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Kristi Rennebohm Franz,
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Lara Normand, Secretary

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Michael Wong

April 12, 2015

To: Mayor Murray and City Council Members

From: Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board

Thank you for your vision and leadership in making Seattle a great place to ride a bike. The Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board (SBAB) is proud to offer comments on and an endorsement of the Seattle Bicycle Master Plan (BMP) Annual Progress Report.

As you are aware, the Board's vision is to make Seattle a world-class city for bicycling, to make bicycling a viable transportation choice by encouraging active participation in policy and planning efforts through all levels of government, and to build a more inclusive bicycling community by representing the needs of the diverse population of bicyclists in the city. Through the Bicycle Master Plan Implementation plan process, the board has had a chance to build an even stronger relationship with SDOT staff and create a shared understanding of how the BMP can be implemented. This positive relationship has been developed through the process of our monthly meetings, through online communication, and through face-to-face meetings initiated by board members and SDOT staff as needed to make the best possible progress with shared reciprocal leadership and follow-up actions.

Both the five-year implementation plan and the annual progress report have greatly increased the transparency of the project selection process and helped the board understand future connections. Having this long range view greatly aids our ability to advise the Mayor and Council. We are pleased

The Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board shall advise the City Council, the Mayor, and all departments and offices of the city on matters related to bicycling, and the impact which actions by the city may have upon bicycling; and shall have the opportunity to contribute to all aspects of the city's planning processes insofar as they relate to bicycling.

- City Council
Resolution 25534



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SDOT has undertaken this process and are excited to strengthen this partnership as we work through the initial updates and reports.

SBAB appreciated and endorses the annual update presented by Kristin Simpson at our April 1st meeting. Looking ahead, SBAB offers the following comments to strengthen future progress reports. SBAB, as stewards of the BMP is deeply committed to the five goals in the plan (Safety, Equity, Connectivity, Ridership, and Livability) would like to see metrics on how the annual projects are achieving these goals. Safety and Vision Zero is a top priority of the board and any and all projects that address a known safety issues should be called out. There is a strong interest on the board in making sure that equity is being addressed in parts of Seattle that have been underserved by bike infrastructure. Additionally, any and all opportunities to connect existing networks should be exploited. In short, we hold all five goals close and would like to see future updates formatted in a way that highlights progress towards meeting those goals.

An additional request is to increase reporting on the budget and project cycle. As the board looks to see the BMP fully built out in 20 years as designed, having a better sense of project budgets and expenditures on the BMP implementation is important.

Ad additional comment is to insure that all districts in the city are included in each five-year implementation list of projects and that projects continue to be built out in each district equitably. This includes continuation of the momentum that comes from building projects within and between

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neighborhoods. It is important that all districts continue to see improvements with ongoing regularity.

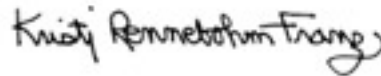
We applaud SDOT's work on the maps that have been included in the BMP implementation plan and urge them to continue to refine and include them in project updates. Numbering projects on the map would help us more quickly understand what the projects are and breaking the maps out by the sectors used in the BMP (N, S, NE, NW, SW, SE) would allow greater detail on where projects are occurring and how we are meeting our equity goals.

We look forward to continuing to work with SDOT on this process in future.

Sincerely,



Jeff Aken
Co-Chair



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