



Green Lake Community Council Meeting Minutes Wednesday, May 8, 2013

Paul Kostek – Introductions

David Canty – King County Metro – Overview on RapidRide E Line

Taking bus lines that see most service and enhancing them with new busses, new stops...

Route 16 being rerouted starting May 18th – will last for “probably two years.”

RapidRide busses have three doors and one can use any door to get on or off the bus. There will be onboard fare checkers. They have the ability to reduce illicit activity. Two types of stops - “Stations” – high ridership stops. Orca readers at the tops, and signs announcing next bus arrival. Lower ridership stops – “Enhanced Stops” – won’t have the technology as they don’t have the budget for that.

Vast majority of stops will be where they are today. In the Linden area, the bus will stay using Linden coming northbound. Southbound the bus will now stay on Aurora Ave at North 65th St. The stop at Winona Ave has been added back in for northbound.

Transit signal priority will be deployed for the bus service. Typically this is extending green 5-10 seconds and reduce the red time 5-10 seconds.

Q: Will the 358 still stop at 72nd street southbound?

A: No, it will now be on Aurora and pedestrians will have to cross Linden.

Q: Will we lose the third lane going southbound?

A: City is evaluating curb lane usage during peak times.

Resident comments: Neighborhood was never mailed a notice about this. Residents have made a lot of effort has been made to help clean up this area. Has been working with SDOT for four years on the 72nd St intersection. Currently has a public

disclosure request to find out how these decisions were made. SDOT also put in bike lanes and a traffic bulb. Trying to make it nicer for pedestrians and little shops.

Nolan Rundquist – City Arborist – Seattle Tree Project

“I’m the street tree guy.” 684-Tree – can call if you have issues with street trees.

Seattle.trees@seattle.gov

Bridging the Gap Tree Planting – 600-800 trees per year since 2007. Almost 5000 trees in all over the city. They have a website where residents can request trees in an area. About 350 trees going in up here by the lake.

There is a street tree map. 150,000-200,000 trees between the street and sidewalk. Not all were planted by the city. City maintains only trees planted by the city. Pruning, removal... of trees requires a permit. No fee for the permit.

Tend to plant trees that are medium to large size. Want the canopy benefits from a large tree.

Q: Where do the trees come from?

A: A wholesale nursery. Have a few up in Mt Vernon. Also get some from Oregon.

Q: What about damage to sidewalks?

A: Has approve tree list and tries to make sure the right trees go in the right places.

If a city planted tree causes damage to the sidewalk, the city is on the hook for repairs. There is a sidewalk repair form on Seattle.gov. At the very least, put some asphalt down to fill in the gaps, then schedule longer term remedies.

Susan Parker – Land Use Committee

Five met as part of the committee and went over the city’s information on what they want to do for new development. Came up with two specific ideas the committee felt needed to be included in the guidelines in order to keep the neighborhood looking nice.

1. Addition of designated entry location @ Aurora Ave N and W Green Lake Drive North.
2. Would like to see conditions put on alley usage in commercial areas when there are also residences. Expand current guidelines to include speed bumps and traffic bulbs and/or find other ways to mitigate potentially dangerous usage of alleyways.

Chris Wilkie – Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition

EPA has a plan out for comment on the Duwamish River – Seattle only river. Heavily impacted. Is also the mouth of the Green River. Over 100 years of industrial pollution. EPA listed it as one of America’s most toxic areas.

Warning signs not to eat a single meal of anything that lives in the river. 98108 vs 98105 has a 12 year life expectancy difference. Cleanup plan released on February 28th. 36 more days to comment – June 13th.

Not proposing to protect the health of people who eat seafood, although that previously was a goal. Proposing leaving most of the impacted area alone and not cleaning it up. Not proposing restoring it to a wilderness area.

EPA needs your feedback. Spanish public hearing: May 15th. Town Hall meeting May 29th. Send comments to ldpc@resolve.org - please CC contact@duwamishcleanup.org See www.duwamishcleanup.org for more information

Maryte Racys – Seattle Public Library

New library cards. Thank you for voting for the library levy. 62% voted yes, and now all branches are open on Sundays. Still don't have Fridays open, but happy to have the hours they have now.

Fun facts: Monthly poetry readings – “Poets West”. Last month had Irish poets. Every second Saturday of the month at 4pm – open mic as well.

Afternoon book group continues – every second Wednesday of the month at 2:30pm.

Opera previews taking place just before the Seattle Opera Company gives a new opera. Had a preview just last week. Provides music, history, composer... of the opera. Brochures available in the library about the operas.

The Green Lake branch is very heavily into doing computer and library skills classes. Computer, Internet, Word, Facebook, ebooks, email... classes. Have about 40,000 ebooks on their website now. Teaching people one-on-one how to download ebook on whatever device they may have. That takes place at the Greenwood branch.

Have a new service on their website – “Take 5” an e-librarian will assist you to find five books on a reading interest of your choice.

Audio books also available. Washington Talking Book & Braille library. Books and equipment are free if you qualify for the service.

Lee Bruch – Blanchet HS Lights & Sound System

City has approved the lighting of the stadium. Today the community submitted an appeal. Hearing likely in 4-8 weeks. Attorney “thinks we have an unusually excellent chance of prevailing” and has been successful in similar cases. A number of neighbors have donated services and funds.

www.BlanchetNeighbors.com

Garet Munger – Friends of Green Lake

Big thanks to Todd Young who assembles a group and meets every Sunday morning at 9am at the Bathhouse Theater to pickup litter around the lake – 1-1.5hrs.

Additional meetings about parks legacy plan - May 16th will address environmental issues with all city parks. Series of additional meetings through the end of the month.

FOGL meets at the Hearthstone in the “Board Room” – last meeting was a report on water quality. In 2004 there was an alum treatment and since the water quality has been measured regularly. Water quality has been pretty much stable since then. There are suggestions that the treatment may be wearing out. Not expected to last for ever – 10 years is the expected life of the treatment.

Next meeting will be May 28th – fourth Tuesday of the month.

Ellen Hewitt – Northwest District Council Report

Many similar issues as discussed at tonight’s meeting. Large paving project coming up on 105th/Northgate Way. Annual election of officers coming up. No one currently running for chair. Things are changing with RapidRide, and have delayed Aurora section from September 2013 to February 2014

Justin Hansen – Freeway Estates Community Orchard

Located in the SE corner of the GL neighborhood. On 6th Ave against the sound wall between 60th and 63rd. Just got a grant to hire a landscape architect for the orchard. Will be gathering community feedback. At least three upcoming meetings. Kickoff meeting tomorrow. Many opportunities to volunteer. Management, photography, writing thank-yous, greeting people...

<http://groups.google.com/> - FreewayEstates

First Straw Poll for Mayor – Wednesday, May 15th 7:30pm.