



*Stewards of the
Pedestrian Master Plan*

Seth Schromen-Wawrin, Chair
Devor Barton
Jeniffer Calleja
Dottie Faris
David Goldberg
Lydia Heard
Lorena Kaplan
Mark Landreneau
Mark Melnyk
Anna Spooner
Jacob Struiksma

To: Kerry Pihlstrom, Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)

Date: September 24, 2012

Re: WSDOT SR 520 Design and the Seattle Community Design Process

Dear Ms. Pihlstrom,

The Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board (SPAB) is thankful for the being included in the Seattle Community Design Process. This is an important process to further evaluate the plans for the SR 520 Bridge and surrounding lids with reference to vehicles and non motorized transportation.

SPAB has the following recommendations for the SR 520 bridge project between the west approach and I 5:

First, we support continuing the multi use trail across the Portage Bay Bridge. This creates an important connection for our non motorized network.

Second, the pedestrian crossings and pathways along Roanoke at 10th Ave E, and Broadway, and across Delmar, need to be improved to provide a better level of service for pedestrians. These are important connections for these neighborhoods and for children walking to school. A major concern is the potential signal cycle length.

Third, similarly, the pedestrian crossings and pathways along and across Montlake Boulevard at the lid are sub par for pedestrians. The project needs to better address conflicts caused by the interchange between vehicles and pedestrians, signal cycle length across Montlake, the number of crossings and the distance of crossings.

Fourth, the Montlake lid presents an opportunity to be a fantastic open space. It has improved significantly from the baseline proposal because of the work of the community design process. Many of these improvements could not easily be planned once the project leaves this early design phase. There is still work to be done to reduce the friction between the interchange, the Montlake neighborhood, and the lid. The work of the Community Design Process should continue with a focus on this interchange.

The Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board shall advise the City Council, the Mayor and all the offices of the city on matters related to pedestrians and the impacts which actions by the city may have upon the pedestrian environment; and shall have the opportunity to contribute to all aspects of the city's planning insofar as they relate to the pedestrian safety and access.

*-City Council Resolution
28791*



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The SR 520 bridge has been a significant barrier between the surrounding neighborhoods. These recommendations, especially improving the crossings around Roanoke and Montlake, help to sew the area back together.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Seth Schromen Wawrin
Chair, Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board

Cc: Members of the Seattle City Council
Mayor Mike McGinn, City of Seattle
Peter Hahn, Director, Seattle Department of Transportation
Goran Sparrman, Deputy Director, Seattle Department of Transportation
Dongho Chang, City Traffic Engineer, Seattle Department of Transportation

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