

Transportation and Public Spaces Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 10, 2018
8:30—9:30 am, Chinook Bldg. Room 120

Attendees: Jon Morrison Winters, Betsy Conrad, Mary Snodgrass, Lizzie Moll, Brent Butler, Lizzie Moll, Seth Schromen-Wawrin, Diane Wiatr; Sue Lerner and Staci Haber (by phone)

1. **Introductions:** Committee members introduced themselves and participated in an icebreaker. The group voted to lessen meeting frequency. Starting with our next meeting, we will switch to monthly, 1.5 hour committee meetings.
2. **Cycling Project Discussion:** The group gave feedback on the previous meeting, which focused on older adults and cycling.. Discussion points included:
 - **How many people bike?** It was remarked that bikers make up a small percentage of Seattle's population (~3%); with older adults an even smaller percentage. Many of the reasons older adults do not cycle are the same as for younger adults, but exacerbated. Many surveys have been done on this topic revealing challenges such as: topography, , safety, lack of connectivity/structure.
 - o It was also noted that many surveys are not comprehensive – do they include day laborers and other immigrant laborers who bike? Also, a question about whether or not the 3% was just commuters, or everyone who occasionally bikes in Seattle.
 - o Cascade Bicycle Club did outreach in White Center and created a safe place to ride in a park (read more at: <https://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/dnrp/newsroom/newsreleases/2016/October/03-bike-playground.aspx>), but one big challenge for residents was the perception that there was no connectivity to get to the site.
 - **Needs/opportunities:**
 - o Data Collection: some felt it would be good to have further data, particularly regarding where older adults would feel safe cycling (e.g. trails)
 - Would it make sense to further promote Carol's survey with local residents (or is there already that data in existence)?
 - Could we obtain data from bikeshare programs (i.e. theft, infrastructure) – SDOT is going to look into this.
 - Conduct a written survey at senior centers during food distribution times
 - Look at translating surveys to capture different audiences.
 - o What works for older adults to use active transportation locally?
 - o What are misconceptions/perceptions of cyclists, bike lanes
 - The committee could consider Air Quality Management Grants through PSRC
 - o SDOT is calling for projects for older adults and people with disabilities

3. Neighborhood Project: The group discussed each of the four potential neighborhoods for a project focus: Georgetown, Beacon Hill, South Park, and Delridge.

- **Final contenders for focus neighborhood:** Beacon Hill and South Park.
 - o Georgetown: eliminated for a variety of reasons, including: residents feel overburdened with public process, no senior center, small population of older adults
 - o Delridge: eliminated because there is no senior center there
- **South Park** was discussed as a good option because:
 - o There is an active senior center and neighborhood center
 - o City of Seattle has strong connections to the neighborhood
 - o There is a neighborhood Action Plan that includes transportation goals to provide attractive and safe alternatives to driving
 - Committee would work closely with existing community connections on the action plan
 - o Stats: 4,000 people; 60% are families and 17% have one or more people age 65+; 44.5% of neighborhood residents are foreign born; 63.3% were born in Latin America, and 28% were born in Asia
 - o There is the South Park to Georgetown Trail, and Green River to Duwamish Trail
- **Beacon Hill** was discussed as another good option:
 - o Strong community organizations with older adult participation/programs
 - International Drop In Center, El Centro de la Raza, Veterans Affairs Hospital, Seattle Housing Authority Beacon Tower
 - o There is an infrastructure need, e.g. sidewalks along Beacon Ave
 - o Large, diverse neighborhood
 - Consider focusing on North, Central, or South Beacon Hill to make project more manageable
- The group reviewed the purpose of the neighborhood project –
 - o Document how to approach a neighborhood in a way that is not top down
 - o Talk about Active Transportation with older adults
 - o Could develop neighborhood protocol, connectivity, input for Street Design Toolkit (e.g. lighting is important for older adults; Safe Routes to Transit), but it ultimately depends on community wishes/needs
- What's the committee's plan for involvement (long- or short-term?) with community?
 - o Limited capacity of committee, so hope to partner with community organizations to carry the torch
 - o Reach out to communities to gauge interest

4. Wrap-up and Next Steps:

- **Diane and Lizzie:** check with neighborhood contacts regarding community interest in this project
- **Mary:** cancel July 24 meeting; set up monthly meeting schedule; send email asking committee members to vote on preferred neighborhood