

powered by feet first



feet first policy

taking a stance to advance walkability

Contact us for information about
Feet First policies

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Seattle Pedestrian Master Plan

Policy

where we stand

Advocacy is a major component of the work Feet First does. These policy papers, prepared by our Policy Committee, convey Feet First's position on key issues of interest to increase safe and easy ways for people to choose to go by foot.



background

The development of Seattle's Pedestrian Master Plan began in early 2007. With Seattle City Council and mayoral support, a resolution was passed directing City departments (with the Seattle Department of Transportation as the lead agency) on the elements of the Pedestrian Master Plan, the establishment of a citizens' advisory group, and the implementation of a pedestrian safety campaign.

The Pedestrian Master Plan Advisory Group began in June 2007 to determine the governance structure and framework of the plan. Many agencies, individuals and groups contributed to the development of the plan as well as reviewing existing city policies and programs. Seattle residents were also active in the planning process.

The Seattle Pedestrian Master Plan has no dedicated funding source. Funding had previously been provided in part by the employee hours tax that was part of the "Bridging the Gap" funding package passed in 2006. However, with the repeal of the employee hours tax, the Pedestrian Master Plan is without funding for thousands of projects

Mission

who we are - what we do

Feet First promotes walkable communities and envisions people walking every day for their health, transportation, environment, community, and pleasure.



feet first
promoting walkable communities



Seattle Pedestrian Master Plan

that improve pedestrian safety and walkability throughout our communities.

why it matters to walking

The benefits of walking are clear and numerous, from fighting climate change and building neighborhoods to improving health. A great neighborhood is one where people of all ages can walk. The challenge before us is to maintain and improve what we have and extend it to all Seattle's neighborhoods. According to the City of Seattle, at the current funding level, it will take 80 years to complete 20% of the identified projects in the Pedestrian Master Plan. More funding is needed to provide the critical infrastructure to ensure there are safe routes between communities, to schools and for all people to walk.

feet first position

Feet First strongly supports any new dedicated annual revenue source for walking infrastructure. Several opportunities have been identified in the 2010-2011 transportation budget process and in Council action. A transportation benefit district, funded through a vehicle license fee and a commercial parking tax would both provide additional funding sources for pedestrian improvements.

what feet first is doing

- Encouraging Seattle City Council to secure additional resources to support walkability.
- Monitoring implementation of the Pedestrian Master Plan.

what you can do

Contact the Seattle City Council and express your support for funding to provide pedestrian improvements.

Photo courtesy of Feet First



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