

February 17th, 2021

To: Sam Zimbabwe
Director City of Seattle,
Department of Transportation;

City of Seattle Department of Transportation
600 Fourth Avenue Seattle, WA 98104

Sent via e-mail

Re: Comprehensive Bike Connectivity for Georgetown

Dear Sam Zimbabwe,

We would like to thank you and the leaders at SDOT that have been listening to us in the issues surrounding mitigation for the West Seattle Bridge closure. Recently, city staff from the Department of Neighborhoods presented the Georgetown Community with a final draft of the Safe Home Zone proposal. We look forward to continued engagement for the implementation of these critical improvements to our safety inside the neighborhood, as well as the continued monitoring of increasing traffic as we (hopefully) exit COVID.

Access to services outside our neighborhood remains a challenge. We do not have direct access to Rapid Ride, and our regular bus service is limited in destinations and times for essential services. Georgetown is not within a walk-shed of a light rail stop and we do not have shuttle service to the nearest station. Bike connectivity is dangerous for anyone who is not a seasoned rider outfitted with the experience and equipment to share routes with cars and freight in substandard conditions, which does not accommodate all abilities. While the bike link between Georgetown and South Park has been a very important and necessary project for which the community has advocated for years, we would like to re-engage on the crucial bike connectivity for Georgetown with the rest of the city, as funding for transit remains a challenge.

We know that the Duwamish Valley and the biking communities advocated in part for this approach when the West Seattle Bridge was shut down last April (see links below, map & April 2020 letter). We wish to see a renewed emphasis on bike connectivity from Georgetown to the north, which would also benefit South Park, as our neighbors there would need to pass through our neighborhood to reach these destinations. This would also benefit everyone working in these industrial areas as these spaces have limited mobility options as we do. We understand that there are other stakeholders we need to work with; the SoDo business community, port, freight interests, Metro, and others, and we are committed to engaging them in the spirit of partnership.

We do know there are many competing priorities at SDOT. But, we want to emphasize that Georgetown is historically often passed over for critical needs. Our residential community continues to grow, and the recovery of our business community will rely on

renewed interest in our arts and culture. Economic recovery for small business cannot rely on the residents alone, and having people visit our neighborhood from other parts of the city will keep us from sliding backward while the rest of the city experiences growth. There are people here who need better access to services, places of employment and the rest of Seattle.

Please reach out to us, as we would like to discuss next steps.

Thank you,

Rich Brown, Port Community Action Team, Flora Ave South

Greg Ramirez, GCC Board of Directors, Flora Ave S

Rosario-Maria Medina, Chair, Georgetown Open Space Committee, 6700 Flora Avenue

Sam Farrazaino, Equinox Studios 6555 5th Ave S

Peaches Thomas, Duwamish Valley Safe Streets

Paulina Lopez, Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition, 7400 3rd Ave South

John Persak, WSB Community Task Force, GT Resident, 6232 Carleton Ave S.

Amy Horn, Resident and bike commuter, S. Orcas St at Second Ave S.

Larry Reid, Fantagraphics Bookstore, 1201 S Vale Street

Daniel Reveles, Facilities Mgr., Gage Academy of Art 5th Ave S

Justin Howell, Applied Ecology LLC, 6637 Flora Ave S

John Krull, Tech Reformers, Ellis Ave S

Jesse Moore, carpenter, Flora Ave S

Patty Foley, 6415 Flora Ave S

Kelly Beebe, 6600 block of Carleton.

Josh Hoefr, 5700 Block of Airport Way S.

Jessica McComas, Carleton and Warsaw

Melissa Greenaway, 6600 Block of Corson

Kyle Lashbrook, 6915 Flora Ave S

Sandra Callies, Flora and Warsaw

Kanwaljeet Gill, 900 block of Warsaw

Eric Nuchims, 6600 Block of Corson Ave S

Robert Jellinek, 800 block of S. Orcas St

Josh Koehnke, 700 block of S. Orcas

Yukari Romano, Ellis Ave S

Hans Korompis, Home owner in Georgetown, 721A S Homer St

Claudia Kirkland, Flora Ave S

Victor Cassen, 6400 Carleton Ave S

Angela Walls, 6600 Block of Flora Ave S

Melissa Knowles, Orcas st

Matt Pearsall , Flora Ave S and S Eddy St.
Ahmad White, 6900 block of Carleton Ave S
Rebecca Aldrich, Flora Ave S
Andrew Schiffer, 6200 block of Carleton
Kevin Shurtluff, 6000 block of 24th Ave S
LaDele Sines , Carleton
Robin Schwartz, South Park community member (South Park)
David Funk, 6600 Corson
Julie Tobin, S Orcas St
Angie Walls, 6600 Block of Flora Ave S
Durin Gleaves, 700 block Orcas St
Neil Rhoades, 6903 Carleton Avenue South
Kylee Power, 6200 block of Corson
Matthew Power, Georgetown Resident, Corner of Corson Ave S and Eddy st.
Molly Mingo, 6600 Block Carleton Ave S
Taylor Roberts, 6200 block of CARLETON AVE S

Cc: Deputy Director, Dawn Schellenberg (interim Director of Communications and Public Engagement); Chris Eaves, SFAB Liaison; Sarah Udelhofen, Co-Chair, SBAB; Kristian Alcaide, Strategic Advisor, DON, Adrienne Thompson, Policy Director Office of Mayor Jenny A. Durkan

Georgetown to Sodo Map:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uHK9mSLly5vr9mi2KTh6jMUL6Y9EGv3V/view?usp=sharing>

April 28th Letter:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1AGspCbn72_Npjq98DUX4atPLtJt8uy_5/view?usp=sharing