

## **Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board**



Amanda Barnett, Co-Chair Casey Gifford, Co-Chair Adam Bartz, Vice-Chair Steve Kennedy, Vice Chair Puja Shaw, Secretary Mitch Brown Rich Brown Don Brubeck Alexander Lew Claudia Lewis Sarah Margeson Emily Paine

November 19, 2017

To: MariLyn Yim, Project Manager, SDOT

Re: **35**<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Paving Project

The Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board (SBAB) would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the final design of 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE.

SBAB supports the level of protection this final design provides to cyclists. The final design represents a compromise; by only providing the proposed level of protection on one side of the street south of NE 85<sup>th</sup> Street, it falls short of the facility types recommended in the Bicycle Master Plan (BMP). While SBAB would have preferred to see the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) preserve the level of protection outlined in the BMP, we recognize that some community members have been vocal in their opposition to the consolidation of free on-street parking.

Though the design presented to SBAB is less than the recommendations of the BMP, when implemented it will increase safety, comfort and predictability for all road users. With a goal to reach zero traffic deaths and serious injuries, it is critical that SDOT continue to prioritize safety over on-street private vehicle storage.

35<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE is a critical corridor in Seattle's bike network. This arterial provides important connections to the Burke Gilman Trail, the Wedgwood commercial center and the soon-to-be-improved NE 65<sup>th</sup>/NE 68<sup>th</sup> Street corridor leading to the future Roosevelt Link light rail station. Under the new design, a broader range of people will feel comfortable biking to/from Wedgwood, Lake City, Maple Leaf, Ravenna, Bryant and other surrounding communities.

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 planing processes insofar as they relate to bicylcing.

> ~ City Council Resolution 25534

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Thank you for leveraging this repaving project to help achieve SDOT's stated goals of increasing bicycle ridership, safety, connectivity, equity and livability. SBAB applauds your commitment to helping make Seattle a more comfortable place for people of all ages and abilities to bicycle.

Sincerely,

Amarke/Santo

Co-Chair

Casey Giff Co-Chair

Steve Kennedy

Vice Chair

Adam Bartz Vice Chair Puja Shaw Secretary

Cc: Mayor Tim Burgess

Mike O'Brien, Rob Johnson, Kshama Sawant and Lisa Herbold, City Council

SDOT Director Scott Kubly Serena Lehman, SDOT

Rachel McCaffrey, Community Outreach Lead, SDOT

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