.
- Asked SDOT to overlay location of subsidized housing for older adult and people with disabilities on pedestrian investment network to determine if the needs of these two populations will be met with.

2017 Work Plan

- Oversee the implementation of the Pedestrian Master Plan.
- Oversee the substantial completion of the City of Seattle Sidewalk Condition Assessment as well as the development of an ongoing funded database maintenance program for the Sidewalk Asset Database.
- Insure that sidewalk closings due to construction are minimized and push the

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City of Seattle to adopt a more aggressive posture when dealing with contractors concerning sidewalk access during construction. Establish a monthly report on sidewalk closings.

- Expand coordination with other City of Seattle Advisory Boards and community groups. Establish a monthly outreach report as part of the monthly meeting.
- Establish a quarterly report on overall sidewalk improvements against plan consistent with the Move Seattle quarterly report.
- Development of a Pedestrian Vision to focus the board's efforts (one that is more specific than becoming the most walkable and accessible city in the nation).

Summary and Conclusions

- Earlier Review of Key Projects: We took some steps to improve the timing of when the board would hear about potential projects with a goal to have our input provided during the 0-10% design phase. We had one presentation from the newly created Project Development Division within SDOT, but ongoing communication will be needed going forward.
- Equity and Inclusion: This will be an ongoing process, but some of the highlights include requesting a performance measure workshop with a goal to learn how the equity measures would be applied to the Pedestrian Master Plan. We prioritized diversifying the board when selecting new members (two people of color and one person with disabilities were brought on the board). We also were looking for people who were able to demonstrate with their answers that they had done some work to increase their equity and inclusion skills.
- Vision Zero: Our field trip was devoted to increasing our knowledge about the Rainier Ave Corridor Safety work led by SDOT, participated in the press conference about moving forward with speed limit reductions and successfully advocated for additional funding for the Rainier Ave Safety Corridor project.
- Right of Way Improvement Manual: Participated in the advisory committee and provided formal input into changes that would make the ROWIM more pedestrian friendly.
- Director's Rule Construction Related Sidewalk Closures: We had one presentation beginning of the year and another one to about 12 months later. We will continue to monitor to insure that the new rule is enforced.
- Connection between Private Development and Sidewalks: We invited speakers from SDOT and SDCI to begin the process of educating members on the design review process. Since private developers are a primary source of new sidewalks and replacement of existing sidewalks, the board will continue to

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educate members about this process.

- ADA: We invited the attorney from Disability Rights WA to update the board on the curb cut lawsuit and SDOT's ADA staff person to learn how the city was addressing the lawsuit. The board's interests align well with the disability community's desire for accessibility. Having someone on the board from this community is a priority.

We understand that the City has very few resources currently available to fund the entire PMP; aside from the nine years' worth of funding from the Move Seattle levy, the Plan is short on funding details. To ensure that the plan is fully implemented, and that the citizens of Seattle are fully aware of the challenges that they will face in making Seattle the most walkable city in America, we believe that the City must be forthright about the city's current, limited funding options, and about what it will take to fully fund and implement the pedestrian improvements in the plan. We look forward to working with the council and the mayor in 2017.

Submitted by Joanne Donohue, 2016 Chair
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