

From: [John Bolecek](#)
To: [Onufer, Kathleen M. - PDR](#)
Subject: Franklin St. comments
Date: Friday, September 02, 2016 10:47:17 AM

UDC,

With a few simple modifications we can make this project the great bicycle connection it needs to be to complete an east west route from the Museum District to Church Hill.

I'm writing to ask that you not recommend this project unless the following changes are made:

1. The plan sheet currently reads "CITY STD. GRANITE SPALL COBBLESTONE" for the section underneath the shed. This material should be replaced with smooth brick or some type of smooth, slip resistant surface that meets ADA. It is fine if this section looks like cobblestone as long as they are smooth. The plan sheet also says to see the Architecture Plans for this section. I cannot find those plans on Legistar. Rough cobblestones discourage everyday bicycling and we want families to be able to use the east west bicycle route (and feel comfortable throughout the entire city).

2. The brick bike lanes should be changed to asphalt. Please remove the alternative bid exploring a cobblestone road as this would not be safe for bicycling either as bicyclists would be confined to the bike lane and could not move out to avoid debris/obstacles. Bicyclists need more space going downhill so this would affect eastbound bicyclists the most.

3. The bike lanes on the west side of the shed do not transition appropriately, they end and start abruptly. Please work with Jakob Helmboldt to fix this design. This is one more reason to not have a cobblestone street as bicyclists will be forced out of the bike lane to appropriately position themselves.

4. The use of bollards is strongly discouraged by national bicycle design guidelines. They usually hurt more people bicycling who crash into them than they help by preventing vehicle access. If bollards must be used only 1 should be used or if really necessary 3. An even number should never be used.

5. Please have traffic engineering review whether a stop sign is needed for eastbound traffic on Franklin (eastbound both to the parking lots and bicyclists continuing through the shed). The stop sign on this approach appears unnecessary to me and will likely be ignored. East / west traffic should have priority over those exiting the parking lots from the north or south approaches.

Franklin St east of the shed is very important to bicyclists because the traffic volumes are much lower than Broad St and Main st and there are no traffic signals. It will also connect directly to the planned 29th street bike walk street. The cobblestones installed between 19th and 18th should also be shaved for make this route better for cyclists.

I am happy to meet on site, clarify my comments or any assist in any way helpful to resolve these issues. Thank you for addressing these concerns.

John Bolecek

5th District