

City of
Bellevue



Transportation Commission Study Session

DATE: June 6, 2024

TO: Chair Stash and Members of the Transportation Commission

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SUBJECT: **Bike Bellevue Transition: Corridor Categories and Implementation Recommendation**

DIRECTION REQUESTED

Action

Discussion/Direction

Information

At the June 13 study session, staff will seek a Transportation Commission recommendation to the Transportation director for Bike Bellevue Corridor 2. The staff recommendation is to design and implement a permanent multipurpose path on the north side of NE 12th Street between 102nd Avenue NE and 108th Avenue NE.

BACKGROUND AND INFORMATION

On March 25, Council voted unanimously to direct the Transportation Commission to develop a recommendation for each Bike Bellevue corridor consistent with one of the following categories:

- 1) *Corridors that would not require travel lane repurposing that the City would program and implement as soon as possible.*
- 2) *Corridors that have an emphasis on creating connected routes for Bike Bellevue.*
- 3) *If a travel lane is repurposed, it will be first evaluated as a trial or demonstration project that will be evaluated using data that will be provided by the Transportation Commission, and recommend to repurpose a travel lane only as a last resort.*
- 4) *Prioritize high injury network area corridors.*
- 5) *Corridors that would be deferred to and incorporated into the next update of the Transportation Facilities Plan (2024/25) for citywide consideration, prioritization, and resource allocation.*
- 6) *Corridors that would no longer be considered and provide a rationale as to why.*
- 7) *Corridors that would be implemented as permanent bicycle infrastructure rather than with a rapid-implementation design.*

Transportation Commission Prior Bike Bellevue Corridor Recommendations

On April 11 and pursuant to Council direction, the Transportation Commission recommended proceeding with final design and implementation of three Bike Bellevue corridors that would not involve the repurposing of a vehicle travel lane (category #1):

- Wilburton – Corridor 9
- Lake Washington Boulevard – Corridor 7
- NE 2nd Street – Corridor 6B (Bellevue Way - 112th Ave NE)

In a Management Brief to the City Council on April 23, staff shared the Transportation Commission’s recommendation for these corridors.

On May 23, the Transportation Commission recommended Bike Bellevue Corridor 6A (NE 12th Street: 100th Avenue NE - Bellevue Way) for design and implementation as a shared street with traffic calming provisions, speed limit reduction to 20 mph and wayfinding. The Transportation Commission acknowledged that their recommendation did not easily fit within one of the seven categories provided by Council. It is most closely aligned with Category 6: *Corridors that would no longer be considered and provide a rationale as to why.*

STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR CORRIDOR 2

Staff recommends that Corridor 2 be assigned to Category 7: *“Corridors that would be implemented as permanent bicycle infrastructure rather than with a rapid-implementation design.”*

The [Bike Bellevue Draft Design Concepts Guide](#) for Corridor 2 would repurpose one of two westbound travel lanes to create a two-way bicycle facility. Alternatively, and consistent with Council direction regarding the repurposing of a vehicle travel lane, staff recommends that permanent bicycle infrastructure be installed as a multipurpose path on the north side of NE 12th Street, and include intersection improvements to facilitate the connection to the existing 108th Avenue NE bicycle network facilities. Together with a planned project along NE 12th Street between 102nd Avenue NE and 100th Avenue NE, this multipurpose path would provide a continuous bicycle network corridor on the north edge of Downtown and achieve a level of traffic stress (LTS) 1 experience. Existing bicycle facilities east of 108th Avenue NE provide a LTS 1 connection to the Spring District.

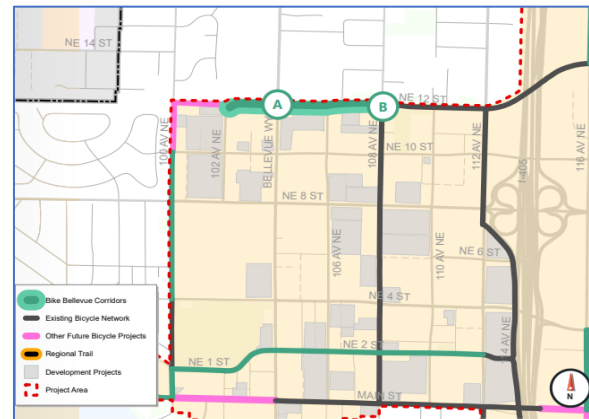
NE 12th Street Bicycle Network Planning

The Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan (2009) describes the Downtown-Overlake Priority Bicycle Corridor segment on NE 12th Street.

Project O-108-N calls for a 10-to 14-foot-wide off-street path on the north side of NE 12th Street between 100th Avenue NE and 116th Avenue NE.

In addition, the Downtown Transportation Plan (2013) includes a multipurpose path along the north side of NE 12th Street between 102nd Avenue NE and 112th Avenue NE.

The Mobility Implementation Plan (2022) prescribes a Performance Target of LTS 1 for bicycle network facilities along priority bicycle corridors in Downtown, BelRed and Wilburton. A multipurpose path along NE 12th Street meets this performance target.



Corridor 2: NE 12th Street 108th Avenue NE – 102nd Avenue NE

Implementation of the Bicycle Network along NE 12th Street

In conjunction with the Bellevue Braids project to better connect I-405 and SR-520, the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) constructed a NE 12th Street bridge over I-405 in 2011. The structure includes a multipurpose path on the north side of NE 12th Street between 112th Avenue NE and 116th Avenue NE. As part of the Spring Boulevard project completed in 2020, Bellevue extended the multipurpose path connection east of 116th Avenue NE to 124th Avenue NE.

In 2021, the city constructed a 12-foot-wide multipurpose path between 108th Avenue NE and 112th Avenue NE. This new facility replaced a narrow sidewalk, improved the streetscape landscaping, and extended the connection between Downtown and the Spring District.



Related Project

A planned project will extend the multipurpose path westward from 102nd Avenue NE to connect with the existing and planned bicycle network facilities along 100th Avenue NE between Main Street and NE 24th Street. In collaboration with a private-sector redevelopment project, city staff are designing this multipurpose path. Implementation will be coordinated with the private development project.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will return to the Transportation Commission at study sessions on July 11 and September 12 to recommend categorization of the remaining Bike Bellevue corridors and will seek a Commission recommendation to the Transportation director. The remaining Bike Bellevue corridors to be categorized are:

- Corridor 1: Northup Way
- Corridors 3, 4, 5: BelRed Road
- Corridor 8: 100th Avenue NE
- Corridor 10: 116th Avenue NE
- Corridor 11: 140th Avenue NE

Staff will inform the Council of the Transportation Commission's recommendation in a Management Brief at a future Council meeting.