



Green Lake Community Council Meeting March 12, 2014

Paul Kostek – Introduction, 7:03pm

Steven Padua – SDOT – Process to look at your area for traffic and speed issues

Manages neighborhood operations program which includes the traffic calming program. Meeting at the Greenwood Library tomorrow night at 6:30pm with detailed information about traffic calming and how to address speeding and other neighborhood issues.

Traffic calming devices don't always solve the problem, but often just move the problem. So they look at ways on how to change perceptions on how fast they can drive.

Speeding, volume and cut-through traffic are the three areas they look at. Not all solutions work in all areas – they're all different. They do their best to address at least some if not all the issues.

Two phases – 1. Education and Enforcement. Try to educate people on common traffic laws. If after the first phase the desired result is not achieved, they then look at Phase 2 – Engineered Devices. Start with neighborhood conducting their own radar speed studies.

They do not use crosswalks as a traffic calming device. Also do not use stop signs as a traffic calming device. Federal guidelines are followed to decide placement of installation.

Two things to start a program. First, attend a program like the one tomorrow evening. Second is to fill out an enrollment form on the website – <http://seattle.gov/transportation/trafficcalming>

Next meeting will be in May at the Beacon Hill Library. After that it will be at the Ballard Library somewhere around the Fall time.

Have found that lowering the speed limit usually doesn't change driver behavior. For arterials, the meeting and application are not required, but can be included in SDOT's annual surveys.

Rita Holloman – Parks Dept – RFP for Boat Center

Concessionaire RFP open. Current contract holder has been there for 10 years as the boat rental, and assumed the food contract after the previous holder left before the contract was over. The concessionaire put a lot of time and money into upgrades for concession stand. Wishes contract with Clark Gray (current holder) had been extended at that time.

By law, this must go to RFP and then be approved by the City Council.

Clark started the boat rental in 1975. Made a proposal then to tear down an old building and put the current building in. Also put the dock in. Stopped running the boat rental concession in 2000, and came back in 2005.

Clark lives in the community – across from the lake. This is his retirement job and really enjoys it.

Aly Pennucci – DPD – Pedestrian Zone Project

Pedestrian Zone designation is to preserve, protect and encourage the ability to walk in neighborhoods. Areas that are already zoned commercial, this adds some regulations. For example, in front of a building, 80% needs to be accessible to put uses in that create activity and provide services. Also adds rules about parking – how it's accessed and where it's located. Parking cannot be in front of or beside the building, but behind or under the building.

Looking at requiring overhead weather protection on new projects. Will also be looking at sidewalk width and design standards.

In September, City Council added an emergency rule for pedestrian zones in urban villages - have to meet a minimum size requirement for floor area. Looking at if those rules should be permanent.

Currently looking at 60 areas in the city to add pedestrian zone designation. Three areas in and near the Green Lake neighborhood.

Q: Widening sidewalks – only way to make them wider is to move the curb into the street and remove parking?

A: Currently there are not extra requirements around sidewalks. DPD is looking at expanding that to protect businesses and help ensure desired activity. Applies to new developments.

Q: In the Circa building, there are some live in/business units. Would these still be allowed?

A: Streets could be designated as pedestrian zones and these would not be allowed, but not all sides of a major development are always zoned the same. The ability to build live/work spaces would decrease for units that face Green Lake. Currently, areas behind buildings around Green Lake are not recommended as pedestrian zones.

Q: Areas that are designated on the chart for studying, is there an actual problem being solved?

A: These areas could be redeveloped into just residential or just office uses.

Q: It has been proposed that there would be additional use of alleys, but often there are houses and kids playing on those alleys.

A: It's not an automatic "you have an alley, you must use it", it takes into account various factors.

Survey will continue for a few more weeks. At the beginning of April they will review the comments received. Will formalize the recommendations in late Summer or early Fall.

Aly.pennucci@seattle.gov

<http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/cityplanning/completenesslist/mainstreetmapping/whatwhy/default.htm>

Steven Bull – Workshop Ad – Project @ 77th & Aurora

Here with Dan Jenkins who is developer from the project. Has had an early design guidance meeting with the city. SE corner of 77th & Aurora. Plan is for four story mixed use – 3 stories of apartments – 34 apartments. Courtyard accessed from 77th ave. Residents of apartment would interact mainly with 77th.

Weather protection all around the building, and the building is set back 3' – the 9.5' sidewalk will grow to 12' sidewalk. The sidewalk at 77th will not be moved into the street - the building is set back 3'. Looking to introduce street trees and planting strips.

Apartments are accessed from courtyard in center of building. 38,000sf of commercial use. 12 studio apartments. 19 one-bedroom apartments. Three 1 BR + den apartments.

17 basement parking stalls, minimum requirement. Six commercial use stalls, above minimum.

Construction could possibly begin in Q2 of 2015.

Friends of Green Lake

Next meeting March 25th in the Boardroom at the Hearthstone at 7pm

Ellen Hewitt – NW District Council Report

Discussion about Pedestrian Zones. Also discussed about DPD – Seattle 2035 – Comprehensive plan to at least 2020, and then on to 2035 for how Seattle will deal with growth. Meeting planned for the 24th of this month for a scoping meeting @ Seattle City Hall. More info at <http://2035.seattle.gov> Defines things like Northgate being an “Urban Center” and Green Lake an “Urban Village.” Instead of bringing the planning to the neighborhoods, the discussion is taking place elsewhere.

Strategic Plan Update for Seattle City Light. <http://Seattle.gov/light/strategic-plan> Possibly going to monthly billing instead of bi-monthly. Possibly upgrading meters.

Seattle Dept of Neighborhoods, has the Large Projects Fund opening up – up to \$100,000 to help communities. Open to neighborhood based groups, community orgs and community groups that do not have a geographic groups, among others. Deadline to apply is May 5th. Mandatory workshop attendance required – March 20th at 16th ave S. Tuesday March 25th, 6-8pm for Northgate. Others planned. Email us for additional times and locations.

Zoe Alexis Scott – Seattle Public Theatre

Classes are expanding with the youth groups – “busting out the seams with popularity.” Looking for offsite rehearsal space. Also seeking office space.

For upcoming shows, see <http://seattlepublictheater.org> Gideon’s Knot opens at the end of March and runs for four weeks.

“Great Theater Up Close”

Q: Are you looking at changing your Christmas programs?

A: Kids wait to be a part of the programs. One show will be the standard, and the other will rotate (which is how it’s been done in the past.)

Closing Items

Northwest Center for Creative Aging – programs starting at the end of March at the Green Lake Library. New parking meters planned, can test them out downtown. Bike Master Plan – Roosevelt is not happy with the proposals, is creating a response. @ May Meeting, will be calling for volunteers for the nomination committee. April 5th – Mayor Murray’s Neighborhood Summit. 9-1 @ Seattle Center.

April 1st – May 31st – Seattle Public Utilities – cleanup time. Supplies will be available to clean up neighborhood. You can register your event on the Seattle Public Utilities site.

Adjourned: 9:00 PM

Next Meeting: May 14, 2014

Submitted by: Forrest Corbett, Secretary