



PO Box 14251
Portland, OR 97293-0251

TO: Gabriel Graff
CC: Art Pearce
Central City in Motion Working Group

FROM: Central Eastside Industrial Council
DATE: August 6, 2020
Re: Burnside/Ankeny bike path transition alternatives request

Safety for all is our highest shared priority throughout the Central Eastside District. To that end, the Central Eastside Industrial Council (CEIC) Board of Directors encourages PBOT to reexamine the proposed design and location of the bicycle turn lane on Burnside and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard as a part of the new Ankeny Bike Path connection.

In the July CEIC TPAC meeting, a representative from Gerding Edlen raised safety concerns about the proposed southbound transition from Burnside onto MLK Jr. Boulevard. He pointed to the constrained space, pinched by streetcar infrastructure, that necessitates routing bike traffic on to the sidewalk southbound toward Ankeny Street. The 25 story office/residential building near completion is expected to generate considerable pedestrian movement, with a main entry door in close proximity to a blind corner. The TPAC committee consensus view is that the proposed route is less than ideal, citing myriad constraints and conflicts at that intersection. The fundamental concern is related to bringing bicycle traffic onto a sidewalk that is already busy with pedestrians, as noted above. Other potential hazards posed in the committee's discussion included the adjacent street car tracks. Along with the dangers of an inexperienced rider getting stuck in the tracks, with car shares picking up and dropping off in that lane, there is also the potential of a cyclist getting trapped between a car and the streetcar.

After reviewing the site plans presented by the CCIM project team and much discussion, a motion was passed by the TPAC to urge PBOT to reevaluate and offer alternatives to the proposed design due to these safety concerns. One alternative raised is to continue eastbound bike traffic on Burnside to 6th Avenue southbound to Ankeny, for either east or west bound riders.

The CEIC requests PBOT respond to this query with the alternatives, including the suggested alternate route above, explaining the pros and cons of each alternative.

Central Eastside Industrial Council (CEIC) is committed to working in partnership with Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) and the Central City in Motion (CCIM) project team on the various proposed projects throughout the District. We believe that a modification of the current route will enhance safety and provide additional value to the signature building under construction without appreciably impacting bicycle transit times access west bound.

Our Board of Directors and various Committees, including the Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee (TPAC), are consistent outlets for feedback, and our stakeholders appreciate opportunities for ongoing engagement by PBOT.

We appreciate the consideration of our request and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deane Funk". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Deane" and the last name "Funk" clearly distinguishable.

Deane Funk
CEIC Board President