

City of
Bellevue



Transportation Commission Study Session

DATE: September 14, 2023

TO: Chair Stash, Vice Chair Helland, and Members of the Transportation Commission

FROM: Franz Loewenherz, Mobility Planning and Solutions Manager, 425-452-4077
floewenherz@bellevuewa.gov
 Jacy Backman, Senior ITS Engineer, 425-452-5361
jbackman@bellevuewa.gov
 Paula Stevens, Assistant Director, Transportation Planning, 425-452-2802
pstevens@bellevuewa.gov

SUBJECT: Bike Bellevue – Draft Design Concepts Guide and Draft Engagement Plan

DIRECTION REQUESTED

Action

Discussion/Direction *(No action; recommendation at a future meeting)*

Information

At the Study Session on September 14, 2023 staff will provide the Transportation Commission the following [Bike Bellevue](#) project updates:

- DRAFT Project Area Map refinement to Corridor 2.
- DRAFT Design Concepts Guide, which will inform the Commission’s recommendation on rapid build bicycle improvements that will fill network gaps in the project area.
- DRAFT Community Engagement Plan, which includes an online project design feedback tool, and other outreach strategies that promote equity and inclusion in the development and delivery of bicycle projects.

While no action is requested of the Transportation Commission at this meeting, your recommendation to the Transportation Director is anticipated in Q2 of 2024.

DRAFT PROJECT AREA MAP

The DRAFT Project Area Map – previously shared with the City Council on March 27, 2023 and the Transportation Commission on May 11, 2023 – identifies the eleven candidate corridors

along which rapid build bikeway projects would fill network gaps to improve safety and access to transit and Eastrail. The previous version of the map identified Corridor 2 as a separated two-way cycle track on 102nd Avenue NE between NE 8th Street and NE 12th Street, continuing on NE 12th Street between 102nd Avenue NE and 108th Avenue NE. The 102nd Avenue NE portion of Corridor 2 is being eliminated from Bike Bellevue because of the Pinnacle North and South mixed-use office and residential master development projects at 10112 NE 10th Street and 10116 NE 8th Street. These development projects require use of the west side of 102nd Avenue NE for staging in the coming years as well as construction of new frontage that is not compatible with the previous Bike Bellevue Corridor 2 concept.

Although Bike Bellevue Corridor 2 is now limited to NE 12th Street between 102nd Avenue NE and 108th Avenue NE, there is a near-term project to improve bicycle access along this corridor. Notably, the city will – separate from Bike Bellevue – construct an off-street path connection on the NE 12th Street alignment between 102nd Avenue NE and 100th Avenue NE. This new off-street path (target completion in 2024) will enable people riding bicycles to connect to Bike Bellevue Corridor 8 on 100th Avenue NE.

The previous (March 2023) and current (September 2023) DRAFT Bike Bellevue Project Area Maps are documented in Attachment A.

DRAFT DESIGN CONCEPTS GUIDE

On March 27, 2023, the City Council approved Bike Bellevue project principles (Attachment B). Pursuant to these principles, “The City Council envisions a well-connected bicycle network for Bellevue that is safe, enhances livability, supports economic vitality, and equitably serves the mobility needs of people of all ages and abilities.”

The DRAFT Design Concepts Guide (Attachment C) is responsive to Council direction and is intended to support the Transportation Commission’s evaluation of the corridor designs from a variety of perspectives – how Bike Bellevue preserves and enhances safety, equity, and sustainability in addition to serving peoples’ mobility needs. Further, the Guide will serve as the project reference document as staff coordinates with the public, community groups, businesses, major institutions, and outside agencies to ensure that Bike Bellevue supports the City’s land use and transportation vision. The Guide, presented dated September 2023, is expected to evolve over the course of the project to account for new insights and project refinements informed by technical analysis and public input. Updates will be referenced in future Transportation Commission meetings.

DRAFT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

The DRAFT Community Engagement Plan – previously shared with the Transportation Commission on May 25, 2023 – has been updated to reflect additional outreach elements (e.g., transportation fairs, resource fair, and presentations) and a revised timeline (i.e., now June 2024; previously February 2024).

A notable near-term engagement activity is the launch of an online project design feedback tool on September 15, 2023. Through this Konveio tool ([Bike Bellevue | Provide your feedback!](#))

konveio.com), the public can submit comments and offer their perspective on feedback from others on the proposed designs for each Bike Bellevue corridor. The deadline for comment via Konveio is November 15, 2023.

To encourage community engagement, staff is sharing information about this tool through multiple communication channels including:

- a mailer sent to all residents and businesses in the project area
- yard signs posted along Bike Bellevue corridors
- an article in Neighborhood News and city social media posts
- presentations to various stakeholder groups

Attachment A – DRAFT Project Area Map, updated for September 14 packet

Attachment B – Project Principles

Attachment C – DRAFT Design Concepts Guide, September 2023

Attachment D – Draft Community Engagement Plan, updated for September 14 packet