



Green Lake Community Council Meeting January 8, 2014

Paul Kostek – Introduction, 7:04pm

Ref Lindmark – Proposed Metro Bus Changes

Ref is a community member who works at Metro, but this is not an official Metro presentation. Scope of changes is county wide. Outreach was addressed throughout the whole county. With the limited staff, Metro decided Community Councils were not a place to present changes to the community. Many presentations have been made at other locations.

Metro is having 17% or 600,000 hour cuts. Funding used to come from the fair box, sales tax, motor vehicle excise tax assigned to the value of the car and also Federal grants. Over the years, funding has changed. First the motor vehicle excise tax was cut. Sales tax was increased, even though some said that in a down economy that this wouldn't work. Federal money has pretty much dried up over the last six years.

A few times when cuts were scheduled, other sources of funds were found. A state audit found a few ways to save money, including changing scheduling and how much money is reserved for purchasing busses. Metro has cut down on labor through attrition. A \$20 "Congestion Relief Charge" runs through June, but that will go away.

Metro planners drew up a plan accounting for cutbacks if no additional funding is found. "A major hatchet job to the system" occurred to save the 600,000 hours of service. Years ago a 40/40/20 system was enacted – Eastside received 40% of funds, as with the south end. North Seattle received only 20%.

The county council put together a regional task for and produced new service guidelines.

1. Productivity – if the route is doing well, don't cut it
2. Social Justice – certain areas of the city need bus service based on factors such as income

3. Geographic Value – Measured by things like corridors of housing, employment sites, attractions (stadiums...).

Metro has about 215+ routes. The Bay Area has around 80. 74 Metro routes are being deleted. 107 reduced or revised. The 26 was deleted. 16 is revised. 358 is revised as well. Only 33 routes are being left alone.

Metro knows that there are people who chose to live based on bus routes, and employers who chose work sites and provide bus passes based on previous routes.

There is a chart on the Metro website detailing the changes.

Personal stories make a difference with legislatures. Those are the stories politicians can use when they try to change votes. Make your story known on the Metro website.

Development at 414 NE Ravenna – Jeff Tretheway – Crosby Greenlake LLC

Allowed to go up to 40'. Aligned adjacent Florera project. This was originally going to be phase 2 of that project. Retail use on the ground floor – 13' high. Three levels of apartments above with a small roof garden. Design may be somewhat dissimilar – want more “transparency” in the ground floor – less brick.

Asking city for a departure to add a courtyard facing the street. “Above, trying to make as much glass as we can.” 62 units. One level of underground parking – 16-19 spots. 2 retail spaces. Projected schedule is “hopeful” groundbreaking in August or September, with completion about a year later.

Traffic Speed Issue @ 64th St – Arnold Marquez

People are not obeying the 30mph speed limits around Green Lake. Many people are using 64th as an overflow from 45th and 50th street access to I-5. Would like to lower speed limit around Green Lake. When people would speed up, they would be going from 25mph to 30mph.

Would like to see “traffic detectors” that show how fast someone is driving.

New State Rep 43rd – Brady Walkinshaw

Appointed to the seat at the beginning of December. Interested in food, agriculture and educational issues, as well as economic. Has been at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for the past five years. Session starts on Monday. Many bills may make it through the House, but be stymied in the Senate. Will be opening a district office.

Q: Many were disappointed in I-522. Do you anticipate legislature working on this?

A: Does not think it will come up this year. It is a short session. Unlikely that even if it did pass the house that it would make it into law.

Teddy's Bigger Burgers - Ken Wong

Opening date – January, 31st. In Circa building.

Friends of Green Lake

Water quality measurement taken on 3rd of January and temp and clarity were as expected. Water is quite clear. Occasional patches of blue-green algae are occurring around the lake. The species detected are not toxic. Testing has been suspended for the time being. Will probably start up in the spring. Wind causes the algae to accumulate. Not a good idea to let pets in the water or drink the water.

This past summer saw Green Lake at its lowest level for at least 20 years. That's about 8" below normal, so not a dramatic change. Lake has refilled and is back up at its normal levels. Water is running out at the Meridian exit.

FOGL is working to find out why the water is so low. There are many different departments involved. One goal is to get the agencies to take this on as an issue.

Upcoming meeting – as usual, the 4th Tuesday of the month – January 28th

NW District Council Report – Ellen Hewitt

Main discussion was Metro. A report was given by Metro.

Charter amendment 19 coming about the district boundaries. Council is considering changing boundaries based on City Council boundary changes. New Chair discussed the Bike Master Plan. Possible additional presentation upcoming on the Park Legacy planning. Neighborhood Street & Park Fund – apply for projects up to \$90,000.

SPD North Precinct Report – Paul Kostek

Community Police Academy – runs twice a year, 11 weeks long. No cost. Learn about police training and policies. Watch our website for more information.

Emergency Preparedness - Paul Kostek

Look at the SNAP program up on the City of Seattle website. Similar to Block Watch, except for getting people to plan for emergencies.

Ref Lindmark – Questions he is asked

People often ask who can park in front of their house. It's public parking, but one must stay 5' away from driveways. SDOT recently blogged that people may paint their curbs to show no-parking areas.

DPD is having a meeting a public meeting in Capital Hill to look at L2 and L3 zones, a reduction in maximum allowed height.

Next Meeting March 12th, 2014

Meeting Adjourned – 8:54pm