

Levy to Move Seattle Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes

[Levy Oversight Committee bylaws – adopted April 2017](#)

[Move Seattle Levy legislation, approved June 29, 2015](#)

Date/Time: Tuesday October 1, 2019 / 5:30 – 7:30 PM

Co-chairs: Betty Spieth-Croll, Ron Posthuma

Location: Seattle City Hall, Room 370

Members Present Ron Posthuma, Nick Paranjpye, Inga Manskopf, Sam Ferrara, Betty Spieth-Croll, Alex Rouse, Rachel Be-Shmuel, Patrick Taylor, Mike O'Brien, Saroja Reddy (for Ben Noble)

Members Absent: Vicky Clarke, Todd Biesold, Lisa Bogardus, Hester Serebrin

Guests: Sam Zimbabwe, Lorelei Williams, Nick Makhani, Rachel McCaffrey (all SDOT)

MEETING CALL TO ORDER: 5:31pm

Public Comment:

Ryan Packer – New Sidewalk Program; concerned about 30 sidewalks being scaled back and the use of low-cost alternatives.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Edits to Minutes: None

Betty to moves to approve, Ron second. Motion passes unanimously.

Agenda Item 1: 2020 Proposed SDOT Budget

Sam Zimbabwe introduced the Mayor's 2020 proposed budget, highlighting three top priorities: delivering on voter commitments, enhancing safety and mobility, and sustaining SDOT as an organization. Sam's introduction included mention of the proposed Transportation Network Company (TNC) fee increase to 75 cents per ride.

Ron: About the TNC, the first 5 years goes to where?

CM O'Brien: The streetcar. The funding for the streetcar is an ongoing need.

David S: How did the Department decide how to allocate the proceeds from the Mercer Megablock?

Patrick: Yes, specifically how was the Highland Park project identified? We reviewed that project for the Neighborhood Street Fund program.

Sam Z: Highland Park is a location has been an ongoing priority with a history of collisions, but hasn't been included in a CIP. In other cases, it's looking at projects that are ready to go and being able to move quickly.

Alex: It should be a priority to address dangerous corridors quickly.

Ron kicked off the SDOT presentation on the 2020 Proposed Budget and mentioned the September Finance Subcommittee meeting where SDOT shared the proposed budget and the subcommittee had the opportunity to dig in a little deeper and ask questions. The Subcommittee also began discussing revenue.

Nick Makhani presented the 2020 Proposed Budget for SDOT including an timeline, summary of the \$296M base budget, and additional \$6M in funding identified for 2020, including proceeds from the Mercer Megablock. The presentation reviewed the proposed budget in relation to historical data for nine key levy programs.

Nick P: When will we know what Lander Overpass contingency is leftover?

Nick M: Next year.

Patrick: When will Northgate Bridge be completed?

Lorelei: 2021 is the target and construction should start soon. We need approval from WDOT for construction permits.

Alex: Since the Streetcar is on the top of the list, what is the priority for Madison and Roosevelt?

Lorelei: Madison is the first project moving forward with the FTA grants then Roosevelt. The conversation with FTA was difficult, but right now our focus is to secure the grants. The FTA has a regional staff that does a day 3-day interview of our team which just happened last week.

Nick P: Are we still using our money until we get the grants?

Lorelei: That is a risk we need to weigh. The Streetcar is not ready, but Madison will be expecting the FTA funds first. Ideally, the plan is Madison for 2020, Roosevelt for 2021, then the Streetcar for 2022. We're doing everything we can to be in good shape for FTA to lend us the grants.

Joe: Madison and Delridge have BMP in those corridors. How is this addressed with the protected bike lane legislation?

Lorelei: Delridge has been to Council about scope. I will need to look into how Delridge fits into the recent ordinance.

Mike O'Brien: Yes, it will be good for SDOT to address these projects in the context of this legislation. In this case, these projects largely meet the intent of the legislation.

Alex: This will be an important issue for corridors like Rainier/MLK and to look at whether or not the parallel neighborhood greenway route is sufficient in that case.

Betty: We will need to decide how to draft a letter in response to the budget.

Agenda Item 3: Pedestrian Master Plan

David Burgesser presented the 2019-2024 Implementation Plan for the Pedestrian Master Plan (PMP). His presentation reviewed Seattle's vision to be the most walkable city in the nation, explained the framework for identifying projects through the Priority Investment Network (PIN), shared performance metrics, and explained the difference in scope, cost, and scale of traditional versus low-cost sidewalks.

Alex: Exactly how often do you update the Implementation Plan?

David B: This plan gets updated every year. It shows the projects that advanced/delayed, as well as the performance metrics.

Inga: How do you determine if a street gets low-cost or traditional sidewalk?

David B: We prioritize low-cost treatment at low volumes area first, or if there it's expected that adjacent properties may soon redevelop then low-cost sidewalks are a way to get a treatment in the ground without having it torn up in a couple years.

Inga: Is there any safety evaluation of low-cost sidewalks to other normal sidewalks?

David: We do go back and look at the materials being used

Alex: It looks like we see a variety of low-cost sidewalks, but I think there could be more maintenance to them. Just want to see more options.

David B: Some sidewalks are simple treatment and we do come back to address them later. Then we would find a better tactical strategy.

Nick P: Do you trim overgrown vegetation? Is there a process for maintenance?

Lorelei: There is site work and initial clearing/trimming that crews or contractors may do for the projects David is presenting on, and aside from that we have an urban forestry program that looks at vegetation citywide. Sometimes this is crews and sometimes it's private landowners that are responsible for trimming.

Nick P: Do we know there is actual safety?

Lorelei: We track injuries/fatalities citywide through the Vision Zero program.

Rachel: About the vegetation, do you plant two trees for every one removed?

David: Yes. We use the 2 for 1. Sometimes it is more than that.

David S: I am concerned to see a gradual drop in project delivery.

Alex: It looks like there are more crossings than sidewalks. Curious about the ratio there.

David B: Generally, there are more block crossing improvements than sidewalks in the future. With the performance metrics, we saw slight drop on pedestrian fatalities/injuries/crashes. We are looking forward in improving that dramatically in the coming years.

Inga: Do you have the YTD spend?

Lorelei: The highest level of spending is 2018. The original levy says 150 sidewalks and crossings.

Lorelei: Our goal is Vision Zero, that's why we see lack some deliverables.

David: In improving the project delivery strategy, we develop partnerships with larger capital projects to deliver walkways and crossing improvements when feasible. The developed tool kit for low-cost alternatives and effectiveness use painted walkways with asphalt. Also use walkways for bridge connection.

Betty: Do you engage with the community to know what to add to the sidewalks?

David: Yes. The next steps will be to continue in documenting the PMP progress.

Agenda Item 4: Co-chair report

Ron: We have rescheduled the retreat to December 3rd. We are also in search of a new co-chair. I have a few that are interested. At the next meeting, will take nominations. Anyone here can be a co-chair.

Agenda Item 5: New Business

Betty: Is it OK we can get the letter out first? That includes a new legislation on the TNC. We need to see this TNC legislation. Do we support the TNC legislation? Or additional funding?

Patrick: For reference, the Bike Board is considering the fee itself and if we let the city maximize the 51-cent fee.

Joe: I'd be concerned if we are asking to do anything over than oversight for the Streetcar.

Ron: I'm also wondering to write a legislation about priority projects other than just the streetcar.

Rachel: You may need a good explanation to why we need more flexibility than just the streetcar.

Betty: It's getting late. So, we should appoint to write the letter. I move for Ron to draft a letter on the topics discussed tonight. All those in favor, say aye?

Motion passes unanimously

Meeting Adjourn 7:37 pm

Action items

Action items below capture tasks from previous meetings. Completed items will remain on action item tracker for one additional set of meeting minutes to capture "complete" status and will then be removed.

Action item	Meeting	Lead	Status	Deadline
Send draft TNC fee increase legislation to Committee	October 1, 2019	Rachel	Complete – sent October 8	October 31
Draft letter in response to 2020 Proposed Budget	October 1, 2019	LOC	Complete – sent October 8	October 31
Identify topics and questions for follow-up Vision Zero presentation	May 7, 2019	LOC		Tracking
Provide more detailed update on Burke-Gilman Trail	March 5, 2019	SDOT	In progress	Tracking
Consider briefing on congestion pricing	March 5, 2019	Rachel	Re-address for month with extra time on the agenda	Tracking
Develop guiding principles for the next levy	June 7, 2018	LOC		TBD; LOC to determine
Keep committee informed on Fautleroy progress	May 24, 2018	SDOT	Rachel to keep the committee updated as the Mayor and CM Herbold continue community process to identify near-term safety improvements	Tracking

