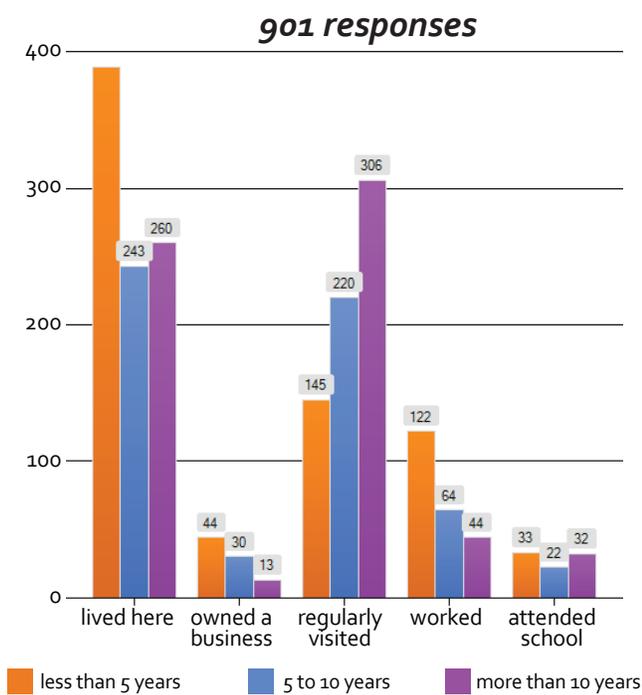
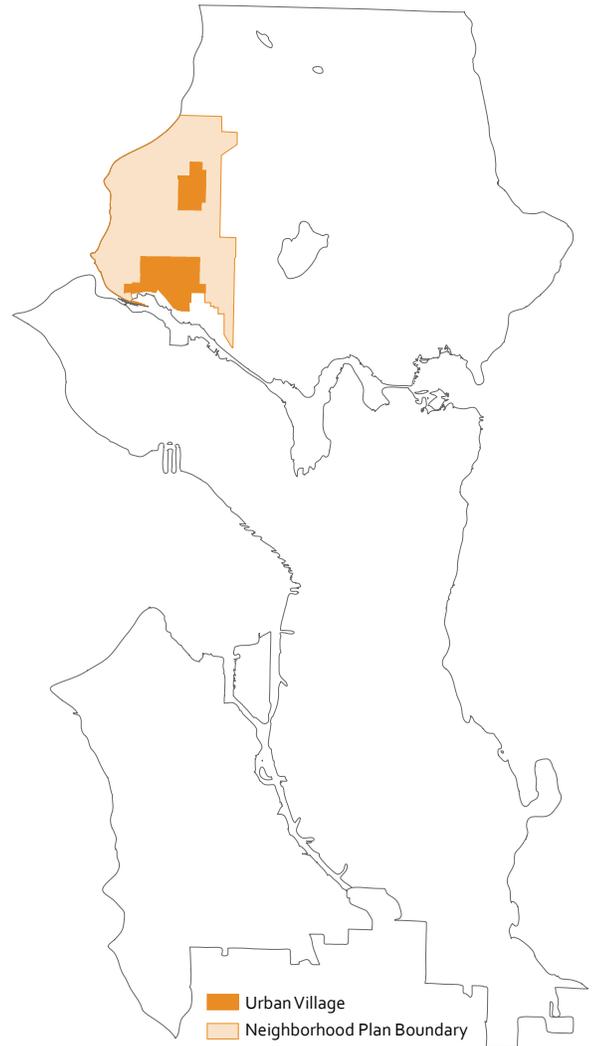


Status Check

Transcript of Crown Hill/Ballard Questionnaire Responses

The Crown Hill / Ballard Neighborhood Plan was adopted in 1998 and includes the Ballard Hub Urban Village and Crown Hill Residential Urban Village. The map shows the neighborhood plan and urban village boundaries.

In 2009, the City began preparing Status Reports for 24 neighborhood plans. This document contains the responses to an on-line questionnaire that asked the questions listed below. The chart shows the number of people who responded.



Question 1: How has your neighborhood changed in the last decade since the plan was adopted (or since you've been there)?

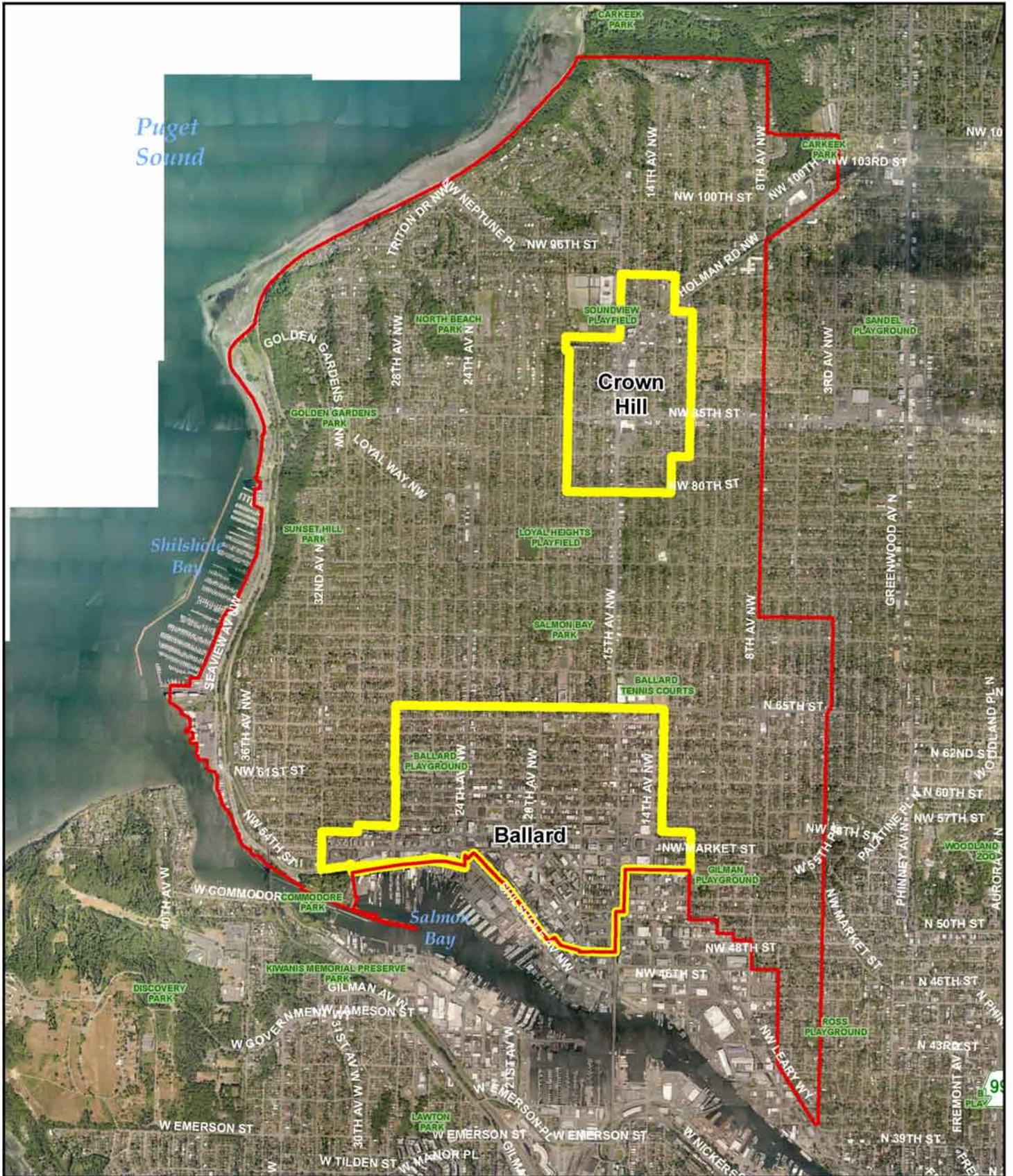
*Question 2: What changes or aspects of your neighborhood are you...
most pleased about?
most dissatisfied about?*

*Question 3: Please describe how well your Neighborhood Plan vision and key strategies are being achieved.
Are they still the priorities?*

*Question 4: The Status Reports should focus more on...
they should focus less on...
Are there important gaps in the Status Reports?*

PLEASE NOTE: statistical sampling was not used for the on-line questionnaire; responses do not necessarily represent the community as a whole.

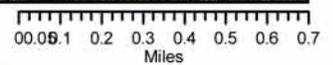
CROWN HILL / BALLARD AERIAL MAP



Urban Village

 Neighborhood Plan Area

 Aerial Photo: 2007



© 2008, THE CITY OF SEATTLE.
All rights reserved.
Produced by the Department of
Planning and Development.
No warranties of any sort, including
accuracy, fitness or merchantability,
accompany this product.
Printed on: 5/6/2009

Question 1: How has your neighborhood changed in the last decade since the plan was adopted (or since you've been there)?

Higher population density around main business district. Increase of visible homeless population. Increase in crime.

We've seen denser development (condos/apartments), a new park, the new library -- all great! There's also been a bit of turnover among businesses on Market St & Ballard Ave, especially in the last couple of years.

condos all around.

Pros: Increased business vibrancy (e.g., new boutiques, restaurants, farmers market); increased community involvement (e.g., Sustainable Ballard, new library, park renovation, Burke-Gilman Trail extension). Cons: Excessive number of bars in retail core; sidewalks overcrowded with outdoor seating; insufficient parking along Shilshole Ave.; condo overdevelopment and resulting negative impacts to traffic.

More young folks live in our neighborhood than when we moved in (3 years ago).

More density, smaller buildings have been torn down to be replaced with multi high rises. The public transportation has become very crowded and the traffic on 15th is very bad. More graffiti and litter also.

I live at 9th & Market -- the traffic has gotten terrible - too fast (twice I've had drunks crash in my front yard). There are a lot of big trucks using 9th to get on to Market (there are businesses several blocks south, but where I live it is residential). The homeless people continue to grow. Twice in the last couple months, we've had bums take up residence in empty homes (one is being remodelled and the other belongs to a senior who is in a home) - as neighbors we have to be very vigilant. I like the atmosphere changes in downtown Ballard. Hate the condos and the too-tightly clustered cheaply-built townhomes. A lot more congestions, but no allowance for road improvement or sufficient on-site parking.

Our home is very close to the newer NOMA and Ballard on the Park developments. Since we purchased our home ~ 2 years ago, we've seen the re-development of the old QFC on 24th turn into the newer Ballard on the Park. The construction is a pain, but it will be terrific when it is done. Additionally, we've noticed that parking is getting tougher and tougher as the popularity of Ballard grows.

The amount of multi-unit housing has increased radically just in the past year alone. With that traffic has increased quite a bit. We live near-ish to Ballard High School and have found that this past summer there has been an increase in vandalism -- to our own property as well as others' -- in the surrounding area, both personal and business properties as well as artwork.

I do not like the amount of condo development but I am happy with the influx of new local businesses.

There has been a dramatic increase in density with the addition of several multi-story condo units. In addition, there has been loss of apartment units due to the conversion of said units into condos. Rental rates and property values have also increased. The single family homes used to be lived in by families. Now these houses are rented out by an increasing number of college students and single adults in their twenties looking to live in a "hip" neighborhood close to the bars, or these houses are torn down in favor of town homes. People who work in Ballard generally cannot afford to buy a home in the neighborhood, and in some cases cannot even afford to rent (unless they're renting with several other people). Parking in Ballard has become nearly impossible. Since many single family homes now have multiple individuals who do not share vehicles, each house may have 3 or 4 cars associated with it. These cars get parked on the streets. Town homes are being constructed with such small garages that most people have issues getting their vehicle to fit into it. These vehicles are also parked on the streets. These increasingly congested residential streets make it very difficult to see pedestrians and can cause dangerous situations when vehicles are approaching each other and there is no where to pull over to allow the other pass. Ideally people wouldn't have vehicles and they would just take mass transit into work. Realistically the transit options for Ballard haven't changed in 10 years while the population has exploded. Giving up personal vehicles is also difficult if outdoor recreation is enjoyed. Transporting kayaks to the water and getting to the nearby mountains to hike, camp, and ski is impossible without a vehicle. Nighttime hangouts for teens are disappearing. The loss of the Sunset Bowling Alley and the 24-hour Denny's has left a void that has yet to be filled by any other businesses. Not all of the changes have been negative. The revitalization of Ballard Ave has been nice, it's just too bad that drinking establishments seem to be in the majority of businesses down there. Ballard has changed from a working class single family neighborhood to a mecca for the urban elite.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

Haven't been there for a decade.

Two new parks, the art in the downtown ballard/ballard bridge, downtown ballard is much more vibrant, the library - all great! There is obviously more high density living spaces. It has been hard to see some of the classic pieces of Ballard go (sunset bowl, denny's, etc.). And I am fearful that the improvements in public transportation are not keeping up with the increased density.

Downtown Ballard has lots more condos and recently lots of new businesses. Density seems way up in downtown Ballard area. I'm very excited about the school purchase/park/childcare at the old elementary school that was just completed. Traffic is up on Holman road and streets that feed into it.

I've seen a lot more development and a lot of business turnover.

There has been a lot of development, particularly in the downtown Ballard area.

Lots of condo construction, and new businesses opening, and old ones closing

It has gotten younger with remodels more valuable

The skate park is really nice.

I have seen rapid change to this neighborhood and best of all from living in other Seattle neighborhoods Ballard has a strong identity and sense of responsibility and ownership. The neighborhood has vision and just needs to continually be enabled to carry it out!

The addition of so many new condos and closing of neighborhood places like Denny's and Sunset Bowl has really made the area feel less like a community and more like an extension of Seattle. I miss the sleepy town feel where I could get away from the rest of the city. I do appreciate the beautification (esp on 14th) and the improvements to bicycle paths.

it only gets better

There seems to be a stronger sense of community pride. The new library, park, farmers market and other improvements to the neighborhood have made a difference. Ballard has been rediscovered and is a desirable place to live within the city limits.

My neighborhood is the Central Ballard LDT zone, so lots of small detached houses were demolished and converted to duplexes, and other multi. The gardens and homes generally look better now than 10 years ago. An ironic recent trend: Several apartment houses were refurbished as condos which did not sell and which are now rentals. oh, well. The streets in commercial zones are hoppin' meaning that there are lots more pedestrians accessing the various businesses. Scandinavian culture in ballard is no longer dominant. 10 years ago one could often hear conversations in Norwegian - not any more! More youth, fewer elderly ladies. More "minority" citizens. The drunks are still here, perhaps more of them and more evident because of new open space for them to congregate. Lots of poor and otherwise homeless folks live in cars and campers parked on the streets. REAL Change dealers are out selling the paper on several corners and store entries. Sometimes the commercial district sidewalks seem obstructed by street vendors, A-boards, newspaper boxes and sidewalk extensions of restaurants and cafes. Our neighborhood plan included more density, more open space and more public transportation options. I would say that the plan is working really well so far. -B

Lots more condos! More restaurants... harder to find parking in downtown Ballard.

I have noticed a lot more condos on market street without much personality. A little flair could really help the aesthetic

Too many "Luxury Condos". Being priced out of the neighborhood that was one affordable and more community oriented.

More high-density living and mixed used space. More parks - a good change. "Old Ballard" is pretty much gone - no more Sunset Bowl, Archie McPhee's, etc. More condos. More gentrification.

The Ballard Commons Park has been quite a nice improvement to the area. Unfortunately we are still struggling with the completion of the Burke-Gilman. As an avid cyclist, I would like to see this completed primarily for the sake of safety. The current route over the abandoned tracks is treacherous.

14th Avenue has started to be improved; we hope it will continue. Sometimes it seems as though we here more sirens than before.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

The variety and quantity of restaurants and retail options has dramatically increased and businesses stay open in the evening hours. More trees have been planted and people walk the neighborhood to get around. The farmer’s market and sustainable neighborhood groups have really cemented our identity and enthusiasm for living here. There is simply more entertainment and neighborhood experiences to offer those of us who live here. Friday and Saturday night is hopping with nightlife from outside the ‘hood!

The n

Free street parking to pay parking Mass condo construction with no new parking or mass transit solution Two major groceries on 24th to none Scandinavian stores to tattoo shops and lots of alcohol stores (tavern, bar, etc) 4 lanes on 24th to 2 lanes; drivers cutting each other off to get the one lane free parking at my apartment to monthly paid parking old library to new library

I’ve noticed an improvement in a small, local park. Old buildings have been torn down, some buildings have become and remained vacant. I’ve noticed new condos being built. I’ve noticed stores leaving downtown Ballard and new ones taking their place. I’ve noticed an increase in restaurants.

The transient and drug community has really moved in, sleeping on the streets, in my yard, in their cars.

Lots of condos. Not a lot of services. Most of the new condo buildings have inadequate surface-street retail options.

yes, there have been too many town houses replacing single family residences along 57th and 58th st between 24th and 28th ave. a bit more work has taken place to extend bike routes a lot more needed

Many more people and traffic. Less parking, especially in retail areas. Often no parking available at new library in spite of Garage.

B-G trial getting close to completion Lots more condos

Not much has changed. Still no sidewalks on my street.

There has been a lot of change to historic Ballard with lots of new shops coming in. There also has been a huge influx of condos.

More single and multifamily housing development; more traffic, increases in retail. Has become younger demographic

Short buildings are replaced with multi-story buildings. Parking lots replaced with multi-story buildings. Bowling alley to be replaced with a multi-story building. Denny’s to be replaced with a multi-story building. Houses to the west of 24th Ave all the way to almost 32nd Ave have been torn down and replaced with 4-unit and 8-unit townhouses. Traffic up and down 32nd Ave is more than it used to be and it’s not because there are more multi-story buildings at 32nd and 85th, as there aren’t any. It’s because more condos mean more bored people looking for something to do. The 4-way stop at 32nd Ave and NW 54th St was changed to a stoplight several years back, eventually the 4-way stop at 32nd Ave and NW 65th will be replaced, too. Cars traveling east on NW Market Street line up at the traffic light at 24th Ave NW, it’s shocking to see the long line(s). Recently, bicycle markings were placed on 32nd Ave NW, a complete waste of money when it tells drivers and bicyclists nothing they didn’t already know without the markings. The cute Norwegian-art at the bus stop shelter at 32nd Ave NW and NW 63rd Ave, which lasted many years and was still sturdy, was replaced with the tacky bus shelters used downtown. Now, the graffiti has increased along 32nd Ave NW. Look in the alley between NW 61st and NW 62nd, west of 32nd AVE NW. Graffiti. It’s terrible. Y’all have increased density of a nice somewhat bucolic neighborhood until you have achieved in Ballard the nastiness of downtown living. Shame, shame on you and the colleges where you matriculated.

gentrification and the “hipstering” of the city.

I like my new neighborhood, it’s growing fast and there are lots of changes, but that’s why we moved here. the character of Ballard is changing it’s not an old fishing community full of Northern Europeans but it is still a friendly and safe place that offers comparatively affordable housing, a wide variety of retail and restaurant options, and quality community services like our library and the parks in the neighborhood. I’m worried about the recent increase in vacant store fronts, but hoping they will be filled soon. I’m optimistic that rents and property values will be forced down to a level that will allow businesses and families to thrive again. I’m very glad my husband and i were able to find an affordable place to live, we were priced out of our capitol hill apartment after 5 years, and found a nicer place for much less here in Balard; we’ve been happy ever since.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

In the 2 years I've been in Ballard I have noticed an increase in new multi-family housing and construction. There also seems to be an increase in apparent income levels of Ballard Residents.

IT's more expensive and there no longer is any sunlight when you travel down market street. I came here in part to be close to the city and to enjoy my scandinavian roots.... These roots are being closed down

More businesses closing down - Sunset Bowl, Denny's - with no development to replace them. Their locations have become eyesores.

Ballard has really come along in the last 5yrs. So many new stores and restaurants have come into the picture and made Ballard a hip/trendy spot now!

Tons and tons of condos arose. Many old time family type businesses closed. Lots of new hip businesses have come.

The major change that I've seen in the 9 years I've lived in the Salmon Bay neighborhood is that many local, small businesses that have a long history in Ballard have been priced out of their business spaces along Ballard Ave. and Market Street. That is not to say that there aren't perfectly nice new businesses coming in, but it is sad to see so many old businesses unable to afford to keep their shops that have been around for decades. There is also a significant increase in homeless folks with drugs, alcohol, or mental illness issues who spend their days loitering or panhandling in the Ballard business district. I would not say it was a fast transition, but if you compare when we moved here in 2000 to 2009, there is a dramatic difference. Crown Hill on the other hand seems a little nicer than 9 years ago. I would really like to see Whitman's facility improved - that building is so old and decrepit and I think our middle school students deserve much better than that. In all, I would say that the growth in the Ballard Crown Hill area has been positive - many of the townhouses that have gone up especially in Ballard have nice designs and fit in with the old Craftsman architecture of the area and some really nice new businesses have come in over the last 9 years. But as with any growth, the increase in prices and in the presence of homeless people with a lot of issues, is something that is seems like the neighborhood was not prepared for and needs to be addressed.

cleaned up a lot transitioned from an older demographic to having many young children

-Much more dense with multi-person housing (condos, apts...) -Many more children in the area

The neighborhood hasn't changed much since I have been here other than the building of new condos and retail space.

Too many condos!! We need more parking to accommodate the growth in the Market St area. Love the new restaurants, shops but there is no parking. Also the rates of street parking should be lowered.

There has been alot of new construction and condo conversions but not alot of attention to parking or infrastructure to support it. Sidewalks will be closed on both sides of a street, parking has been lost rather than added and some construction has halted resulting in dangerous neighborhood locations like Market St and 28th Ave NW.

Building too many townhouses and parking anywhere near your home has become a nightmare.

Noticed a lot more little shoe box size parks, which is nice.

More housing density, changes in business.

It's gone from being a place that people buy in because it's the cheapest in-city neighborhood to one where people actually buy homes because of all the benefits. Unfortunately it's become more expensive.

Lots of new construction especially townhomes and condos.

There are considerably more restaurants, condos, townhomes, and activities geared towards a young demographic

greater density. More apartment/condo development. More aggressive neighborhood traffic. More graffiti.

denser bouing, taller buildings, more growth in old Ballard, Newly remodeled High School, new library, better transportation as far as buses, increased homeless population, increase in crime (perception) and the rise of what appears to be drug addicts and substance abuse people in our downtown parks.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

Increased number of parks, more trees lining the streets, more apartments/condo buildings, more restaurants/bars

more houses seem to be getting fixed up (on 65th st), and some new food & bev businesses have been added...all good.

Lots more condos

More traffic, condominiums, decrease in "general" retail businesses and an increase in more specialty boutique retail and demographic change to a more younger population.

More generic buildings constructed for retail business.

Ballard is not Ballard anymore. I never shop in Ballard anymore because there is no parking. Lots of people in my neighborhood say the same thing. Maybe that's the reason so many shops have closed up/gone out of business. Taking the bus makes me car sick - so that is not an option.

Lot's of building and many more huge apt. or condo buildings. Beautiful new library and park. Vibrant business section.

Some for the better, some for the worse. I like some of the new, trendy bars, restaurants, and stores that have come in but feel sorry for the older, local, and unique business that have moved out. More troubling, I have noticed a very pronounced increase in the amount of homeless. 10 years ago we NEVER seemed to see any... now I regularly encounter them on my way to the library and park. Very disturbing behavior, alcohol use, and probably drugs. Not what I want my young child exposed too. Almost to the point that I would consider moving out of the area to avoid it.

Not much, we are still too new! (Been there 5 months)

Have not lived in Ballard long enough to comment on changes of that scope

Increase of homeless people and graffiti

Lots of ugly and cheap-looking, but with a very expensive price tag, housing has been added.

more condo's, to many condo's

Substantial growth has occurred in Ballard, which is good and healthy to revitalize the neighborhood. However, the dense urban residential development which has been permitted, has caused overcrowding on our streets. Urban density is fine as part of a long-term growth plan. Density this extensive and impactful should have only been permitted in growth increments commensurate with the growth and installation of more significant public transportation systems. As those grow, urban density can grow, but the government agencies responsible for regulating both should be careful to keep them comparable. Right now, it's not feasible to live in Ballard and not own a vehicle, someday it may be, but not yet. Parking in the downtown Ballard core has become nearly impossible. Lack of parking affects merchants and sustainability. The city should consider using Santa Monica, CA as a model and erect some lower-cost neighborhood parking structures. These structures can be used to support business to the merchants and may someday be useful as park and rides as well, when (if?) light rail reaches Ballard. In the mean time, please slow down the urban density growth by limiting the 4-family structures with infeasible parking that are replacing all the former single-family homes. These units that provide garages, are nearly impossible to navigate and result in garages being used as storage areas and cars parked on the streets. For every lot that used to have a home and driveway and one or two cars, there are now no driveways and up to 8 cars where two used to reside. This needs to be looked at. Parking meter rates in Ballard are exorbitant as well and should be reconsidered.

Influx of new condominium and apartment complexes, increase in number of businesses. Increase in crime, noise and homeless people visible on the street.

There are more condos, high end boutiques and restaurants. Some of the older, established small businesses have had to close their doors.

LOTS of ugly, poorly constructed, and now vacant condominiums have been erected. Many retail spaces that reflected the traditional Scandinavian values of the community have been forced out, most recently Olsen's Scandinavian Deli. The area has, however, benefited as well from the beginnings of gentrification. We now have more restaurants and bars. but, of course, with all the suspended construction, we now suffer from a large influx of vagrants who are, for now at least, mostly benign.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

The neighborhood has become more dense and walkable. The downtown area is more attractive and there are much nicer public amenities.

Mass housing structures have increased dramatically which has caused major traffic congestion and parking difficulties. The downtown Ballard area has seen a lot of business turnover which has brought more upscale boutiques and restaurants to the neighborhood. Crime has increased so much that we are considering moving. We no longer feel safe in our own home. The amount of homeless people on the streets and drug activity has increased and is visible every day. This used to be a very safe place to live, but is not so anymore.

There has been a large increase in graffiti. It seems that nothing is being done about it. Even tagged city property is not cleaned up. The density increase seems to have lowered the average age. With the young crowd has come increased noise - parties with outdoor music, loud cars. Ballard has lost its charm. Market St./ Ballard Ave feel like Pioneer Square or Capital Hill now - dirty, gritty, homeless camps, unsupervised teens, graffiti, filth, fights, drugs. This is NOT your grandfather's Ballard!

The number of condominiums and apartment buildings have been worrying. The "cityscape" view of the neighborhood has changed for the worse and driven the vacancy rate higher as many of the buildings are not "sold out" nor occupied fully. And yet, more condominiums are breaking ground or planned in the near future.

It seems that since I moved into the neighborhood, there has been an excessive amount of development of new condos and apartments thus bringing a larger population of people. Also seems that there has been a greater amount of criminal activity and more homeless especially around closed buildings (for example the defunct Denny's lot and the bowling alley). The new property owners buy these plots of land, shut down the building, and I feel very unsafe walking by them especially at night since the areas are unlit and are crawling with drunken, rowdy transients.

More condos, more high-end retail and restaurants, less Scandinavian culture.

Greater sense of a community.

More people

Big Condo growth. It's also become a hip neighborhood with Ballard ave leading the charge. It feels like crime has risen with a parallel rise in the homeless pop in Ballard. I think Ballard has lost most of its nordic heritage which is very sad. My worry is that each neighborhood is becoming more and more alike. New construction is drab (save for government run projects like the library) and I worry that one will soon be unable to distinguish Ballard from Kent, Redmond, Bothel, fill in the blank, etc...

Since I have lived here, many apartment or condo buildings have been built or are under construction. I see that many of them are close to empty. I see many businesses in downtown Ballard have failed. There is more crime that is reported in Ballard. I see many more homeless-looking people than I did only 2 years ago. There is a very nice park on 17th Avenue NW near NW 60th Street that gets a lot of visitors.

Too much increased density with not enough commensurate increase in bus service, pools, park space, police presence, etc. Park space has increased but not nearly enough. Traffic density is way up due to the fallacious belief that condo & townhome owners will only have one car. Sharrows and bike lanes are greatly improved but the "missing link" of the Burke-Gilman needs to be completed and the dangerous RR tracks under the Ballard Bridge need retrofitting with rubberized crossing surface.

We bought a home in Ballard, on 2004, and one of the main reasons was because we supported the monorail and looked forward to living in a community that provided an easy commute to downtown. Even though a rail option has been proposed, I am somewhat doubtful about the decrease in commuting time. At times it takes 30-35 minutes to get home from lower Queen Anne (my husband's business is located there). We have also seen an increase in families living here, which has been tremendously positive. The parks are fabulous, and the city is trying its best to keep them clean and keep the "bums" out.

The traffic and speed of traffic is much worse. We have had several accidents at the corner of 12th NW and 80th NW. We cannot cross 80th. My older neighbors cannot walk to Safeway anymore because no one will stop to let them cross 80th Street NW at 12th or 11th-at 11th there is a cross walk that no one respects. This is a shame!

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

For a while the improvements seemed good, but now Ballard is just too crowded. Too many cars, too many townhouses where the people park on the street (too hard to get cars into the tiny driveways, plus they need a place for storage), too many tall fences in front of them resulting in a tunnel-like feeling rather than a neighborhood. Too much anger in the blogs, too many people wanting Ballard to change so it's like where they came from.

Addition of too many condominiums. Neighborhood has started to lose its charm and feeling of a small town. Becoming less attractive. Additionally, starting to see more urban crime such as tagging and violence. I think the neighborhood plan stinks and is not working.

The homeless have taken over the parks in Ballard. Drug dealing and use has also seemed to taken over Ballard as well/

Insane amounts of condos, way less parking, way more traffic, lots of the old shops going out of business or leaving

Ball

More people. More CONDOS, many without adequate parking and too much density. Downtown Ballard becoming a destination, with more restaurants & shops. Golden Gardens is out of control on the weekends and not a good place for families. Burke Gilman extension is GREAT. Looking forward to some improvements in the Ballard Bridge area.

too many condos popped up too quickly, and lost the feeling of a small ballard community. old ballard ave cleaned up nicely though, good to see it thriving, and less vacant old buildings.

I live in Ballard, close to Market and 14th. With all the development, the traffic in Ballard is much worse. I was shocked, but not surprised that there's been a pedestrian fatality on 14th & 58th, and numerous bike accidents. I think Ballard has changed for the worse, despite some park improvements. There are A LOT of homeless in campers and the parks. The police seem to be concentrating on some parks, and ignoring others. There are always a few in Gilman Park, by the old bowling alley and campers lining 14th. This is really unacceptable to me, as a parent.

much 'bigger', busier, more urban, not quaint little ballard anymore

The biggest change in Ballard is the type of retail and restaurants that have open/shut due to a change in demography. Also Ballard has been see a population growth with constructions of condo building. The good side is that there is more social activities and it is good for the local business. I am concerned about the traffic and the future plans for mass transportation.

It's drastically more urban, having traded away its quaint charm for commercial success.

Ballard has become much more of a destination. Restaurants and shops, especially along Market and Ballard Ave, became quite popular. To deal with this, the city added lots of paid parking along the core areas. Recently, due to the economy, several businesses have closed, but more are still opening. Ballard feels like a vibrant and healthy place to live. It feels more polished than the Ballard of 10 - 20 years ago, but it is still very comfortable.

more condo's and good resturants

More traffic congestion, more parking congestion. A surge of new businesses and now, a scary decline.

There have been some improvements, like the new library and downtown Ballard park. However, there has been a huge increase in graffiti on businesses and residential homes. It's a constant nuisance and many property owners need to remove the graffiti. There has also been a dramatic increase in people living in RV's on residential streets, homeless people in Ballard parks, as well as aggressive panhandlers in downtown Ballard.

more homeless people and drugs have moved into this area, although parks and other things have been growing slowly. I think old downtown ballard could be fixed up a bit more to look nice.

I moved here about 2.5 years ago, so I think most of the improvements that occurred in Ballard were before I arrived (such as the new library and some of the redevelopment in the area). I have been witness to the progression of the Burke-Gilman trail, for which I am grateful because I bike on it frequently. I've also seen the public art increase. I have noticed the sidewalks being replaced slowly in "old Ballard", and appreciate that.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

more condos, more homeless... all of these new features have degraded the neighborhood. it's almost as if no planning is happening.

Since I have been here I have seen more bike lanes installed and sidewalk improvements

Density has increased dramatically. A concentration of new town homes in streets near the commercial center has replaced the sense of stable residential community with a colder, impersonal and transient feel. The gigantic condo buildings along Leary Ave. and 24th Avenue feel disproportionate to the size of everything else around them, further deteriorating any sense of an urban "village". Along with the above, a serious shortage in parking spaces is currently a daily source of frustration for residents within residential streets as well as in the commercial center. Small, locally-owned businesses with community ties are being driven away at an alarming rate lately, succumbing to larger, national chain competitors.

Housing density is increasing. A new park near my house has opened. The Burke-Gilman trail has been extended. Homelessness & urban camping are on the rise & moving closer to my house and drug use/intoxicated people can be observed regularly in public areas very often.

Apartment buildings have been knocked down and condos have gone in-way too many of them. Where are the elderly and those on fixed incomes supposed to live? Those condos have changed the feel of Ballard-they're taller and are popping up all over Ballard. Ballard doesn't feel as cozy or old anymore. The number of vehicles in neighborhoods has risen too because of the density of folks in multi-unit housing but we haven't changed our streets or transportation to match the increase.

Too many houses are being torn down for high-density condos. Many more people here so it is crowded and less pleasant to live here now. I bought my house to live in a neighborhood of old houses, not smushed up buildings that all look the same. Not to mention - not enough parking for those eye-sores, so the street is full of cars now. it's much harder to get around with all the traffic and parked cars.

We have watched the full development of the library and the Ballard Commons park and seen their adoption. Street life continues to get more and more lively. We have seen a greater number of car campers move onto our block in the last couple years. We're disappointed that a plan to meter parking on our block was rejected.

The neighborhood has evolved utterly and in many ways, nicely, with the exception of far, far, far too many condo buildings. There has been an increase in petty crime and drug related crime in the area. Parking can be challenging at times, but overall - Ballard is a very vibrant and interesting community at present and will remain so as long as no big box retailers are allowed in.

New apartment and condo buildings have been built. Businesses on Ballard Ave have been renovated and new businesses have moved in.

Too many condos and Townhouses are going up. Ballard is losing its neighborhood feeling and instead becoming too crammed.

N/A

A lot of development throughout Ballard - many multi-story buildings (condos) and townhouses have gone up. The new library and Ballard Commons were finished. The trail was extended to Golden Gardens. I notice a lot more homeless people and a lot more tagging around the neighborhood.

Population density has increased. Invasive and belligerent homeless population increased. Fewer parking spaces in town and throughout the neighborhoods. Less sunshine in my yard due to 3 story condo/townhomes. Fewer parks per capita. Increased traffic through side streets. Increased crime and graffiti.

Massive amount of growth and construction, which has had negative impact on condition of roads and sidewalks as construction sites and developers don't seem to be responsible for restoring streets and sidewalks to good condition. As hundreds of new units have been added, there has been little improvements to aid pedestrians and drivers. Many difficult driving and walking hazards have been created due to construction and the city has not addressed these areas that now serve so many more people and more traffic.

increase in young adults to neighborhood, increase in crime

More condos, more public parks, more shops. Better access to & from w/bus service & the trail from the Locks to Golden Gardens.

Many ugly townhomes have been built.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

Have been in Ballard neighborhood for about 2 1/2 years. Mostly changed for the better with bike trail to golden gardens, new library, and other improvements. But loss of landmarks like Denny's and Sunset Bowl were unfortunate as are some of the oversize housing and condo developments. Also a lot of business turnover with the downturn in the economy.

Improvements to community atmosphere due to the commons area in Ballard and business construction.

Urban density has grown with the addition of many condos and town homes.

Lots of condos and new apts and townhouses built, including right next to my small 6 unit apt building. It's louder, more obnoxious due to frat boys and such having moved in. There are also a lot of empty condos and apts due to the overly high prices of them. Less street parking. Less drunks/drug addicts on my street since I had three people evicted from my building when I moved in four years ago, but still plenty of drug activity. Kids hanging out being loud at Wendy's which I can hear from my bedroom. Lots of partying in the new apts next to my building. Some new businesses around the neighborhood which is cool, but it's becoming gentrified, maybe too much.

Over the last 10 years, I've seen more traffic, more pedestrian fatalities, continuing dangerous conditions for cyclists in Ballard. I've also seen a lack of priority on the part of DPD staff given to complaints about sidewalk blockages (vegetation, other), which make the neighborhood difficult to walk in for pedestrians as when I'm not cycling, I'm walking in our neighborhood or to bus stops.

Condos have sprung up everywhere, parks have been completed, a new library, MANY new restaurants, traffic has become a problem, more children in the neighborhood, and upscale retail and restaurants that most of my friends and neighbors don't frequent due to the trendy menus and high prices.

Age demographics, denser neighborhoods below NW 65th St and around Market.

Lots of new shops and restaurants in Ballard, more upscale housing available. New park and library!

I have been to Ballard on and off my whole life and moved here almost five years ago. In that time I have seen local small businesses being displaced by larger chains, local establishments completely going out of business and condominiums crowding downtown. The night life in Ballard has also changed. It is not the same blue collar crowd, but people from all over the city come here. The swanky bars are abundant and the feel of the town has changed. It's sad to see Olson's Scandinavian foods, Epilogue Book, Sunset Bowl and the Denny's all gone for one reason or another. I think losing establishment's like these do nothing to save the essence of what Ballard was and should continue to be.

New library, new park, many new condos, more restaurants, gentrification, turnover in businesses.

More condos. New parks. More traffic, more cars exceeding the speed limit. New library. Farmers Market. Ballard Ave retail development.

Many business have come and gone.

Improved parks and sidewalks/crossings, huge increase in condos and townhouses, schools continue to be well regarded

Increase of High end Retail, Restaurants and Bars Businesses in Ballard Avenue. Increase of Multifamily buildings in the Urban Village area and change of population from elder and families to single young professionals.

Condos, condos, condos. Too much and too fast, in my opinion.

Rampant over-development of condos completely changing the character of the neighborhood and overwhelming the street capacity.

Ballard has completely changed since I was a child. I am 24 now and ten years ago; actually maybe less than that no one wanted to be in ballard. The only reason I went to ballard was to go to the gym. I like ballard now but I dont like all the pay for parking I am sick of paying.

Allowed way to many new condos, Apt. etc., too many of the older people & businesses had to move due to inflated housing costs & obscene taxes. I don't know if you used to come here but it was a sweet little community, Market Street is now just another dirty downtown street.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

More parks and open space (Ballard Commons, park at 17th & 63rd). New library and neighborhood service center. More multifamily housing in downtown Ballard.

Many Condo developments have been built.

More parks and open space have been created (Ballard Commons, park at 17th & 63rd). Greater density and more housing in downtown Ballard. For me, these are good changes.

More ugly, awful condos. Ruined the essence of our neighborhood. More businesses going out of business. When will the bleeding stop?

Pros: The downtown Ballard area has improved with the addition of the library and the park commons. The Farmers Market is a huge draw and a community builder. The addition of the Ballard Landmark for seniors was a wonderful addition (I moved my Mom there from Indiana). Websites like myballard.com are also building community by providing a source for real time information on goings-on in Ballard, as well as a forum for discussions. New restaurants and businesses have moved in and the downtown Ballard area is quite vibrant. WA state's non-smoking law for restaurants and bars also improved our community - my husband and I can now walk to a neighborhood gathering spot that we never would have entered before. Sustainable Ballard is building community and getting people to recognize that saving the planet starts locally. The increase in police patrols in the downtown Ballard area was needed - Bergen Park and the sidewalks on Market St were becoming hangouts for substance abusers. Cons: Transit is still lagging behind ridership needs. The 18 Express buses in the morning are packed with standing room only crowds by the time they reach Market St. As far as I can tell, no new express buses have been added on this route in the last 18 years since I've been riding them. The evening buses (15 and 18) are often standing room only before they reach Belltown. The idea of making Ballard an Urban Hub should have been coordinated a little bit better with Metro. The state of the economy and high rents for commercial space are driving out small business owners who provide essential services for a walkable community. The main type of businesses that will be able to afford high rents are bars and restaurants. Although it is nice to have a good selection of bars and restaurants, the loss of the other businesses will be a huge loss to Ballard.

foot traffic communities have not been formed as expected. crime has increased. new parks have been added as older ones have been neglected.

Good: improved downtown, parks, restaurants, safety, walkability, more families with kids! We love the civic center and use it often. Bad: public transportation still sucks! I can't believe we live only 7 miles from downtown Seattle and it takes me 45 minutes on the bus to get to Pioneer Square. It takes my friend who commutes by bus from Ravena (same distance from downtown) only 10 minutes. What happened to the monorail or light rail? Ballard consistently gets left out of any meaningful transportation improvements in the city.

I have seen new traffic circles.

More younger families. More vibrant walkable business district.

More development and renovations of existing buildings; influx of new condominiums and apartment buildings.

Increase in homeless population lots more condos Love that there are more townhouses more bicyclists More families

Traffic has gotten much heavier. Drivers now use our block as a short cut to avoid a busy intersection, often driving more aggressively than those who live on the block. The shortage of parking has made it more difficult to visit local business. The most significant change, though, is that this is no longer the neighborhood that we moved into. The character of "old Ballard" is being eroded by out-of-state developers who don't seem to feel it necessary to preserve any of the unique qualities that attracted us to Ballard in the first place. We are trying to find things to like about the new Ballard, but everyday we are reminded of what is now lost. Ballard is beginning to feel very templated and similar to many other urban areas within and outside of Seattle.

It is quite common to overhear Seattlites from all over the city expressing surprise at the growth of condominiums in Ballard. I have lived here only a year but have overheard this refrain frequently.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

Old Ballard Ave was completely dead, vacant, and boarded up when I first started looking for a place to rent in Seattle in 1993. I moved to a rental house in Ballard in 1995 and it was still very sleepy. I bought a house in Ballard in 2001. Since then, the whole Ballard Ave strip has come alive with great restaurants, bars, boutiques, and cool stores. Nightlife is vibrant and full of activity, with much thanks to the Ballard ave bars who cooperate rather than compete to make the district welcoming. Most of this is positive, however, I'm afraid of the nightlife attracting frat-boy types who get too drunk and too violent in a neighborhood where they think they can do damage and leave anonymously. Every single one of my neighbors and I who have parked a car on the street have had that car smashed by a drunk driver. I don't think drunk driving is a new thing, but there are certainly a great deal more people getting drunk in Ballard in the past 10 years. I would really like more drunk-driver policing to go along with the expanded nightlife activity that has made Ballard so attractive. Another significant change in the last decade has been the exponential growth of condominiums. I'm not particularly fond of these extra-tall buildings, but I believe in density rather than sprawl, so I accept that condos in the city are probably necessary to prevent development of wilderness. What I am angry about with this increased density in Ballard is that there has been no increase to bus service. Buses are overcrowded and even have to leave people at the stop because there's no room. Ballard needs more attention to our needs from Metro.

Sunset Hill area has improved, mainly due to new restaurant. Ballard has become a development nightmare. Too many ugly condos, not enough parking. I thought transportation choices were supposed to be part of the plan. Sadly there are none. The #17 bus is being reduced; no Monorail. Too many people and not enough parking. Developers should pay. There has been no progress on the missing link for bicycles. Sadly, cycling in our community is dangerous as evidenced by a recent death.

Business like Denny's and Sunset Bowl are closed and/or demolished with nothing new built in their place. More condos have been built. I had never needed to call 9-1-1 before but had to call three times in the last five-six months. Homeless and campers have turned up in droves. People urinated and passed out on the sidewalk and nearby park is a common site that has increased in the last 9-12 months.

I have lived in Crown Hill for 7 years. Very little has changed in 7 years. One big change is the the tear downs and the building of monster houses. These eyesores have resulted in many many losses: -relatively reasonably priced housing -many beautiful trees (the replacements are no match) and the birds in them -green space (houses fill the lots We got a gas station instead of an urban village. This is so against the neighborhood plan. Shame on the city for letting it slip in.

moved just in march. no changes other than more bums.

New library. Less parking overall & less free parking; more businesses have responded to this with signs "park here only while doing business here" ~ Bartell even has a parking lot 'monitor'. More apartments, condos, townhouses ~ more people, less street parking. Shopping has become more upscale. "Old Ballard" has become "the" place to go for young people (restaurants, watering holes, etc). Love the Sunday Market. Love the park where the old Safeway used to be. More "Real Change" paper-sellers.

There are too many condos and the area can't support them. parking is awful in downtown ballard and rumor has it that the parking meters don't even help out the Ballard businesses.

The neighborhood has increased in density tremendously since we moved here a little over 5 years ago. Had we known about the dramatic increase in condo development planned, we probably would not have chosen to move to this neighborhood.

More rentals, more transient people moving in. Generally higher density housing has replaced single family homes. Older, frumpy type businesses are being replaced by higher cost type businesses. Some of that is good but it changes the character.

In general, the neighborhood increased in density and become more pedestrian/bike friendly.

There are so many condos and apartment complexes going up, but costs have not gone down. I see a lot of community activity in the neighborhood center over the time I've been here and it does give a sense of belonging to see that happen. Having lived in the area the greatest sense of connectedness comes from seeing the same people at their stores, shoppes, or in their routines.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

Ballard has revamped itself quite a bit. There are many condo buildings that have gone up and are still going up which has changed the feel of Ballard. Which I personally like. There are a lot of trendy shops and restaurants as well as random parks.

There has been a lot of construction, mostly buildings bought, demolished and condos put up. Ballard lost its bowling alley to the same building craze, though it's just sitting idle while the owner presumably wait for the economy to improve before demolishing and putting up condos. The condos that have gone up near "downtown" ballard all lack adequate parking for the residents they house, which adds to the parking problems in this already crowded area. Don't know when politicians will realize that removing parking just makes people annoyed, it doesn't make them get rid of their cars.

Ballard has definitely become more urban in the six years that I've been living here.

Our neighborhood has developed a great, family-friendly environment. Great restaurants, great parks.

Definitely. The seniors in Ballard/Loyal Heights have been replaced with DINKs and parents with children. Much more urban sophisticated young folks. Ballard commercial district has changed with this new demographic. It is now a desirable place to live, where before it was kind of a joke.

Parking is much more difficult and expensive.

It has become too crowded. Too dense and too much traffic.

It has become much too over built. Lost some of its charm.

more density, traffic, restaurants and small businesses. a few more parks, which are not necessarily well-designed or located

There is more traffic, more condos, and less parking available in DT Ballard, and fewer non food businesses.

more businesses coming to us, rather us going to them.

The neighborhood in some areas has improved: renovation of buildings, parks.

* The price of homes has increased dramatically. I wouldn't be able to purchase a home today if I hadn't purchased back in the early 90's. * There has been a noticeable change in age demographics. My neighborhood (East Ballard) has many more young families with children within the past 5-10 years. I have also noticed many empty-nesters moving from the suburbs to the city after their kids leave home. * Unregulated town home growth has taken over Ballard. Density is a good thing, however, the design of the majority of these townhomes is very unimaginative and do not promote community. That is, the layouts of these townhomes close off the residents to the rest of the neighborhood instead of integrating them in the neighborhood and community. * VERY large massed building has also occurred within the urban village without regard to encouraging pedestrian traffic, sustainability, green spaces or bringing in and supporting local businesses that are needed by the community. * I love the Ballard Library and Commons Park. The skate park is a super plus, I just hope that residents who will be living in the new construction abutting the park will not force its closure due to noise. * I've seen the citizens of Ballard become much more engaged in civic activities in Ballard within the last 10 years. There is a huge sense of neighborhood pride. * One change I would like to have seen was including Ballard in Rapid Transit. There's huge interest and need for a station in Ballard!

The neighborhood has increased density, and business has expanded in downtown ballard.

Our neighborhood has definitely improved as a result of the Civic Center, Burke-Gilman Trail, and Crown Hill School projects. The biggest change to Ballard is obviously the condos... the giant empty condos... when the economy recovers and they fill up, I think traffic's going to be a major issue. It's already getting increasingly difficult to get out of West Ballard...

Many single family homes have been replaced with condominium developments. Retail growth has blossomed. Housing costs have dramatically increased. The percentage of seniors and those of Scandinavian descent has declined.

More crowded. Single family homes being displaced by rabbit warren condo construction. On street parking being displaced. Bicycle paths interfering with vehicle traffic. Hard to drive around, but no improvement in transit.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

Gentrification of the Ballard urban village, particularly Market Street and Ballard Ave, and shift in business type to restaurant, bar, and boutique; huge explosion of condo and townhouse construction; beautiful new library and park.

Even in the last three years that I have lived in Ballard, the neighborhood has undergone a large number of condo conversions and town home construction. As a result, the streets located in what is referred to as the Ballard "urban village" are now a significant blend of older single-family homes and brand new condos and town homes. At times this mix can give a disjointed feel to the neighborhood both aesthetically, but also in terms of the population demographics. There is an increasing mix of young families and professionals moving into the new construction, and I am concerned about the residents who have lived in Ballard for many years. One improvement that I have witnessed is the addition of green spaces tucked into the neighborhood and more vendors along Market and Ballard Ave moving into once empty storefronts. I commute to the UW for work, and am excited about the completion of the Burke-Gillman trail.

Some areas are doing better - more of community feel... there is still a lot of vandalism.

improvements in public spaces, parks, etc. and improvements in bicycling infrastructure, bike lanes, sharrows, etc.

Urban density has greatly increased in downtown Ballard with new condos. Many new small businesses, most in the service and retail and restaurant fields. The new energy is palpable and fabulous! It is a vibrant neighborhood or small town. At the same time, we are not always absorbing the traffic as well as we'd like. We are losing air and light. The new civic center park is wonderful, but we could use more open spaces.

Many more families with young children who value walkability to both school and retail. Traffic has increased also.

It has totally lost its personality, charm, and become just another non-descript neighborhood full of big condos.

A flagship Denny's restaurant is now an eye-soar. A popular bowling alley, Sunset bowl, is now an unoccupied disaster.

Huge growth, significantly traffic, insufficient parking, higher crime.

Many, many more businesses. Different demographic - more young working professionals. More vibrant night life.

Too many condos. Some of the character of the neighborhood has been lost but not as bad as many have thought. It is great to have businesses like Salmon Bay Gravel, Ballard Oil, Ballard Hardware and other industrial companies still going strong in the area. They provide a great character to Ballard.

New parks and urban areas, more condos, more restaurants and shopping

Many townhomes have been built, decrease in both economic and ethnic diversity. Increase of families, young urbanites moving from suburbs

1) More density - old single family houses torn down and replaced with some not very attractive town homes with fewer or difficult to get to parking spaces or large condo buildings 2) demographics have changed - more younger people starting families, 3) commercial district revitalized although the last year has been tough - several vacancies and/or turnovers, 4) more transients, many living in vehicles parked on residential streets or near the industrial areas, 5) parking meters, 6) new library and commons park

Townhouse and condo development has dramatically increased. New retail has also increased drastically.

Many more businesses, condos, and there seems to be an increase in crime.

Population has grown a lot, tons of condos have been built, crime is up and way more transients/homeless are on the streets.

The density has greatly increased. The height of new buildings in Ballard is oppressive, cutting off the vistas I used to enjoy.

Increased traffic on the roads and side streets more children younger population

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

Drastically! Ballard was once a friendly neighborly community where you knew your neighbors and you felt comfortable being part of a Community. Over the last few years the DEVELOPERS have discovered Ballard and have systematically began to destroy the unique character that made it special. Individual homes and small businesses have been leveled for high rises / condos. For example we've lost Jacobsen's Marine, Art by Fire, Archie McPhee, Olsen's Sandinavian Foods, Scream Barbership, Denny's, Epilogue Books, Best Regards, Sunset Bowl, Abraxus Books, the Tux Shop, and sooooo many more. The essence of the neighborhood has been destroyed by BIG BUSINESS. Some recent bumper stickers speak best for what it feels like to live in Ballard these days... Ballard: Fear Change" Ballard: Why have 1 house when you could have 4 condos? Ballard - The place that time forgot...and then suddenly remembered. FREE BALLARD of its condo overlords Ballard, R.I.P. There Was No Place Like Ballard and my all time favorite... Will the last Norwegian leaving Ballard Please turn Out the Lights???

More people. Library was already too small when it was built! We knew it..They knew it! Now we have this big glass box downtown with a wonderful children's section that rarely gets used...books are all on the shelf not at all like a real children's area where everthing is strewn about, like Ballard. More transients and I'm not talking fishermen. There's a difference. Too many 'Live aboard landlubber' RVs and campers hereabouts liking Ballard without code considerations for dwelling, readily available social services, free food and social amenities... like the library.

Higher density, a lot of change in the types of businesses here, more hip, it appears that there are more younger people and families with children.

Progress is being made. Too much graffiti and gang signs though. More police.

Development (especially high-density housing) in the Ballard hub and on major streets. Upscale retail and restaurants. Younger residents moving in. But, still core of families in single-family homes (especially outside the core urban village areas).

much growth (multi-use tall buildings) underway; downtown Ballard & park have developed nicely

Ballard has changed in many ways, positive and negative. When I first started visiting Ballard in 1997, it was slower paced, more single family homes with fewer community resources. Positives, the new library is amazing, the work on the community spaces (the water playground on 22nd avenue, the green space there as well) is also fabulous. There is more of a "city center" feeling to the center of Ballard and it's become more of a thriving downtown feel. On the negative side, there is more of a homeless problem especially near 15th avenue and on Market. I've been approached multiple times for money by homeless while I was walking my baby. We also used to live in a townhouse right off 15th avenue and when the weather was warm, there were often homeless sitting right outside my fence, sleeping on the landing strip next to my home, or drinking next door in front of a closed business (on the corner of 59th street and 15th street). At night, we would sometimes hear yelling and foul language on the street, once I left the house in the morning and found broken liquor bottles/shattered glass along the sidewalk in front of our house. As the mother of a three year old and infant, this was very distressing. The other negative is that it seems that there is less diversity in the businesses in central Ballard, Archie McFee's had to leave as well as the two used bookstores due to rising rents. I find this distressing. Diversity in the types of businesses as well as the people is a very important part of a vital and active city center. Lastly, Ballard seems to cater more and more to the affluent sector. Ballard used to be a working class neighborhood and I would prefer to maintain the income diversity of the area as well.

Significant improvement in parks -- dramatic improvements at Golden Gardens, and the construction of several new parks. Significant improvement in number and quality of restaurants. Significant deterioration in traffic congestion level. Still no Burke Gilman Trail -- the city should be ashamed. Significant increase in the number of condos; probably this is good because it increases housing diversity. (But many of these were presumably built in anticipation of the monorail and are in financial difficulty.) Remodeling of Bay Cinema contributed dramatically to evening activity; the Bay served as a real magnet. New library is wonderful. Public transportation still pretty mediocre.

Crime has increased. More condominiums. Less maritime businesses. Less Norwegian "old Seattle" charm. No more Sunset Bowl!

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

parking is ridiculous and traffic flow has not been addressed. also, the influx of homeless is becoming a huge problem.

Lots more density, traffic. Skyrocketing housing prices. I couldn't afford to live here if I moved here now.

Many many buildings have been demolished in Ballard. Many condos have gone up.

I have been living Ballard since arrived in Seattle 4 1/4 years ago. Since my arrival, I have recognized the tremendous pace at which this area is growing. I realize that this area has a lot of potential to grow but the rate at which it is happening is unnerving. A large reason for this growth was the proposed monorail that was supposed to run down 15th but unfortunately was shot down. Regardless, the multi-residential buildings continue to rise but Ballard's infrastructure is not changing to accommodate the influx of people to this area. The number of businesses is not changing, parking is becoming harder to find, and the overall appearance and feel of Ballard is slowly diminishing. I have also recognized that the homeless population is beginning to increase which means crime is on the up-tick.

It sucks. Tell Phat Ass Nickles to pull his head out of his rump and do some friggin policing. Ballard sucks - it is infiltrated with homeless, RVs, and other scum who are useless to society. I'm pissed and I'm leaving.

Condos condos and more condos. Downtown Ballard more of a nightlife destination.

To the worse with the addition of the Safeway gas station at 83rd & 15th Aves as this is not a pedestrian friendly addition to the urban village

More tear-downs and larger homes built.

Tons more townhouses and condos have been built. Parking has become more difficult in our neighborhood and in the downtown area of Ballard.

Most of the numbers have changed dramatically, more families moving in, house prices going way up and renters vs owners changed dramatically.

Have noticed some changes since arriving here - more housing (has slowed down recently) - and lots of changeover in business.

Improvements in the number and quality of nearby restaurants, cafes and parks.

Many more people, condos, expensive stores.

More condos, more people. More restaurants. Same transit. A few new bike lanes.

Ballard has a lot more density over the last 5 years --condo's everywhere. Its a lot more cleaned up on one hand but on the other Ballard seems to have a lot of problems that were pushed out from other neighborhoods --homeless, mentally ill, drugs. I worry that the small town feel, with families, and old families might erode away even further.

There is more housing density and traffic and businesses

A large number of non descript town homes have been built and many new condos. No additional traffic changes (such as no parking on arterials) has been implemented. Many young people with no apparent connection or sense of community have moved in.

The big change I have noticed is that condos and multi family housing have become ubiquitous, especially in south Ballard. The big, in my opinion ugly, condos are everywhere. The homeless problem has become a very big problem in downtown Ballard as well.

We lost our 24 hour, inexpensive restaurant when Denny's was torn down. We lost a great family entertainment resource when Sunset Bowl was torn down. The missing link of the Burke-Gilman Trail is still unfinished. Martin Selig screwed us out of the Monorail. But I'm not BITTER or anything...

Ballard has probably changed more than any other neighborhood. We have many new condos and businesses. The night life in downtown Ballard in hopping. Ten years ago when you drove through Ballard after 9PM there was no one around. Now you can't even hope to find parking. (Which is OK since you should take the bus anyway.)

A lot of rapid development both housing and business, new parks, more community events, street development (sidewalks, road diets etc)

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

Crown Hill has hardly changed except for the Safeway gas station that it's neighbors fought fruitlessly against. Oh, and the tall skinny townhouses that were crammed into lots that could hardly accommodate them. What the City of Seattle was supposed to have provided over 50 years ago in their annexation agreement was sidewalks and we still don't have them.

Growth plans have overwhelmingly been good. I've seen really run down blocks replaced with new business construction. However, overzealous townhome development (in my L1 zoned block that abutts a residential zoned block) has my block a really awful patchwork - left small 1940s houses vastly overshadowed by three story townhomes. The new townhome guidelines may be very useful for neighborhoods where development is not already occurring, but for those whose blocks were in flux, the result is a neighborhood in a really weird zone. If you had all townhomes, it would look cohesive. All small homes, cohesive. But this mish-mash is ugly.

Yes, more condos and townhomes have been built. Small businesses are disappearing

There are many more condos, more traffic, more businesses in Ballard. Loss of Scandinavian culture related businesses. There seem to be many more young children. House values have gone way way up. Ballard Ave. is thriving. There's been a loss of industrial jobs. Ballard is more of a destination for visitors from within and outside of the city.

In my 3 years here there have been a lot of small businesses that have left (that was a good draw to the Ballard for me) and tons of condos coming in. That makes it a lot less personable in my opinion.

The "foursquare" condo thing is way out of hand. It would be much better to build taller units which took up less of the yard. Now you get four lame, ugly houselets.

My immediate neighborhood has not really changed all that much physically. We have seen quite an increase in neighborhood crime though, which is really a bummer. Lots of car prowls and drug deals.

Not much.

Sharply increased supply of condos and apartments, on both side streets and main avenues, and resulting in heavy use of parking on side streets and avenues.

Yes. Lots of condos being built without "real parking" forcing more people onto the street. Town homes with parking on the bottom that only the tiniest car could actually get into. It's silly. I know some city planners think if they don't build parking, people won't have cars, but we don't have mass transit at a level to completely replace cars yet. And Gregory is taking credit for bike lanes that aren't really bike lanes. Sharrows, please. Let's build some real one! I also think that the city has gotten too heavy handed with it's code. Did you know that it's illegal for you to build an attached garage that extends beyond your house front .. even if your new garage is 40 feet from the sidewalk?

CONDO-OVERLORDS! Ballard used to be a beautiful mix of old and new houses and different styles of architecture, but recently the urban development has been noisy, unattractive, and seemingly unpurposeful towards revitalizing our neighborhood and economy.

too many townhouses, condos and speeders. i'm plenty sick of it all.

Too many people, too much traffic, too much crime and not enough police. I do not feel as safe as I used to.

More traffic. Housing density has increased. Most new housing has displaced more affordable housing. Fewer affordable single family homes (purchased by developers for condos, townhomes, or megahouses) Fewer local grocery stores. New park and library, nice additions. General maintenance of public streets, sidewalk, parks has diminished. Lack of parking prohibits shopping in central Ballard

More housing density in Ballard Core. More traffic.

yes

Over the past three years I have seen more development starting to take place in Crown Hill. I don't mind development and see it as necessary for a vibrant community. I'm thankful there is a neighborhood association to keep me informed of any developments whether transit, construction, crime etc.

more upscale and family friendly, more choices for shopping and dining.

Primarily older buildings are being torn down and huge condo units are being built.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

Much more dense, more businesses and restaurants.

The new Ballard Library and park seem to have lead the way for increased density and development in central Ballard. I know the change is distressful for many old-time residents, but I love it. I moved into a small house in Sunset Hills in 1975 but never really liked Ballard as a community until recently. The area is much more vibrant and lively now with a more diverse population and more interesting resturants, shops and community spaces.

More condos going up. It seems like there are also more homeless in the area.

There has been constant tear-down/new construction of mixed use buildings and residential homes in the area. There has also been a significant amount of change to the amount and variety of restaurants and stores in Ballard.

Ballard has gone from being a small town, to more of an urban center. This comes with a loss of the small town feel, as there seems to be more businesses (and price points) around young, urban, condo-dwelling residents. Also, we are currently in discussions with the Seattle Schools, that due to growing high-school populations in the Queen Ann/Magnolia neighborhoods, based on our location (near 85th) we will be bussed 3 miles away to Ingraham High School instead of being able to attend our neighborhood school (Ballard High).

Denser population. Much more housing options. Busier urban center.

I feel like there has been an increase in dense residential buildings and an increase in vacant commercial spaces. I've also seen many lots undeveloped and left in a state that are very unpleasant and in some cases dangerous to our community. An example is the former gas station at 28th Ave NW and NW Market street which is now two large open pits which collect water and garbage. I've also seen the value of my property decline.

Stores are closing all up and down Market St - even though MANY more people have moved here in the last year (we're in the Gallagher building, behind Leva on Market - they've both filled up in an amazingly short time!). The influx of commuters has greatly effected my rides along the missing link - it's FAR too dangerous now and I simply gave up, went back to driving my car to Fred Meyer. :(

Crown Hill has had a rebirth. As the older generation has passed, new families have arrived. There are now kids on every street and constant home improvements are happening. Also the Crown Hill neighborhood has gathered as a strong community with several groups being formed including the Crown Hill Business Association, Crown Hill Neighborhood Association, Sustainable Crown Hill to name the primary groups. It's wonderful to walk through the neighborhood and actually "know" your neighbors. Neighbors have raised up in great numbers to work to improve the neighborhood. Including working to secure the Crown Hill Park and Crown Hill Community Center. Additionally neighbors have invested countless hours to making our neighborhood safe and relatively crime free. Crown Hill is back on the map and the City is listening to our needs.

Crime is way up, methamphetamine users and dealers are prevalent day and night up and down 15th, 14th and market st. Shootings are occurring at high frequency. There is less street parking, the city tickets you in your own driveway if your a little to far over the sidewalk. Multifamily condo developments zoned L2 and L3 sit for sale because no body wants to buy them because the poor design. The good things are that the people that have lived here for a long time are now joining together to take some community action. We need more police and tougher zoning regulations to keep the neighborhood safe and akin to it's natural design.

It hasn't changed

With the continued addition of new large multi-family housing development, the population is both increasing, and (probably--I've not seen statistics) getting younger. There seems to be a slight increase in retail/service companies in the area, but perhaps not really enough to keep up with the higher demands of a larger population.

The population has grown a lot since the plan was adopted and the plan does not reflect the density of the neighborhood.

Most dramatic changes have been the replacement of smaller homes with enormous homes that do not fit in with the neighborhood. Also, the replacement of homes with the ubiquitous 3-story town homes. Street signs have been replaced, but the pavement on the roads is in pretty bad shape (80th & 85th strees northwest). Huge improvements at Golden Gardens park, downtown Ballard, Burke-Gilman Trail, etc.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

It's wonderful that Ballard has come alive and is now one of the 'hippest' areas of Seattle. Sadly, this is not without downsides. While I agree in principle to dense urban building, it had not seemed to prevent suburban sprawl and has made Ballard harder to navigate. Many of us live too far to walk to the center, especially if carrying is involved. It's difficult to park and a real pain to run several errands. The new buildings came with inadequate parking and we all compete for the street, together with outsiders who come to enjoy the action. Public transportation is sparse north of the center and not an option.

Awful. Too much traffic, not enough parking, too many people, not enough planning for it. Too expensive to live in anymore

Lots of younger people and families moving in. Great new restaurants and businesses. Love the new parks! Transient problem and littering have gotten worse and worse over the last three years.

Our neighborhood seems to have more crime than when we purchased our house 5 years ago. Car break-ins happen almost nightly and we are now seeing more and more drug deals happening within plain sight during the day.

The neighborhood has changed considerably by the sheer number of condo units in Ballard. While the condos make the neighborhood more affordable, the over population and continued proposed projects, really are changing the character of the neighborhood to one that doesn't necessarily value Ballard. There is a fine line between affordable housing and just clumping too many people in one area.

Too many apt to condo conversions, or brand new condos being built. The worst outcome of this situation is there is no more affordable housing for rent in Ballard anymore. And they can't even sell the existing condos and are still building more!

Less single family housing more condos

Neighborhood has dramatically improved since I moved here in 2000. Development of high-density residential units has added tremendously to area, including restaurants, bars, movie theater, and commercial establishments. Parks and new library have added additional positive benefit to area. Many homes in the area have gone through significant renovations because Ballard is no longer just a "starter home" neighborhood.

Much more dense in population creating extra traffic and difficulty parking in the Ballard business area. More homeless people, trash and crime.

It has made some nice improvements with the new library and the water park. I do think it has gotten more generic with businesses and condos that can be seen any where. It has lost a bit of its character. Plus, the number one thing that concerns me is the amount of loitering and problems with people gathering in parks and in front of buildings that makes my family and friends uncomfortable. For instance, we lived across from SoundView Playfield and the number of high school students that gather there on Fridays and Saturdays is very disturbing. One night I counted 60 teens. They were EXTREMELY loud, drinking alcohol and blasting music. Of course, we always call the non-emergency police number but it gets very old doing that every weekend.

Buildings being torn down and nothing being built up, thus it looks trashy and crime-ridden.

Downtown Ballard area has become inaccessible to me. I now never go there to shop because I have to park half way between here an home and the amount for parking is half cost of a latte. Also too far to walk and carry purchases home. So, I now shop north of Crown Hill or drive east to University Village. I don't take the bus because it usually has either drunks or angry teens on it. Golden Gardens has become a garbage dump, poor Seattle employees have to clean up our 'visitors' after every warm day. Library is great building but bums sitting outside spoil a visit and I haven't noticed an increase in books since construction. So I drive to Greenwood branch. We've noticed more theft and vandalism in our neighborhood in the past 5 years. How about a streetcar to run up 24th and around 85th down 14th and over to market? Re-routing our 18 bus to do a loop is a shame. It had fewer drunks and obnoxious teens than the 15th, also ran by where a lot of seniors live (I am not a senior). The multi-family dwellings in downtown Ballard are nicely built, but cost more than most of the houses around here. Hard to see that as an improvement.

I've only been there for 3 months and it is currently changing rapidly.

Bigger, badder, more trafficky.

Fast development and increase in density, loss of some neighborhood charm/livability.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

Small businesses closing down, condo's going up.

The old cornerstones of my community have disappeared and have been replaced with vacant lots or architecturally vapid developments. Ballard has lost all of the charm and character that made me want to live here.

yes.

It has changed for the good and bad over the past decade. The reality of higher density living means more traffic, congestion and ugly high rise buildings. The demographic has changed tremendously with a much younger and diversified population. Thats for the best-but I wish there was a way to maintain the past historical relevance to all this expansion. I love the fact that Ballard felt like a small town within a city and that it was not pretentious but based on a strong working middle class. I think we are well on the way of losing that. I think it is very important that small independant businesses can thrive here. It has been sad to see so many older businesses close their doors.

Recently a few local Ballard businesses have gone away and more bars have come in.

As soon as the 'The Bay' movie theater opened many years ago, this community 'stayed up past 6pm' that was the beginning of a rejuvenated Ballard! Since then I have watched 'the cannon effect' take place, with all of the many new multi storied Condos and apartments being and continue to be built. Along with that more young families, old houses refurbished, many new shops (come and go). The Ballard Commons Park is a great place to see how our neighborhood has changed. There you get both young and old, families and singles, home owners and homeless all in one little block of Ballard! There are MANY more bike riders all around Ballard, the B.G. Trail that is complete from the Locks to Golder Gardens is beautiful and well traveled by walkers, runners, strollers, boarders, wheel chairs and of course bikes.The bike lanes are 'OK' and the bike share lanes are ridiculous, why too much traffic traveling way to fast, really taking a risk using either! The library is TOO small for our reading community, we knew that before it was built! Wish we had the rail to downtown and West Seattle that was promised, is there still hope?

More condos, less funky stuff (I really miss Sunset Bowl), but I feel like the things that were good about Ballard are still good.

lots more townhouses, bars, restaurants and retail boutiques. Its become more of a destination neighborhood for young people.

I've only been in the neighborhood for a year. Major observation is the continued increase in the number of large multi-unit condo/apartment complexes. Traffic seems heavier.

New development is happening, new businesses, new zoning for more density. I like it. The community is vibrant and the businesses are nicer. Plus, Ballard is no longer a suburb, it is in the urban core, we should plan accordingly.

Purchased a home over a year ago after returning to the area. We lived here around 10 years ago. Things were not very appealing over 10 years ago, then when we were looking to buy there seemed to be a shift in the area, for the positive, however, in the last 9 months the area has rapidly seen a decline. Crime is outrageous, graffiti problems everywhere, homeless people publicly intoxicated or worse high on drugs, dedicating and urinating publicly. Permits issued for building, buildings and building lots sit, almost single handedly bringing down the area, homeless taking up the areas, trash everywhere, tagging on anything and everything, everywhere one looks.

I see a lot of renters within the homes. Renting rooms and adding to parking congestion.

The amount of building development is astounding and not appreciated.

More Density More Crime More Traffic Less Parking More Garbage on the streets More vagrants and drunks in the parks and panhandling on the streets Higher rents and home costs Fewer families

I have one free city tree. The businesses on 15th that seemed to be liquid-they don't typically stick around or are unclear in intent have vacated and are for lease or been replaced with something a little more stable. The traffic on 15th is more congested. The left turn traffic light at Market is too short for the amount of congestion. There is significantly more graffiti in the neighborhood. We have one or two more parks, a non-grass field. There is an oddly placed traffic camera further up on 15th ave NW that I do not understand or appreciate. A homeless shelter moved into our neighborhood and there are more people wandering the streets at night and during the day.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

More small businesses and new housing.

More population density - less overall development on the infrastructure to support it. NIMBY culture.

There has been a nearly complete change of businesses along Ballard Ave and quite a dramatic change along Market St. Since the major apartment buildings are leasing up, it is still early to gauge the impact of the new residents. While I miss the old businesses and used many of them (metal shops, alternator rebuilders), there are far less empty storefronts on Ballard Ave. The downtown with library, park, restaurants and weekly farmers market are far more family friendly.

Too Many Condos. Great new park spaces. Less space for parking and poor mass transit, where is the mass transit to South Lake Union??

More condos, fewer small businesses, long-time small business closed, buildings demolished & not replaced or developed, have also noticed what seems like an increase in petty crime and public drunkenness.

ballard library and park across the street, become "vogue" to be there, some good businesses have come in, some good businesses have left, 14th NW has been cleaned up

The most notable changes to Ballard since my living here has been population and density of the district.

Condo construction/completion has led to a dramatic increase in traffic on Market Street and on the streets connecting Leary and Market. I've also noticed much more drug-related activity during all hours of the day and night, and the dealers make no attempt to disguise what they're doing. The nightlife has also changed from primarily local residents to outsiders who come in on the weekends to go to King's Hardware, People's Pub, The Loft, and Bal Mar Lounge. In NYC we used to call these people the "B and T" crowd (bridge and tunnel) because they came into Manhattan from Staten Island, New Jersey, Long Island, and upstate New York. In Ballard we could call them the Bridge and Freeway kids, and while most of them are just in town to have fun and then drive home drunk, some of them seem to find wonton vandalism a necessary part of the experience as well.

Population density has risen, along with gross rent. The amount of obvious homelessness has risen, especially with transient populations in motor homes along the 14th ave corridor.

Most wonderful...the new Ballard Library! Lots of condos going up, more of a yuppie feel.

It's pretty obvious that the average age of residents in this neighborhood has come down significantly, there are more families and the neighborhood has been developed fairly aggressively for housing density and retail space. In short, there has been a fair amount of turnover in housing and business.

Lots of development, old businesses seem to be on their way out.

The condos coming in has changed the type of person living in Ballard. It is no longer as family and community oriented.

My neighborhood has changed slightly in the last 10 years. There are a few more neighborhood parks and the average age of residents is younger.

Ballard Ave is revitalized; Area around Ballard Bridge is developing nicely (except for Mars Hill); The city blew the missing link...

There has been a huge shift in community involvement and push to be a greener community. Seems that neighbors are reaching out and supporting each other more and that there is a sense of pride in this. Ballardites seem to be particularly proud of their community and care what is going on in it. Also, there has been a ton of condo buildings put up and I think that makes Ballardites a little uncomfortable and unhappy.

More condos and apartments, increasing urban density
Loss of "blue collar" jobs, manufacturing and some marine relate business
Better city services (City Service Center and Library)
More shopping, better variety (Trader Joe's)

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

Dramatically. A sleepy, distant neighborhood has transformed a la Belltown into a destination shopping/ drinking/eating hotspot. Incredible amounts of development (~3K units under construction in Ballard's downtown district), massive increases in traffic congestion, huge turnover in small, local businesses in the retail core (Sunset Bowl, RIP). Not enough improvements on pedestrian/bike/transit given the density we are absorbing. On the positive side, a great new library/ park, progress on the BG Trail (save for the missing link fiasco - that rail corridor should not have been permitted to the 'rail company' that runs it's single car up and down the track along Shilshole), great new facility at Golden Gardens beach and the port improvements along the marina.

Ballard has become the Brooklyn of the PNW. People love the community feel, but the development and increased density, which does not have to preclude a sense community, is steadily destroying it. Massive condos and luxury apartments continue to be built despite the fact that tenancy is negligible, and local businesses are forced out due to the anticipated high end value of rental property. Furthermore, given that Ballard was targeted to be a high-density neighborhood for Seattle, the infrastructure necessary to support that has not followed, i.e., parking is increasingly difficult and the post office at 17th and 57th faces closure; the QFC on 24th has been out of commission due to the construction of condos no one can afford. Should we talk about the whole townhouse zoning laws debacle? It affects a neighborhood more than just aesthetically. I have a friend who can no longer garden in her back yard because townhomes went up on either side of her modest home, and completely shaded her back yard. If the City (not Ballard) didn't require that townhomes provide their own parking, maybe they wouldn't be creating 4-story monstrosities on small, former single-dwelling plots. I would rather give up parking than sunlight.

Home prices have gone up, more single person or childless families have moved in, more and more houses are being torn down for townhomes

Many more condos that are so high they block the sun. Parking is horrible. Local/family establishments have gone out of business. And now the teenagers hang out and get into trouble. I like many of the changes, but I do feel that Ballard is losing its character.

Much more density. With that, lots of traffic. Living density was planned, transportation accommodations haven't matched up.

It's gotten worse. Traffic and parking are horrible and the new development has forced out all of the character in Ballard

Overdevelopment of village core at the expense of existing businesses, industrial concerns, and residents has been rampant. Ballard is now unsustainable. New businesses cater to the newly-arrived condo dwellers and we feel pushed out of our town. This is not a matter of an inflexible old ballardite that can't see Mayor Nichols vision, rather, I am a professor of Environmental Science who knows better.

New park, bike path, updates at Golden Gardens, many many condos, my grocery store torn down, many updates along Ballard Ave, Changing streets designs, bike lines, etc.

There is a lot more art. The new library and nearby park with water feature and skate park have been added successfully, and I enjoy the art on the Ballard Bridge. Bergen Place was redone but it is not inviting or used much. Artificial turf was put in Loyal Heights playfield after neighbors' concerns were virtually ignored by the mayor and city. It is used more by sports teams, but the neighbors have been displaced. People used to use the field with their families, and there used to be a lot more wildlife around. There is greater urban density with all the condominiums which I think is a good thing. Unfortunately, with the recession we have lost a lot of businesses and it's sad to see all the vacant storefronts. We still need more transportation options besides the bus and our cars!

A lot of town houses and condos have been built. They tore down the bowling alleys. More restaurants.

Many, many more condos, townhouses and apartments. More residents. Many older buildings torn down.

The growth has been exponential. Downtown Ballard is becoming much more revitalized and is encouraging both neighbors and people from other neighborhoods to shop here.

Noticing more homeless people in the neighborhood parks and on 15th Ave NW and Market Street.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

I am grateful in that I see the plans moving toward a more stable economy (excusing what Bush has done - but no excuse for what he has done.)

many more townhomes, houses and condos built. we love the ballard commons park, burke extension, new library and new stores along market and old ballard ave. another highlight is the farmers market.

Yes - there are many more fashionable restaurants and boutique furnishings and clothing shops in Ballard.

The population density of Ballard has gone way up, while transit service and road capacity have remained essentially stagnant. The main business district in old Ballard has undergone a great renewal, but with that has come a popularity of the neighborhood drawing in diners, shoppers, and bar patrons from other parts of the city, and no place to put their cars, and not a good public transportation option to offer visitors to the neighborhood as an alternative to driving here. On the weekends and evenings in particular when most of these visitors show up, bus service is sparse. The new parks are nice, as is the library. We're still suffering a bit from constant construction. On 24th ave in particular, we have been missing what should be a major pedestrian sidewalk for over two years straight now due to construction of new condos. Seriously; when can we get our sidewalk back?

Much more of the Burke-Gilman exists, bike paths have increased. A large number of new housing units have been built, and many more stores are open throughout the week. There's a great library branch open 7 days a week, a park, skate bowl... The Farmers Market started and developed into a huge event with a strong following. Some of the added traffic is negative, and it's frustrating that the trail's not complete (for 15 years I've been riding my bike to this neighborhood) but that older businesses are losing ground due to rent hikes.

Hate all the condos going up and not keeping the old Ballard alive. Crown Hill could use some sprucing up - but not with high condos.

It has become much more congested and crowded. There are fewer single family homes.

Much more density in housing making traffic and parking much worse!! The new library is great. Crime is up!! I love the Crown Hill elementary rec center idea. Too many condos and apartments - too many tall buildings - you are blocking out the sun! Nice revitalized downtown with shops and restaurants

It has changed quite a bit in just the last 3 years.

Increased traffic and density. There are not enough transportation to offset this increase. More pressure on existing facilities- libraries, parks,etc.

Condos, condos, condos! Doesn't seem like there was any planning for additional cars on the roads when single family homes were torn down to make room for condos and mult-family town homes. 15th Avenue is now a congested mess in A.M. and P.M. hours. Also, new restaurants, boutiques and theaters have increased weekend congestion.

Increased density (not a bad thing). Increased traffic (expected). Harder to drive down side streets since cars are parked on both sides. Ballard's gone from "snooze junction" to "hot spot". Love revitalization of old movie theater and restaurant and retail additions in Ballard. Recession has sadly caused some of my favorite retail shops to go out of business. Sorry to see demise of some old "institutions" (Sunset Bowl and Denny's).

Much higher-density housing in the areas between 65th and Market, and 8th and 24th. Rejuvenated downtown core along Ballard Ave with boutique clothing and home shops, nicer restaurants, and other services.

Houses that were rental have been converted back to single family owned, many owned by families with young children

Lots of growth. Lots of construction. Too many condos.

Seems like there is more drug dealing and transient issue. The shopping, restaurants, and community events seemed to have improved and gotten more frequent.

Many more town houses, many more apartment/condo buildings, more crowded buses. Changes made to improve vehicle traffic flow on arterials have been made at the expense of ease of pedestrian traffic. Positive changes include the development of the library/civic center/park near Market St and the new pocket parks on 17th and near 70th.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

More density in the form of condos and apartments; more expensive; faster traffic; no significant transit improvements.

So many new condos!!! So much construction. We like the new library and park, but so many other updates feel like they are not integrated into the community yet. Many construction projects have been put on hold, creating neglected, ugly, unsafe areas. The neighborhood also seems to have far more transients and folks with obvious drug/alcohol problems. As a mother of young kids, I really wish there were more visible, friendly neighborhood cops around. We occasionally see police cars drive by but rarely (almost never?) see officers in the community helping establish good relations, quell smaller problems, etc. We could sure use that. Also, we are still very sad that the monorail project was abandoned; buses don't seem to be keeping up with demand and aren't very easy to use with young kids. We would use and like a streetcar option. Lastly, we like to bike and are anxiously awaiting the continuation of the Burke-Gilman trail and other safety improvements for recreational and commuter biking throughout the neighborhood.

Traffic is a lot heavier everywhere. It's hard to get across Holman Road or Leary Way. I don't like the feel of driving through canyons down in Ballard with all the high rise. Ballard Ave is too trendy for my taste.

More large condo/apartment buildings have been built and appear to be more homeless/street persons in parks and along Market/Ballard Ave. But positively lots of great new restaurants!

Older homes are being torn down and replaced with tall skinny condos with NO parking.

Have seen the changes made listed in the status report (library etc). "Nicer" businesses have gone up along 15th ave.

I moved to Ballard from Capitol Hill in May 2009. Since then, many small businesses have closed on Market Street - Olsen's, Epilogue Books, Ballard Camera, Best Regards, etc. I really hope that's not a trend...because Market seems like it's headed down the same path that Broadway on Capitol Hill followed - businesses closed, tagging/vandalism increased, panhandlers got more numerous and aggressive, it was a ghost town in the morning.

Crown Hill has more neighborhood groups that gather regularly to improve our neighborhood. For example our neighborhood has three new traffic circles to slow down traffic (along 95th). Small Faces purchased along with Seattle City Parks Dept. now own the old Crown Hill Elementary school house. New library and community parks in Ballard. More gang activity and less police presence at Golden Gardens makes us not want to go there at night. More condo's off 8th that impact traffic (illegally parked cars on 97th near 8th Avenue N.W.). Traffic has become more dangerous (speeders are a challenge for pedestrians to cross street or cars to turn to side streets) along Holman/15th Avenue N.W. Bus service continues to be ineffective to get to my work place (takes more than 1 1/2 hours each way with transfers) so I drive daily (takes me 20 minutes).

much more density in population - neighbors renting more, renting out dwellings as vacation rentals, more noise, crime and transient campers in the area

It has changed quite quickly as far as housing, but some things are slower to change then others such as services and transportation.

YES! The demographics seem to be younger, yet there are fewer children. There is less natural light on the major "canyons" - they used to be streets but with the multi-story dwellings cropping up, they have become "canyons". My greatest concern is the quality of new construction. Although I mourn the loss of the bungalow I also believe in the need for density. However the shoddy construction and hideous buildings that I see emerging in Ballard and other neighborhoods seem contrary to the notion of sustainability. My home was built in 1960, during a past Seattle housing boom. With the exception of a couple of new roofs it has needed little in terms of repairs. I know that my home will still be standing in twenty or thirty years, or more. I suspect that the new construction in my neighborhood will not last much beyond the next decade.

Yes, my block has changed quite a bit, with the demolition of a at least two homes and the construction of two monster homes, featured in the Seattle Times, and four town homes.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

The neighborhood has become more dense, with more services (restaurants, etc) and a more lively nightlife. The demographic of people living there has generally swung to the more affluent side. To the negative, It has also allowed some unwise density and infill building. The townhouses that have been allowed to propagate are mind bogglingly ugly and have detracted from the feel of the area. While I support smart growth/density, the excessive permitting of larger buildings has brought more people to the area than it is capable of serving with existing services -- particularly transportation.

Just in the last 5 years (since living in Ballard), the density of condominiums has drastically increased. The population of adults in Ballard has also increased; in tandem, the traffic (such as on Market Street) has significantly worsened.

na

In the 2 years that I've been here I've seen a MASSIVE influx of homeless and panhandlers, increased drug activity in public places, exponential growth of people living in RVs and campers, more graffiti, and crime.

Much more traffic. Parking meters--used to be able to park for free for 2 hours. Many more upscale restaurants and shops.

Many more people, lots more apartments and condos. same or less public transportation. less free parking available. fewer everyday shopping stores. more coffee shops and bars...more homeless.

The area has been overrun by large developments of condos and apartments, many of which increase density and traffic but

There is an over abundance of rental properties and condo units. It has changed the overall quaint feel of Ballard. It is now a condensed living area and more traffic. More rentals that owners which can bring down the overall feel of the neighborhood and the upkeep.

I have seen improvements in the parks, but have seen little improvement in public transit or public safety. In fact, I have noticed more homeless and less effort by the city to help those in need. It also seems as if all aspects of crime have gotten worse.

There is much more nightlife and street activity in the commercial district. More restaurants. More traffic. Parking is scarcer. The neighborhood is much less "sleepy". There seem to be more visitors from outside the neighborhood, particularly in the evenings and during special events.

- Traffic has increased due to inability to provide additional public transportation and pedestrian infrastructure. - With the exponential increase in residential units in Ballard specifically, it is ironic that the politicians in power have not taken into consideration the demand on the current transportation grid. - Not enough has been provided for bicyclist and pedestrians: cars are still speeding aggressively down 24th Ave NW; down 28th Ave. NW; buses are continuously full for bus #17, 18 & 15, but yet: we have no say in increased public transportation because SDOT can barely figure out how to plow snow off an arterial roadway ;).

There is an increasing number of multi-story condominiums that are built. It has become harder to find parking. There are more restaurants serving a variety of food. The retail sector of the neighborhood has improved and modernized. The Ballard Sunday Market has become a weekly tradition for the neighborhood. Finally, I feel like the parks are improving, becoming more user friendly for the neighborhood. I think the changes are positive overall, but I also see the "small town" feel of Ballard disappearing.

I lived here for awhile in 2000-2001, moved and then returned in 2007. Ballard seems to have changed a lot since then. There are many, many more condos and large buildings. A lot more upscale stores and restaurants, plus the new park and library. There also seems to be a lot more families and small children. However along with that there seems to be a large increase in the number of homeless people, graffiti and crime.

Demographics has changed quite a bit... more upper-middle class individuals and families in the Loyal Heights area and much younger population in the dental Ballard area. I have a no statistical proof to back this up, but it's just an observation. Shift from "skinny" home constructions to high-density condos.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

"Main Street" Ballard used to be a great place to go stroll around and meet neighbors, grab some great food and just hang out. Now you can hardly get near it. We still go stroll around but we make sure to go at off times - forget hanging out on a Fri, Sat or Sun anymore. TOOOO many cars, tooo many people (most, I notice are not even from Ballard), and Many are new townees from all the new condos. We love the library, Nordic Museum, Ballard Community Center (though the toddler area could be cleaner/cleaned-up). Parking was never great, to say the least - now - forget it. I'm all for walking places but we have 2 boys under the age of 2 and live in far north Ballard so it's not usually feasible to meander that far on foot. The number of parks seems to be growing, and they (for the most part) seem to be improving. I still think the bathrooms at nearly ALL of them need SEVERE attention and Golden Gardens (our downhill neighbor) is awful with teen parties/fights/intimidation anytime after 5pm weekday or not. I love that we still don't have many "chain" restaurants here... I love & we purposely frequent all the unique little eateries & shops. Still AWFUL bus/car friction up & down 85th. Buses (& potholes) lead to some very stressful daily drives as we live right off of 85th. I like some of the clean-up that seems to be going on in Crown Hill... would be great to get that strip cleaned up on 15th from Market up to 85th. What a great opportunity going to waste with all the crap along there. High traffic and hardly any "daily" type shops/restaurants along there. And some greenery along the road? Something... we have a nice home & a nice neighborhood but on the drive here, you'd never know it, that area looks bad and attracts some not so 'warm & fuzzy' feeling folks as well. We avoid it on our walks. Graffiti, ugh. I've re-read this and it all sounds negative, sorry. We do love Ballard & Crown Hill and we spend A LOT of time in both areas and I guess would just love to be able to spend more of our strolling time and money in our own local areas but in many cases we go elsewhere due to parking, rough teens, non-availability, etc.

Huge changes to downtown Ballard. Library and park are superb. Market street commerce and old ballard ave also have changed positively -- many more services, shops, restaurants. New parks and others being developed. Addition of large condo and apartment buildings. The Sunday market has grown up too, which is great. Parking is bad, but that's OK by me.

More People, More noise, More traffic.

Creation of the new civic area, including the library and the neighborhood service center have been a great benefit to the community. Even in the last two years, there has been a shift in the character of the community. The number of homeless people in our parks has made both the Commons and Bergen Place unusable, and has made passing the library a bit of a hassle. There is also a lot of public drug use and drunkenness in the parks. I think the creation of new, more dense housing will be a net benefit for the community, and will help us create a more sustainable city, although the rents and/or purchase price of these units are all at the high end, making it difficult for many older, lower-income residents to stay in Ballard. The thing that Ballard really needs is better transit connections, including a single-seat ride to Montlake which would make connections to the Eastside easier. A Sounder stop would be of limited benefit unless the service ran more often. Light rail or streetcars would both be preferable to the bus-rapid plan that's currently on the table.

less businesses.

Tremendous growth and emergence of a true walking neighborhood downtown (Ballard). That part is good. Unfortunately we've lost some icons such as Olson's, Ballard Camera, All the Kings Flags and almost all the book stores.

Noticeably more condos, and a number of local businesses have disappeared. Motor-vehicle traffic seems to have increased, and there seems to be more aggressive drivers. Transients and homeless have increased, and so has crime. I haven't seen any signs of commuter rail yet. I haven't seen any signs of development on the Burke-Gilman in years. As a bicycle commuter, I find the options heading south into downtown as extremely dangerous (the Ballard Bridge) or annoying (the Ballard Locks where I have to walk a bike for a bit and deal with waterfront park closures -- ala Hempfest).

Increase in housing costs and vertical housing. The recent condominiums have driven up rents. Me and my spouse have lived in Ballard for 4 years

Just got there in February.

Has become more dense with more housing options. this is good.

Worse parking.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

Small houses are torn down and replaced with monstrosities - zero lot line, half-lot houses, deep lots cut in half and two houses deep being built, no real plan for density in the west edge of Ballard, streets over-burdened with cars being parked and left for weeks at a time instead of being put in garages (which don't generally exist) or in alleys (which have been removed or houses built up to the lot line so no room for a car back there), leaving streets to be perilous to drive down. Sidewalks deteriorating. Bus routes being cut.

the emphasis on developers having sway over public interest is a concern... Sunset Bowl is a good example of that. some improvements have been made for bike/pedestrian access but more needs to be done - i.e. extension of sidewalks North of 85th.

Parks & the Burke Gilman have been completed/ improved. The Burke Gilman is not completed and the section that isn't completed is probably the most dangerous area for bike commuters, let's get it done! Density of housing from condos seems to be exponential, while I agree with high density housing in urban settings it would be nice to see affordable housing being built rather than just boutique condo developments. Ballard is no longer the affordable neighborhood populated by the 'newly wed and nearly dead' demographic it used to be and seems to consist mainly of newly wed white couples with good incomes.

Much more crowded, particularly due to single family dwelling being converted into multi family dwellings. This seems to bring both good and bad. Good is that Ballard is more fun, vibrant, thriving, diverse. The "downtown" Ballard urban center is wonderfully eclectic. The bad: parking. Most single family dwelling conversions are executed with seemingly little or no consideration for the demand on parking. Take a single family dwelling with a one car garage and turn that lot into four single family dwellings with one car garages and, well...do the math. The side streets are clogged with cars. Also seeing more crime, graffiti, pan handlers/ homeless. Not sure how much of this is attributable to the population density versus the current economic conditions.

too much emphasis on large housing complexes vs. single family homes. too many renters, not enough home owners. this leads to complacency on issues such as crime, community etc.

Some historical and old buildings have been taken down. Some old buildings have not been replaced, nor are there plans to do so. Some cottage units have been developed. Some small businesses have failed; whereas others have thrived. Crime has increased.

When we moved to Ballard in 1992, there was big change in the retail core along Market, very similar to what we are seeing today. Vacant storefronts and transition due to the economy. Revilization occurred and the Leary/ Ballard Ave/24th movement expanded beyond Market St. I am all for tearing down the buildings that have not been kept up and becoming more dense to a point. The unit lot subdivisions are unappealing and should have some sort of design standards.

The population of Ballard has grown in the 5+ years I've lived here, as have the related issues of traffic, parking, etc.

When I was growing up in Ballard, it was a beautiful, quaint area with history and lots to do. Now, it is dense. There is no parking. I have nothing to do because the shops that reflected the history of Ballard have been replaced by bars and giant, ugly condos and apartments. The developers have taken out trees, grass, plants and old buildings to build giant, concrete structures. Ballard is horrible now. The families are leaving and now, just next door to me, my once humble, single-family neighborhood is being disrespected by developers who buy houses, tear them down to build townhouses, and then leave with the money. I hate this plan and all my neighbors hate it too. Also, light rail is noisy and disruptive and Ballard DOES NOT want it.

My neighborhood has diversified dramatically, with both an increase in low-rent and high-end housing. The average age of residents has dropped. In the commercial area, attractive two- and three-story mixed-use buildings have been razed and replaced by towering high rises; outside the core, older single-family homes are being replaced by multi-family dwellings, many of them shoddily constructed, with little or no parking places. Many core businesses (grocery, bookstores) have been displaced by high-end restaurants and clothing boutiques, requiring that we drive rather than walk to get basics. I now go to affordable neighborhoods (Greenwood or Fremont) when I want to eat out. Traffic on Market Street has become congested on weekends. Burglary and vandalism, even in the Sunset Hill residential neighborhood, has gone from rare to "every day."

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

More condos, more densely populated. Prices for nearly everything have increased.

Increase in density.

more condo's, downtown ballard has grown to a real community for music, food, parks, art and etc.

Influx of unsheltered homeless as well as homeless shelters. More trees. More graffiti. Seems like more crime, too.

Neighborhood has really cleaned up and had huge change in housing market. I own my own business on Ballard Ave, started it 12 years ago. The street was dirty and desolate with many drunks hanging around and entering my business. I was attracted to the fact that it was a mixed use of industrial and retail, so I am happy we all prevailed and the ave has grown into one of most visited and vibrant historic streets in Seattle.

We are having a disturbing problem with criminal street activity, drug activity in our parks and homelessness that has seemed to accelerate terribly in the last couple years.

yes, most of the businesses i grew to love and support are being phased out by rest. and bars, the crowd is not local, but it is a destination spot for other neighborhoods to get away to, the people who worked hard to make this a community can no longer afford to live here, and we too as a hard working local family are getting phased out of our neighborhood and school, the high school students hang out in the street instead of having a diner(dennys) or bowling alley to attend, play, be indoors entertaining themselves, they are out in my yard littering and driving recklessly up and dow the st. (60th nw) i don't feel a strong connection with my condo neighbors and businesses as ballard becomes a part of the city and not a community:(

Increased HH - with reflect to Hlgh Density living. And of course the cost of living and ave cost of housing.

It's gentrified quite a bit; things are nicer, shinier and a lot more expensive.

Not really considering I have only lived here for about a month

I was involved in contributing to those initial plans/ meetings. It seemed to me that they sort of went into the "dusty book shelf" once they were completed . . . the old plan that is put together and never really used. But, the downtown Library and park were completed and Gillman Park playfield improved. But, the playfield, when there are no games or the wading pool isn't filled in the winter attracts transients who use the park as their home - often they are drinking and it makes it unpleasant for people in general and those with kids in particular. Too many townhouses that all look the same cover blocks throughout Ballard . . .they are generally too tall and tower over houses next door. With no "design" control . . . we have many "cookie cutter" townhouses now in Ballard - looks bad, doesn't fit in . . .driveway access not used since hard to park in the garages so more cars parking on the street . . . crowded streets with cars . . .you can hardly get down the street now . . . except one car at a time. More downtown development of condo's and apartments which is good . . .a vibrant downtown Ballard is good for keeping crime down and getting people out walking. The Fred Meyer's developed south ballard/ Leary turned out to be a great development - looks good, walking distance. The Safeway on the corner of Market and 15th is a MESS!!!! They wanted that corner but don't take care of it . . .crap and garbage all around it . . . I hate to even walk near it! Trader Joes good addition near 14th and Leary . . . Some of the pocket parks add some nice breaks from the housing as you walk the neighborhoods. We need more trees in Ballard . . .still not enough trees and often when they get put in . . . people don't water them on the planting strips and they die! The re-do at Golden Gardens of the teen center has been a nice addition and the dog park at Golden Gardens works well. Overall, I think there have been some nice improvements in Ballard . . . particularly the downtown area which is becoming more vibrant . . . hopefully we won't lose the quaintness and it turn into any other "uppie" hangout. It seems like we are also attracting more families . . .we want to keep Ballard the "family" part of town . . .all age groups, kids, etc. But, the biggest downer has been the rows and rows of townhouses due to our zoning in various parts of Ballard and no control over those. The other biggest downer is not enough trees and good old trees getting cut down because no control over that either. Walkability is improving.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

I was born and raised in Ballard. It's changed in more ways than I can write about. The most noticeable change to me, basically put, is the purification of the neighborhood. Some good and some not so good. I don't like feeling crowded in my 'hood' and I definitely HATE paying for parking when I go in town. It's still the best place in Seattle to live!

TOO many things being bulldozed to make room for condos. I didn't move to Bell Town, I moved to Ballard!!!

too many single family homes destroyed to cram in more people thereby destroying the neighborhood

Too high density - too many condos, loss of affordable single family housing, lack of adequate parking, lack of adequate services for homeless and low income. Increased crime - as evidence by car prowls, neighborhood break-ins

Not much in the last 4 years...I've seen a little more "suspicious activity" around the urban core and I hear about a lot more crime, but I'm also paying more attention to the latter.

Condos. Density . Ballard has become much more of a destination for shopping/restaurant/new business. Real Estate prices WAY up.... Residents average age much younger ... etc .. etc

many new condos; newer mindset as modern, hip, young thought mixes with industrial established thought

Lots of new great restaurants and stores.

Although the urban village of Ballard had 80+% of renters when the plan was written, that number has to have increased in the last few years. The overwhelming influx of condos and apartments has added a different population and taken away from the essence of the "old Ballard," thus creating a "new Ballard" that is more similar to other neighborhoods. Several park spaces have been remodeled to make them much more pleasant, and the addition of the Sunday market and continuation of other neighborhood festivals and gatherings have definitely fostered the sense of community in Ballard.

The neighborhood has gotten younger with more families with young children moving in. There is more interest in Crown Hill as a thriving neighborhood all of its own & not just a suburb of Ballard. There's an increase in making Crown Hill more walkable, i.e. sidewalks!!

I live in Crown Hill. The neighborhood infrastructure has changed very little. I was surprised to see a lot was done in the Ballard part of the neighborhood. Crown Hill is still without sidewalks (recommendation of original plan); No kiosks were built in Crown Hill; The buses are still the same (no monorail was built, no light rail, but possibly Rapid Ride is going to replace the #15). Pedestrian amenities along 15th and Holman Rd are severely lacking still (ped friendly shops, less driveways, easier crossing of Holman Rd) Residential Urban Village doesn't look like that happened and Safeway went and put in a gas station.

More apartments/condo development. Along with the "cookie cutter" business mix on the ground floor, condos up above. The schools have improved slightly in Ballard. There are more shops, the Farmer's Market is here and thriving. Way more coffee shops than we need! Our older citizens no longer live on our street, we see mainly younger more affluent people buying their houses. The house prices are higher. More gardens instead of grass (yes!), still less tree care and trees are still being removed (not good). Traffic more clogged. The Fred Meyer/Trader Joe area is downright dangerous for driving. Doesn't feel safe to ride bikes on the street anymore. Long live Edith Macefield's vision and stance!

Too many liberals... too much government....

Yes - there are more condos and there is more of a 'center core' in our downtown area. The library and commons park are the anchors to our area.

Seems to see crime on the rise

It seems more homeless people have invaded this lil "town". My family is sick and tired of being yelled at, and asked for money everytime we walk someplace.

More density. Lots of speculation on large properties that have not been developed yet. (Sunset Bowl, Leilani Lanes, 15th & Market, Holman & 13th). Turn over of homes from older long-term residents living alone to younger families (Crown Hill).

Development, development, development. The number of high rise condos added has been staggering.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

Housing density has increased dramatically, as have issues associated with aggressive panhandling, drug dealing, and street crime. The quality of life is still high and in some ways higher (more diverse restaurants, etc) but on the whole, I feel that Ballard is at a turning point and will either get much better or much worse in the next few years.

Downtown Ballard has become much more developed (which I like). The number of small businesses, boutiques, restaurants, art galleries and dense housing developments have increased dramatically. Parking has gotten harder, which is a pain, but it has motivated us to walk more, which is good all the way around. We love Ballard and feel lucky to have landed in the neighborhood when we moved here from the midwest ten years ago.

More crime

More cars on my street resulting that I have to park a few house down or in the alley.

Yes, way more condos and ugly townhouse. Plus pay for parking, which sucks.

I moved to Sunset Hill in December 2008. So I have a limited view on progress. There has been a lot of business turnover and condo construction in the last 6 months however.

Yes, very much. The population has grown due to the loss of single family homes due to townhouse and condo development yet the bus service hasn't improved and the road diets have added to additional congestion on top of the increase of population. While the development has had some benefits it in large part has destroyed the original character and charm that made Ballard a desirable place to live.

Too many condos going up. This will create traffic congestion and overcrowding.

Increased high-density housing Fewer manufacturing/ industrial employers No noticeable improvements in mass transit capacity Increased crime Marginal improvements in green space

The library and close by park are relatively new, other small parks are being developed or updated, the Burke-Gilman Trail completion "missing link" continues to be an issue (but other sections have been completed), lots of condos have been built and lots of changes in the local businesses due to influx of people and also economic climate.

Holy density, Batman! I've only lived in Ballard three years (longtime visitor/HS student, though), and even since I've moved here I've noticed the unfortunate rise of cheap, crappy-looking big box apartment/condo buildings and equally ugly townhouse four-packs. Longtime businesses are being priced out and replaced with new bars and restaurants -- many of the new places are nice, I suppose, but what good is a neighborhood with 100 bars and restaurants but no retail, no bowling alleys, etc.?

A great deal of condominium development has taken place. Many of the businesses which defined the character of the neighborhood have been displaced. The large buildings which have replaced these businesses add little character and make the street feel less welcoming. The many new, small businesses are very welcome. There is a strong feeling that the development/increase-in-density has happened too rapidly, and is too dominated by large, generic condominium blocks.

I've lived in Ballard for about 2 years. And in the last 2 years since the Denny's and Bowling alley have been unoccupied there have been a lot more vagrants and homeless living in/and hanging around the areas of 15th/14th Ave NW and Market.

Too many townhouses built on small lots. The density is increasing disproportionately.

I've seen an influx of people and condos in Ballard. I have also seen an increase in crime.

Many more people and cars; same inadequate amount of public transit.

Ballard's population density has increased significantly. It is much more difficult to park, shop and drive in Ballard than it ever has.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

The neighborhood is changing rapidly! In the 3 years that I've lived there, the retail shops along market have been changed more than my sons diapers!

Still growing quite quickly, mostly for the good.

Parking has become a disaster with the increase in multi-family homes. I have also noticed an increase in homeless population along market street and in the surrounding area.

I have lived in Crown Hill for 2 years and have not noticed the changes as of yet.

With the housing boom there was a surge in development of condos in our neighborhood (near Gilman Park). Many of the older structures constructed in the 1960's & 70's were replaced, but we also lost some craftsman style homes to speculation development. Overall, I think the urban renewal happening in the urban core is positive and the construction of mixed use buildings will encourage Ballard to remain a walking neighborhood. Ballardites are loyal to their local businesses and this type of urban planning will continue to encourage that behavior.

More apartment and condos, more car traffic. With the downturn in economy, business closing down. But, also new, entrepreneurial businesses opening up all the time.

Many more condos, which is good for urban density. Traffic/Parking has gotten worse. Many of the "local" flavor store fronts seem to be closing and Ballard is slowly looking less unique and more like 1 giant strip mall. It's still a great place, but not as great as it was a few years ago. Would really like to see a light rail or some other mass transit that is off the streets in Ballard.

There are more condos, businesses and more people. Personally I think its great. When I was a kid downtown Ballard wasn't a destination because there wasn't much there. Now there are a lot more shops, restaurants, bars etc.

The major change is the change from a quiet community to a more urban area with more condos and amenities.

While I think a lot of what you pointed out -- parks, library, Burke Gilman Trail, etc. are good improvements, the private growth in the way of condos and chain businesses is OUT OF CONTROL! We've lost our only bowling alley for a proposed condo site, and have been without the bowling facility for almost a year and a half while it sits empty. Denny's, a pretty cool historic landmark, also crushed for development. The inner city sprawl (or whatever it's called) is getting out of hand. The public transportation and available street parking can't accommodate the increased number of residents. This whole condo biz needs to stop!! It's stealing most of the charm from the area and replacing it with cookie cutter clones of living spaces atop Quizno's/Dry Cleaners.

Traffic has blown through the roof. The small mom and pop stores that made Ballard unique (Olsen's Scandinavian Foods, Ballard Camera, Best Regards, Epilogue Books most recently) are going out of business to be replaced by high end restaurants. Ballard is no longer the sleepy little Scandinavian town that I fell in love with. It could be anywhere USA. It seems much more like Belltown. It is ridiculous for the density goals that were put into place when the monorail project was designed to still be in effect. We do not have effective mass transit to maintain these higher density levels. There is no light rail. Bus service is inadequate--especially routes that serve other parts of the city from downtown (like the number 45). I am very concerned that there will be a new condo project on market & 15th, as many of the condo buildings already built are below occupancy.

Unchecked growth it seems. Many more condos, townhouses and apartments with very little added infrastructure such as parking, street improvements.

The crime rate has gone up dramatically. Police presence is insufficient. Many more properties look run down. Lots of drug use visible in downtown Ballard area. Lots of ugly cheap looking and unoccupied condo buildings. Many stores have closed or moved out.

Too many new large buildings have destroyed the character of the neighborhood. Traffic is terrible, bus service is very poor with delays more common than on time buses.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

The main change I've noticed is the huge tear-down of single-family homes for multiplexes, and of single-story retail on the main arterials for six story condo blocks. And I mean 'blocks' - for the most part, these new condo developments are all are big and square with very little aesthetic appeal, tiny balconies, no trees or visible green space... I've also noticed an increase in violent crime reports. I don't leave my downstairs windows open any more at night, feel that I must shut everything up when I leave even briefly during the day. The new library is great, as is the neighborhood park across the street. It would be nice if some of the new condo developments had done at least some of what the new library did - 'green roof', and eye-catching and interesting design, opportunities given for people to pause outside and connect with one another... Some might say that both these changes are the inevitable consequences of mixed-use neighborhood density, but I would question that. From what I hear from planners and architects, it is possible to design condos so that they augment community rather than squelch it. And augmenting community is one of the best ways to detract from violent crime. I've also noticed increased street and night life on Market, which is great (except for parking and noise concerns of course) - but generally that people are out eating and walking and giving life to the retail core is a good thing.

The most notable thing is that the demographic is changing. There seem to be a lot more younger people/families moving in.

the neighborhood has more life in the downtown area. At the same time, it seems crime is more of a factor.

The neighborhood has become very dense and more businesses started. Public transportation does not seem to have changed in response to the population growth.

The density along with all that that entails has increased. The crime has increased as well as the homeless population. We have increased the tree population but not enough. There are too many large condo projects that have turned our neighborhood into a downtown corridor.

Some unused business property has been developed. Some highly used business property has been razed but not developed. Some neglected housing has been turned into town homes and some highly utilized (including low income) housing has been turned into expensive town houses. Apartments became condos and long term renters were forced to move. People have moved in who have no appreciation for the history of the neighborhood or the culture of those who build the neighborhood. Developers and business owners want to turn Ballard/Crown Hill into another Broadway, Wallingford and Fremont - all trendy and "hip", but without an appreciation of history, without soul.

All the single family homes three blocks from my home became multiple family units. 24th Avenue is now dwarfed by high buildings. Library and City office are combined in new location. New Ballard Commons Park. Burke Gilman has gotten closer. More stop lights. More traffic. Fewer elderly.

waaaay more bums and meth addicts and aggressive homeless people. Can't walk down Market without running the gauntlet. Can't sit anywhere--drug deals all around. Trash they leave. yuck. Love the library. HATE walking through the smelly homeless people smoking and hanging out in front. Ballard Commons park would be better without the shopping cart lady and all the rats and people bathing in the fountain. Glad my kids are older now. Yes for the missing link of the Burke Gilman. That's art at Bergen Park? Awful. Anyway, why bother going there--it's for the homeless and the meth heads. Why is this listed under Crown Hill and Ballard? Why not Ballard and Crown Hill??? Not only alphabetical, but Ballard was a town on its own. Also, Ballard is where most of the businesses are. My kids went to Small Faces so we LOVE that they now own the Crown Hill school. I go there now for clothing sales in the gym.

The density of the neighborhood has grown immensely, and parking availability has deteriorated commensurately. Public transportation has remained the same, or become less available, which exacerbates the congestion. There are many more visibly homeless people, and graffiti has become a much more visible problem. On the plus side, there are many more restaurants on Ballard Avenue and Market, and the culture has become more diverse.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

Growth and increase in density is astonishing - some good, some not so good. Doesn't look like it was all well-thought out. Much of the new development is unfriendly in architecture and style.

Many new people have moved into the neighborhood, bringing good and bad with them. The businesses are flourishing, yet so is the crime.

"Downtown" Ballard has been ruined by too many condos. Each condo dweller brings his or her car. Not enough parking for them all. Compound this with putting some of the major arterials on "diets" -- what a brilliant idea. Add cars, take away parking.

Improved bicycle lanes, higher density housing, more retail and a younger population.

More traffic, more people driving too fast. Less traffic/speed enforcement.

I haven't been in Ballard long enough to notice.

The original Ballard Bowl skating structure was removed and the new one built - glad there is still skating for kids & those adults who dare, but sad to have seen the original beloved one removed (and rebuilt at much cost). Too many dang condos built. Businesses closing, but that is probably just economy-related, not due to the plans. Other than that, things in Ballard seem pretty good.

significant investment and revitalization. new developments (commercial and residential) have added very positively to Ballard. the re-opening of the Majestic Bay theater in 1999 appears to have been a major impetus for the future growth.

Increased population as was expected. I think we now have more need for alternative transportation besides cars due to many reasons, health, high fuel and car ownership costs, global warming, population density, gridlock.

We've seen the loss of long-term businesses, the advent of innumerable condos, the loss of many of Ballard's ties to its Nordic and maritime roots, and an overall change in the "flavor" of the community in the name of high-density living at the cost of seemingly all else.

I've lived here for about one year. I don't have a great feeling for the changes. As an architect, though, I am very concerned about the low quality of the housing projects that have gone in near market and historic downtown Ballard. The Canal Station, in particular, is a big terd. I am definitely pro density, but please. I am also concerned about how well density works with very little investment in transit options for getting downtown. I live just north of the locks, so, I am lucky enough to be able to easily ride my bike to work through magnolia and myrtle edwards park, but the other biking options are pretty bad and unsafe.

I moved here in September 1998 and a lot more business have set up shop, younger people have moved here and have changed the dynamics of the area. Within the past 2 years, a lot more restaurants, usually the same type, have opened up here. Cross walk lights have become shorter and the elderly have a hard time crossing before the light turns red. Traffic has become worse and louder. Residential areas have moved adjacent to commercial areas and the noise level from the commerical businesses has increased. Parking has become more and more difficult.

The biggest change is the housing density but there has also been a huge increase of homeless people and drug dealing.

Much greater density around Market st. New up-scale businesses. Many more restaurants. More families and kids.

Greater density, more traffic, more difficult access to major thoroughfares (I-5, 99). Poor multi-tenant housing architecture (Ballard has turned into one of the ugliest, most generic neighborhoods in Seattle).

condos and more condos.

i have lived in Ballard for 6 months

It seems as if local businesses are being driven out, places that make Ballard unique. It's becoming (retail-wise) more and more like every other "trendy" neighborhood with shops that don't have things the locals can actually afford.

Light rail/monorail is no longer happening in Ballard. Lots of growth in Ballard - - new businesses, new condos and new rental units. Conversely lots of businesses have left Ballard

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

I live in the crown hill area, and I have to say that I have not seen a lot of changes, other than some higher density housing coming online along some of the arterials (85th is what I see primarily)

increased density - younger neighbors, more kids

Lost Scandinavian heritage. Tore down many homes for townhouses.

There is a lot more crime than when I first moved in. There are a lot more homeless people and people living in their cars. It feels a little more unsafe now than 5 years ago. Vacant property has really allowed the crime to accelerate. The property owners don't take care of the problem. They are waiting to tear down whatever is there and build something new but don't care about the crime in the mean time.

More condos; more restaurants and stores.

There are many more condos. More density. Also a lot more people outside of the neighborhood are visiting. The residents and visitors seem more wealthy. Also, it seems like a lot of the older folks are moving to assisted living or passing away, and younger families are moving in.

Metro route #17 has become much more crowded; both between Sunset Hill and Ballard itself (NW Market) and between Sunset Hill and downtown Seattle. There are more car break-ins and outright vehicle thefts. Several neighbors have mentioned finding their window screens bent/scratched from the outside, or discovered actual prowlers peering in while the neighbors were still at home.

Too many condos have come in. Too much "upscaling" in terms of the "feel" of Ballard

waaay more condos.

More condos have moved in and some old businesses have moved out.

yes, the neighborhood has changed in the past 4 years to include many more condos

Yes! More multi-unit homes; fewer bungalows; LESS PARKING.

I have only been living in Ballard for a month, so I am just now becoming familiar with the plan.

Nothing has changed I still live in a modern neighborhood that has no sidewalks! unacceptable

Cannot say, only been here a year and a half.

Old people have died off and been replaced by the young from other states, too many town homes.

A lot of development has occurred as well as a good amount of park development. New business has come and gone as well.

More crime (car vandalism, graffiti/tagging) in the neighborhood and continued deterioration of the immediate vicinity surrounding 15th ave NW between NW 65th and Holman Road.

Crime is on the rise. Homelessness is on the rise.

Yes, it is much more densely crowded, traffic more congested, parking less available, pedestrian and bicycle access not significantly improved (north of 85th)

A lot of growth, angled towards small businesses and shops that appeal to youth. More condominiums in the Ballard core - an inevitable change that has been managed thoughtfully except for transit.

Traffic has increased, Rental units and "skinny houses" have increased dramatically.

There are the new townhouses that have brought young families and families with children back. More condos. More apartments. Less public transit - when you look at the population to transit ratio. More traffic on 32nd ave NW. Less crosswalks - fewer places to cross the street for pedestrians. Less parking in the downtown area. More people parking on the road by the tracks. Store closures on the east end of Market. Getting to be a dead zone there. Beautiful, vibrant library. Empty old library is becoming a target for tag artists.

Lots more apartment building and mini condos. Lots more activities/restaurants/shops in downtown Ballard area. The improvements to the Burke-Gilman Trail are appreciated, but I really want that Missing Link. w/o that, it's sort of all for naught.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

It's become denser. Houses are more expensive. There are a lot of bums/addicts/homeless people living on the streets and in campers.

New Ballard Library, New Ballard Commons Park/Skate Bowl, Safeway at 85th and 15th NW added at gas station, Small Faces Child Care Center bought old Crown Hill School, lots of new townhomes.

Cleaner more family friendly parks, more small neighborhood parks.

Thousands more apartments, and condos. Much busier. Small businesses have changed frequently. The recession has caused many businesses to close in the past year, and many multi-family sites to sit vacant (Sunset Bowl, Denny's, the old Ballard Library, 28th and Market, Lelani Lanes). The new library and Neighborhood Service Center are great. The Farmer's Market on Sunday is great.

Significant changes in building and housing types, from single-family low-rise to multi-family mid- and high-rise, and townhouses. Seeming increase in economic vitality. Seeming decrease in light-industrial uses.

Parking has certainly gotten harder in Ballard with all the density. But overall I have enjoyed & benefited from the public projects such as the library, skate park, water fountain, burke-gilman, Small Faces (owning CH Elementary). It feels like more family with children under 10 move into my immediate neighborhood as older residents are leaving.

It's changed very little in terms of public improvements. However, we have seen a significant increase in population, more multi-family housing, and more investment from the community in improving our neighborhood. Many folks have moved in to older houses and started making improvements, neighborhoods are trying to build support to help prevent crime and keep our neighborhood clean and safe.

Many more housing units (condos and apartments) have been built. The new library was built. Businesses have come and gone. The Sunday Market in Ballard has grown considerably. There is a new park on the corner of our street.

The number of newly constructed massive condo buildings is staggering

I feel the crime has risen since I moved here 2.5 years ago.

Density in the central planning area (core urban village) has been slightly delayed recently due to credit, half of what has been built was planned, half was not planned or in adjacent areas of core area, infill development has been haphazardly reviewed and integrated, and some development only demolished! Biggest issue is very minimal improvements in transportation services, the BGT is not a major benefit to actual residents (more for tourists), Metro is merely promises and risks of less service, and the city was embarrassingly nonsupportive of both Sound Transit access and the botched monorail. Infrastructure investment (city municipal center/library) was achieved due to strong continuing lobbying and followup, the parks implementation was not quite perfect, and some claimed parks improvement were not due to the plan but did result from city assistance so OK. Job creation has not happened, and the deterioration of high wage jobs in the adjacent BINMIC area is part of the problem, as are the flight of existing small businesses from the Ballard retail core (due in my view to uncontrolled real estate price gouging). Big challenge: integrating real transit improvements for Ballard without at the same time cutting on feeder services for extended Ballard (in other words, a BRT serving only core Ballard does me little good living out in far West Ballard). Choke points like the bridges are difficult to deal with but so is moving transit service hours to South Auburn and Sammamish.

lots of condo building

The installation of traffic circles and speed bumps have changed the dynamic of pedestrian/automobile interaction. I think the traffic circles make it more dangerous for pedestrians because cars now need to swerve into the pedestrian walking lanes to make it around the circles.

condos and town houses have sprung up.

A huge number of single family homes have been replaced with overpriced cookie-cutter townhouse developments, many of which are standing unsold and vacant today.

Housing prices have risen dramatically. Density has increased, as have traffic and parking problems. Many single family houses have been demolished and replaced with drab four-per-lot condos which have eroded the character and neighborliness of the area.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

A lot more ritzy retail and restaurants. Very accommodating for young urban professionals-- Public Transit doesn't seem to have gotten better though. -My neighborhood was 'houses' when I first moved in 3 years ago. Now there are townhomes everywhere, giving folks a strict sense of space. Neighbors don't seem to want to say 'hello'. There's a definite dichotomy between renters and owners.

Whittier Elementary was completely re-built- a jewel in the area! Lots of density- more and more condos have been built in the Ballard area, changing the sleepy nature of the neighborhood into a more active, vibrant location.

More traffic. Watching small businesses come and go. The Crown Hill Neighborhood Association has come into being. Seems to be an increase in crime and vandalism. Home values have risen and dropped drastically.

seems that more density has been achieved along major arterial streets, but some areas of gray (or even black and white) still exist along many borders of the dense to semi-dense to less-dense neighborhood makeups.

Ballard has changed dramatically, primarily shifting to a younger population - condo dwellers, professional, white collar workers vs the pioneering Scandinavian, fishing families.

Yes, the neighborhood has changed a great deal since I purchased my home in 2002. The major changes are obvious, from the new library and park, to the massive condominium construction. Nearly all changes, in my opinion, have been positive. There is a greater density, higher visibility of community services such as the library, and a qualitative improvement in the retail and restaurant business.

Significant redevelopment in the "downtown" Ballard area, little change in the commercial and residential Crown Hill area. It's really amazing that 15th Avenue West is basically the same as it was 30 years ago.

so much development in the retail core. Sad to see some legacy business close. Immediate neighborhood has seen improvements as homeowners invest in their own home and small retail corner down the street got a facelift and new tenants

Increase in townhomes, condos, and as a result population density

More condos, more congestion but also more services like restaurants and bars and shops so you don't have to leave Ballard to get what you need. Also many more people are commuting and running errands by bicycle.

The area near the Market and 15th Ave corridors has become much more densely developed, with single family homes being replaced with multi-family dwellings. I think this is a good thing.

urban density in the form of townhomes north of 85th and an apartment complex going in behind the radio shack off 15th. these are both good improvements. i'd like to see crown hill get curbs/sidewalks for walkability. olympic manor has curbs/sidewalks and my quadrant of west of 15th and north of 85th and south of 22nd does not. this would be a HUGE improvement.

Ballard has seen a lot of new development happen at a very fast pace. At the same time, there have also been a number of public improvements that have taken place to enhance the neighborhood for people living, working, and visiting Ballard: new Ballard library, several parks - Ballard Commons, Ballard Corners, etc. Also, the neighborhood is changing in terms of the demographics of who lives here - yet it remains a nice place for families to raise their children, a good place for nightlife and entertainment, etc. The one thing that has not changed is that its still difficult to get to and from Ballard by any means other than a car.

The Bike Path out Seaview Ave NW is a great addition. The planting is overgrown with weeds and looks bad though. Can't the city plan to regularly maintain planting? Am waiting for the impact of the dramatic growth of population as the condos fill. A right turn only lane is needed at the eastbound lane of NW Market St at 24th.

The housing density has grown at a staggering rate, faster than expected. It seems many of the local businesses are being run out of the neighborhood due to increased costs of running a business here and I worry that these issues will hurt the long term stability of the neighborhood.

more homeless people

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

Traffic congestion has greatly increased without thoughtful resolution. Density has increased which is good but the neighborhood needs to continue to improve services that will allow residents to shop and handle other needs without the use of a car. "Road diets" do not make walking safer--only more enforcement against speeding cars and cars parked where they should not be will make walkers more visible and safe. The city needs to continue to work with Metro to improve bus service in this neighborhood instead of the plans to cut service in favor of suburbs. This will help make this a neighborhood where people really want to continue to live and thus be very involved in keeping it a safe and wonderful place.

Lots of new construction. New library, new parks, public art...

1. Many more townhouses and multi-family dwellings in the area. 2. Much more traffic on 15th Avenue NW. 3. More frequent Metro runs on route #15 which is good. 4. New Ballard Library is wonderful. 5. New Ballard Commons is awful design on a nice piece of property. 6. Crown Hill Center acquired from School District. We look forward to its improvement. 7. Crown Hill, Holman Road, and Greenwood business areas seem much busier. 8. Noticeable shift to younger aged population in Ballard.

Since we bought our house in 2004, the density and number of condos/townhomes has skyrocketed. Some build up is fine but parking and traffic flow is definitely a problem. Also the flavor of the neighborhood has gone from a sleepy, accessible place to a little more Belltown-ish with swinging singles and more of a "hot spot". I worry about the perception that Ballard is the place to keep building up. Why isn't Magnolia seeing more development or Phinney for that matter? Is it a matter of cheap land?

Lots of high density housing coupled with the loss of many traditional Ballard homes. Parking has become more difficult, traffic more congested, and along with the building of new shops, many of the older businesses have not been able to stay in business. Rent and home prices have dramatically increased. There has been more nightlife, more parks offered, and better library services.

Rapid increase in density. Single family homes being replaced by multiple residences. More traffic. More noise. Less respect for city noise ordinances. Yard parties after 11:00 pm. Amplified music outside. In my opinion, too many people trying to live in inadequate space.

Houses have been replaced with townhomes, cars drive faster, older businesses have closed - some replaced with newer businesses and some vacant. More restaurants - more of a destination feel as opposed to neighborhood feel. Street parking is more cramped. It's harder to drive in downtown Ballard with limited parking slots and congestion. My Ballard blog has helped create sense of community. No improvement to 14th Ave as hoped. Great library and opposite park. Neighbors working together for local community gathering areas.

very much so. it is becoming more generic, mor belltown and less neighborly. i feel like we have created a cookie cutter hipster area in ballard. it is quickly losing all blue collar credibility and sadly most of its personality.

Buses are much fuller and commute times from Crown Hill to Downtown take much longer. Condos are crowding the Ballard skyline, this is ok, but a big change from 2000.

The housing density has increased. We are taking on more than our proportional share of the GMA targets for Seattle's population growth. Although population has increased significantly, the infrastructure (public transit, transportation, etc.) to serve that population has lagged seriously behind the needs. Some of the gains of the prior plan which WERE implemented have been clawed back (Family Center for instance). Open space has become even more critical to the health of the neighborhood due to the increased density or new developments. It is my perception that a smaller percentage of people who work in Ballard and Crown Hill can actually afford to live there. Many long time businesses have departed.

It has become much more crowded and expensive.

Hundreds of poorly built townhomes and condos have been put up. graffiti is a problem, parking is a problem, petty crime is a problem housing prices increased so much that only wealthy people can live here. We don't have enough bus service to downtown now that over 1,500 new housing units have been built.

my personal neighborhood has not changed. But the little shopping area in Ballard has! Business that have been there for decades are now leaving because of rent increases, etc. Huge condo buildings are going up! Blocking the sunlight and making Ballard a wind tunnel!

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

Dramatically increased density. Ugly townhomes crammed together in townhome ghettos creating parking disasters that resemble urban NJ. Everyone could see this density increase coming, (it has been encouraged) and yet absolutely no plans were made to deal with newly overloaded infrastructure and public transportation needs.

Massive influx of residential condominiums and apartment buildings (good). Significant rise in homeless population, vandalism, and traffic (bad).

less free parking, residential streets are to packed with cars when there are "special events". Housing is less affordable, especially for renters. there are few "affordable" places for a casual meal out so people do not go out to eat as much. Ballard is turning into Fremont. bars, clubs, service sector jobs, but few family wage jobs.

Huge apartments are the dominant scene in the core blocks around and on Market street. Ballard Ave is gentrified though charming. Staple businesses that give Ballard the cultural identification it's had historically are beginning to fold. The massive apt structure being built over the park is intimidating. The huge structures as you enter Market street are bland and dominant. The apt next to the fire station is still mostly empty it would seem. This neighborhood has changed too dramatically. Growth appears unbridled. This is an example of growth changing a neighborhood not enhancing it.

The neighborhood has changed faster than planned for. Pedestrian, bicycle, and car traffic makes getting around difficult. Of course, many of us miss the old Ballard because it was more relaxed. Ballard feels a bit crowded and I hope that the units already built will fill and that until they do; perhaps, a moratorium on new buildings needs to be considered. I am concerned about whether there is enough green left to allow people to relate to nature because research shows the benefit of being outside.

There's been a serious loss in affordable housing. When we first lived here (around the start of the plan), most of the lots in East Ballard now occupied by townhomes contained older duplexes with fairly reasonable rents. There's been a lot of density for the sake of density. I'm not sure how environmentally friendly it is to replace a duplex with four newly constructed townhomes, once you figure in the ecological cost of materials and the loss of plant/tree cover. The retail has become more flash, less function. While it's nice to have things open past 9pm, it'd also be nice to have more practical retail.

more "town homes", less families

Yes. Ballard is growing and it seems like there's a new condo building around every corner. I do not think this is a bad thing. I support properly coordinated growth that transforms Ballard into a more desirable, central neighborhood. The anti-development attitude that many old residents may have do not hold much material argument in that it does NOT help Ballard in the coming decades. Like it or not, any city or neighborhood MUST grow, whether you participate in it or not. Therefore, it is in the best interest of everybody to help it grow, not complain and bury their heads in the past.

greater density

traffic is way, way increased pressure on all public park spaces is very increased many more things (restaurants, shops) to go to, but parking is difficult for those outside of the walking range of downtown Ballard. Those of us in Crown Hill are cut off from things.

The obvious ripping down of decent homes to make way for over-priced, shoddily build 4 square town homes. Downtown Ballard became a tunnel of tower buildings. More graffiti where I live (15thNW and NW 75th).

Housing prices have skyrocketed, and I've noticed that downtown Ballard has almost completely changed from a mixed-use (light industrial & local retail) center to a tourist destination for big spenders. Almost nothing is left on Ballard Ave. of the shops and businesses that gave Ballard its character: most of the existing shops have gone of business and replaced by high end boutiques and restaurants catering to visitors from other neighborhoods. Downtown Ballard is becoming less and less a of a local destination for the people who actually live here (I've started doing my shopping and spending in Greenwood over the past 18 months).

Your draft status report is using data that is almost 10 years old! That is totally unacceptable. In the past 8 years since I've lived here housing prices have skyrocketed, condos have popped up all over, and the demographics of this community have shifted. Don't get me wrong, I love Ballard, but your report needs to reflect current reality, not what the neighborhood look liked in 2000.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

Our neighborhood has grown exponentially in the 10 years we have been in this area. Construction is a constant source of noise and Honey Buckets litter the landscape. There has been an increase of townhomes and other multi-family units in this former single-home neighborhood, changing the feel, traffic patterns, parking and the number of mature trees in the area. Trees are removed on a regular basis, even though we live in a heron habitat area and is supposed to be a nesting/non-disturbance area. Large, old trees that the herons, owls and other animals need are removed without regard to their needs and in disregard to neighbors' expressed concerns (when we are allowed to express these concerns, that is). When neighbors express their thoughts regarding the change of lot sizes in our neighborhood via the yellow signs that ask for feedback, we are ignored. It is obvious that we are being asked for feedback just to placate us and make us feel as though we have a say in how our neighborhood develops when in truth we do not. We are not even given the courtesy of hearing back from anyone in the city regarding our and our neighbors' comments regarding what the final decision is and why that particular decision was made. We are allowed lip service and nothing more.

A great deal of residential development has developed that was based on the fact that the monorail was going to be built. Now we have a higher density in Ballard, which I am all for, but an alternative to the sadly defeated monorail has not been implemented. The higher frequency buses plan needs to be implemented as soon as possible. I commute to work on the 15xpress and it is standing room only almost every day. The downtown core and old Ballard section has been shaping up nicely with a few exceptions (The Ballard (B) Landmark residential development is truly terrible on the Leary side. The historical Old Ballard side at least forced the developer to make that side aesthetically pleasing.

the neighborhood has certainly gotten more popular. Obviously, there has been an explosion of condos and townhomes. Some of these are fine; many are not. The urban village the plan identifies at 15th and 85th has yet to turn into anything remotely pleasant. The increase in density hasn't been met with an increase in bus service. The #48 is packed during rush hours and takes an exceptionally long time. I love this neighborhood, but we seem to have born the brunt of the rush to "density."

What I see is the pricing-out of younger people, the working class and minorities. This happened all over 80-90% of the city of Boston, a place I had lived for 4 years before scraping together nickels to move to Ballard, my dream neighborhood. The result for Boston, is that it's a terrible place to live; there is no culture, no entertainment, no sense of ownership in the community for you unless you can afford it. Seattle and particularly Ballard, I feel, likes to talk a great deal about cultural vibrancy and diversity being ideals. With the development of Ballard, the only diversity I see are condos each more ugly than the next as well as small businesses so small in their target audience that they'll be shuttered before long.

The appearance and "feel" of Ballard has changed significantly in the time that I have been here. The new library and park complex are welcome improvements. The boom of higher density housing and town houses are changes that have an evolving effect on the area. I personally feel that the aesthetics of most of these buildings were poor to start with and are quickly deteriorating. I also feel that the working class/blue collar and Scandinavian origins of Ballard are pretty much relegated to historic plaques and the Nordic Heritage museum. While I recognize that change is inevitable I fear that change in this neighborhood has occurred so quickly that we may have already lost most of the qualities that made it possible for people with range of economic backgrounds to thrive here.

Much more traffic, some additional crime, less local business.

The population density has increase dramatically in the 4 years that I've lived here. The motor vehicle traffic has increased as well. The rents have gone up, making this neighborhood pretty much unaffordable. The transient population has increased as well. Family businesses are struggling to keep up and moving out of Market Street. However, some new businesses have moved in.

More crowded. Less friendly.

The buses are becoming noticeably more crowded during the morning and evening commute.

Ballard has become too high density and too crowded. Services are not able to keep pace. There are many many homeless people now living in and around the new library/park complex. Ballard feels much less safe.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

Let me count the ways. Influx of population, gentrification, attack of the multi-family townhouses, high apartment/condo complexes, horrid traffic, lack of parking - free of otherwise, catering to young professionals, not families, too many bars/restaurants, building height increases, loss of long-time businesses, only job creation in service industry.

There are too many condos and not enough single family homes. There is too much cookie-cutter development. Ballard is no longer the fun little fishing village I loved to visit growing up, it's overdeveloped and has lost its character.

Plenty of new townhomes, condo buildings, traffic, new retail, etc. Very little in the way of residential improvements such as additional parks, and traffic and pedestrian safety improvements. It's very sad to see huge new development with little concern for the residential community shape and feel.

Since I moved to Ballard in 2005, there's been a steadily increasing number of people in the neighborhood - due in part to the condo building surge that's took place in the past 3+ years as well as the many new businesses that have started up in the area. There's more car traffic and parking is increasingly problematic for those of us who live on Ballard Avenue and nearby.

Ballard changed radically even from our moving to it in late 2004 until we moved in late 2008. It became unaffordable to remain; landlords became greedy knowing they could ask for more in rent simply because it became a "hot" area. In addition to affordability, the density added to parking and traffic headaches even for residents. Transients increased. And the constant stream of visitors to events in the neighborhood and to Golden Gardens park made it unpleasant to get out and about in our own neighborhood. Since we left in 2008, it has changed yet again, with several stores closing and new, "hip" or "trendy" businesses setting up shop. While good for Ballard's economy, the exit of some of these merchants has left the neighborhood sterile and with rapidly declining evidence of its cultural legacy. We're saddened by this, and saddened that we can't return but rather had to leave what once was a perfect place.

The neighborhood has definitely changed from more single family homes to more high dense housing. The skyline has changed: there are many taller buildings. Ballard seems a lot more like its own little city than it did 10 years ago, when it felt like a smaller, mostly residential community.

On my block alone, all of the single family homes and duplexes have been replaced by 8 townhomes to old plan single home footprint. These town houses have such minimal parking that the on street parking has become extremely scarce. The density has made for unsafe streets and intersections for cyclists and pedestrians. The street lighting is in disrepair and the streets are full of pot holes. (trenches for new construction never get patched properly, so biking is hazardous. Some sidewalks are blocked by cars parking over the wheel chair ramps, and by parking diagonally over mid-block. Now the town homes are putting their trash cans for pick up on sidewalks blocking pedestrian access because there is no where else to put the cans. Density is all well and good, but there has to be an infrastructure to support it. More transit is needed, we hoped for the monorail. Buses are crowded with the added population. Parks are great, but transients are now sleeping, defecating and dealing drugs in them with no police presence. Downtown Ballard is a wonderful hub, the park service center and library are great.

I have lived here since July of 2006, and the most significant change seems to be the development of high-rise condominiums in the main "village" of Ballard. We live in Loyal Heights, so those have probably not impacted us much, although there has been an increase in teenager traffic in our alleys during the summer months. Neighbors have witnessed IV drug use and burned trash cans in our alley. For the most part, however, we have enjoyed the changes, and have seen some wonderful businesses move in. The saddest part is watching the older Scandinavian immigrant-owned businesses close. The historical society is doing a good job of trying to preserve this history, and should be supported to do more to ensure that new Ballard residents understand and appreciate the community in which they now reside.

Much more density, more diversity, more people coming as a destination (for art, food). More kids.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

Retail business has increased along with dense development. Businesses are providing more local amenities, but transportation choices to reach them have stalled. We need better walk and bike-friendly infrastructure- no more obstructionism on the Birke-Gilman trail. And better transit, not just Rapid Ride but rail service that is reliable.

More condos, more traffic (car, bike, pedestrian), improved retail area

There has been an aggressive rising of condos and townhouses near and around downtown Ballard. The library and city park were great additions but I feel the condos are taking away from the "village" feel of Ballard. Before the condos arrived, it felt much more quaint and inviting. Now it feels overwhelmingly urban. There are towering buildings everywhere and the small neighborhood feel has been taken away entirely.

The demographics have vastly changed from what seemed like a majority of senior citizens to young, urban professionals. The housing has changed in accordance with this. There have been improvements in the amount and quality of public open spaces. And the demographics have drawn businesses to cater to those residents, which I think is a great thing. I don't recall seeing many homeless 10 years ago when I first lived in Ballard. Now it seems that there are homeless and people who live in their car around every corner - some harmless, some not so harmless. The same can be said for people who spend their days loitering on the streets, whose activities are clearly not making a positive impact to the community. As a single woman I would have not had a problem walking alone after dark in Ballard 10 years ago. Today, I will not do it unless I have to.

Higher density, more people in residence. More traffic. Buses are packed during commuter hours. Most recently, small shops seem to be closing or moving out of Ballard at an alarming rate. On the plus side: more shops, destinations, more things to see, lively place to hang out.

The biggest change I see are the number of Condominiums that have been built. On my street alone NW 59th between 24th and 28th 4 condos have gone up the last 5 years. The resulting impact on the 'feel' of the neighborhood has been immense. Not to mention the parking. While these condos generally have garage parking available the residents seem to prefer street parking. This has made street parking very cramped, and difficult.

Some of the wonderful elements that made Ballard a special area have been destroyed. Sunset Bowl, and the Denny's on 15th were wonderful part of Ballard that kept a Blue collar feeling of Ballard. Losing Sunset Bowl to Condos has to be one of the biggest blows to the neighborhood. Losing that business to Condos was a larger slap in the face. Over all Ballard has been over developed in terms of residential. When we arrived traffic on Market and 15th wasn't bad. Now it's getting to horrid. The road diets on 24th and abundance of traffic lights has caused far more drivers to choose roads like 28th or 32nd to speed. Over all, the streets of Ballard don't feel family safe anymore due to the traffic and abundant road rage and speeding. In addition, the neighborhood plans did not make any of the builders add business space so that the residence of Ballard could actually work in Ballard. There are a hand full of commercial store fronts which are good for some shops but there is very little actual business office space. This lack of space means that people have to commute out of Ballard to work. That commute might be as short as Fremont, or Seattle, or often Bellevue. Ballard needs to add more spaces for business' it's highly unlikely now that the constructions prices are sky high. Any planning board should have know that you need to have places for residence to work in order to cut back on traffic and to have places for people to work. This is city planing 101! There have also been a dozen little bad decisions. The road diet on 15th and mixing buses, cars, and a cycling lane has already cost on man his life. The bike lane should NEVER have been put on such a busy street. The Liquor store allowed on the bottom of 32nd has added some very dangerous traffic as people often make ill timed left turns into traffic. Left turns out of that parking lot should not be allowed. And the new Ballard Blocks parking lot traffic and street parking is causing dangerous situations when you consider how many residents use that path to get from Ballard to Fremont. Plus the over all increase in pedestrians and lack of safe crossing on Market and Leary is going to cost some people there lives. The area of Leary near the Olympic Gym is very dangerous. Some elevated crosswalks should be added if that are if going to develop as traffic on Market and Leary get more and more dense. Overall the neighborhood plans are so poor that I think that planners or people who allowed these changes should not be allowed to do any more damage.

Single-family homes have been replaced by ugly condominiums. The Scandinavian feel of the community has evaporated and population density has increased.

For the better

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

In Crown Hill, there hasn't been much change. The Crown Hill School was purchased, but there hasn't been any visible redevelopment yet. All the pedestrian friendly work described has been in the Market Street area. That is fine if that is the goal, but seems out of place then to include Crown Hill. Perhaps Crown Hill should partner with Greenwood/Broadview instead.

Way more housing units, more businesses have opened in old Ballard.

There have been tremendous changes in this area in the past 10 years. There is definitely better retail but now turning into a bar community. I have seen more drugs, alcohol, vandalism, graffiti and homelessness in the neighborhood in just the past two years than I have ever seen. The new condos that have been built are nice but the city did not take into full consideration this growth in their plan. There is now very little parking and the streets are more dangerous with impatient aggressive drivers tired of waiting at lights not equipped for the amount of traffic we now have. The addition of the missing link is not well thought out. The plan says it will provide an economic benefit to the community. This is not true, it will actually hurt the existing businesses on Ballard Ave. and Market Street. As it currently is, business that comes from outside of the neighborhood is dwindling. They are finding it so extremely hard to park that they are making fewer trips or not at all. I rely on my customers coming from Bellevue, Issaquah, Federal Way or Lynnwood. If more parking is taken away along Shilshole and my out of area customers can't get here, my business will fail and I will have to move to Bellevue who is willing to accommodate my customers with parking. I am not against the trail, but instead of taking away parking and endangering the other local business and industry along the waterfront you may want to think a little more long term and do maybe an elevated trail. This will be more expensive but in the long run will be more beneficial to all involved. Maybe make a level for pedestrians and one for bikes. I only see the amount of cyclist increasing and if you do a small project now you will probably be wasting money by having to do something else in the next 10-20 years when it is not large enough to handle the amount of cyclists. I am very tired of seeing our city do things that only benefit them in the short term and will be outdated in a short number of years.

Population and density have both increased dramatically.

New park, new library, one less bowling alley and lots of condos.

It seems that there was a big boom right before and during when I moved to Ballard (early 2008) but since that has slowed and many local businesses can no longer afford to make it but other businesses can't afford to take their place.

condos condos condos. Much younger people living here now. More shops and bars. More traffic.

Downtown Ballard is thriving with businesses, but has attracted more crime and homeless people. Sometimes walking down Market Street is just like walking down 1st Ave. in Pioneer Square. Its not where I thought this neighborhood was going.

I've simply seen the traditional business cycle play out... small-business owners who don't have enough in savings to survive the inevitable economic downturn have folded, and those who had savings, or who are providing a popular service, are thriving here. I think this is all a wonderful sign of the vitality of Ballard. Additionally, the new construction has brought younger urban-loving professionals with disposable incomes to our neighborhood, supporting those businesses. I think that although Ballard has, from what I understand, been undergoing significant improvement in the last ten years, I believe it still has a lot of potential for growth as a full-service, safe, walkable, gorgeous community to share.

Lost it's charm...too many cookie cutter/soul-less buildings.

Traffic and crime seem to be on the rise as well as large condo and apartment buildings that are not completely filled.

It has become much denser & trendier. The demographics have changed from a quiet family neighborhood with a suburban feel to a trendy hotspot full of nightclubs and yuppies. Despite this change, there has been no change in bus service, or rapid transit. We were promised rapid transit years ago through the monorail, yet now it seems like everyone has forgotten about Ballard's need for rapid transit.

Yes it has become unaffordable for most people in Seattle and the business area has become primarily bars.

I moved to Ballard in August 2007. Since then, the Sunset Bowl has closed and the Denny's building has been torn down. Some new condos/apartment buildings have opened.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

The positive changes include the library, new water park, neighborhood center, and addition of some variety restaurants and pubs. The downside is that there are way too many condos. Some is fine, but there has been a lack of control over the number of condos developed. One drawback to the condo development is that its too dense and takes away from the neighborhood feel of the place. Condos that are designed to fit in well, i.e. the Canal Street condos, are thoughtful and tastefully done. But many of the other new condos are just big boxes that do not fit in well. Also from an urban planning standpoint I wonder just how much water is displaced in the water table as a result of all the underground parking built for the condos; the concern is that ballard has a high water table and this kind of extensive development displaces the water and makes the other homes, businesses in the neighborhood at risk. Also, the development sites that were bought but not redeveloped (i.e. denny and sunset bowl) are now big eye sores; when sites are bought the chamber of commerce and City of Seattle needs to better regulate when these sites will be rebuilt. Basically the downside is that there needs to be more control over what now is an excess amount of condos in the neighborhood. Also, more buses need to be added to the commute route downtown to accomodate all the new residents -- otherwise traffic will only get denser.

More (empty) condos. Older businesses shutting down; different retail (many higher priced) moving in

The changes have been drastic, less affordable housing (apts. being turned into condos), less retail business and public transportation is not very effecient. The four goals seem to have taken a long time to fulfill.

It's gone downhill. The congestion of people, traffic, cars (parking) is horrible.

The availability of apartments is dwindling and rent has been steadily raised every year. There is an imbalance as far as development in the downtown Ballard area compared to Crown Hill.

Much more crowding: megahouses squeezed into older established neighborhoods; buses overcrowded; less available parking. Increasing costs, not just due to overall inflation and increases in rents, property taxes, etc., but also because many of the older small businesses which catered to local families are being priced out of the neighborhood. Am very concerned that we not lose all of our established small businesses to "development." On the good side, we have a couple of new green spaces / parks within walking distance now and trees and plantings e.g. on the median of 8 NW and improvements on 14 NW make walking those avenues much more pleasant.

A lot! Lots of new development such as 6 story, block long condos/apartment and townhomes lining many streets. In my opinion, the development is not enhancing the street scape much- too drab colors, less landscaping or open space, and for the townhomes, they offer the occupants a drive in, less neighborly environment. There is much more density due to all this development away from single-occupany homes and paid parking is now enforced in the business district. As a result of the density, a lack of parking is an issue. Also, the shops are more upscale, more (and diverse) restaurants, as well as a lot less dive bars. I think the neighborhood is more walkable and community oriented due to some of the changes. The Sunday Farmers market is wonderful for the community. Can't wait to have the QFC completed on 24th- we have been without a nearby supermarket for years now. Oh- the Civic center (Library/Neighborhood center) and new Park are great assets too. Overall, I would say the neighborhood has improved according to the goals of the neighborhood plan and the City's plan to increase density. Gentrification is one side affect, mainly with the displacement of the elderly moving out with new, young upperly mobile professionals moving in. Otherwise, there has never been a lot of ethnic or racial diversity (since I moved to the neighborhood in the mid 90's).

Huge density increase. Lack of transportation increase.

Population density seems to have increased with the addition of more condos. Locally owned businesses seem to be in trouble. Many have closed or moved to a different neighborhood recently. The blue collar vibe has been giving way due to the increase in number of upscale restaurants and night places.

Lots of condo and townhome development.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

Huge amount of condo development, yet condos are still largely unfilled. Exit of old businesses to make way for boutiques and restaurants. Much heavier traffic in and out of Ballard, especially the N 45th St. bottleneck as it passes under I-99 in just a single lane.

The traffic is out of control. We have to pay to park in the business district. There seem to be more families with young children. Public transportation is not serving our needs.

I've seen a lot of retail turnover, especially on Market street. Many new dense housing developments have gone up in the same area.

So many condos! So much construction!

Positive: - Better/nicer parks - Wonderful library
 Negative: - Why can't this stupid city build a light rail system like every other modern, civilized city?!?! Stop the endless votes and build the damn thing already!! - Constant whining about the bike trail. Again, just build the damn thing and be done with it. - Horrible mass transit. Buses only run once every 20 minutes during rush hour?!?! Are you freaking kidding me?? During rush hour buses should run every 5-10 minutes (again, as they do in most modern cities!)

More 'modern' commercial services. More/better parks. Feeling of pride. Ballard is now a destination.

-A lot more people jamming up the bus lines. The area needs to think seriously about the light rail or higher volume busing.

Higher home prices, more bus riders, many new restaurants and a Trader Joe's

Many old single-family homes torn down and 2-8 townhomes built in their place. Old commercial buildings torn down and replaced with large condo buildings, many of which are still on the market.

High-density housing has increased significantly.

Higher rents, more condominiums than can be sold. This is a neighborhood of empty condos, and a mass of restaurants. I do like the little pocket parks being developed, but they do no good if the neighbors can't afford to stay in the neighborhood to enjoy them. I am in no way against development or condos, but there are way more than our fair share over here in Ballard. Also, businesses have been (lately) forced out as soon as their leases expire. We could use more rent control to keep businesses that have been here for years from leaving. I don't see that in the plans anywhere.

Lots of development in the form of row townhomes, specifically in the Crown Hill area I live. Other than that, Crown Hill has not seen many changes (though I've only lived in the neighborhood 10 years, my family has owned the house in Crown Hill for 30+ years). Ballard, which I visit often because of the culture and services it provides, has seen even more development. It is as if the sun is being blocked out by large buildings. I still do enjoy what Ballard has to enjoy, but the population has changed and it's been said many times, it's just not as quaint as it used to be.

Traffic has gotten more congested. Lots of new construction (plenty of it stalled due to economy). More graffiti. More close-knit feeling.

A lot more congested, less parking, and still even less parking that now cost money, it is losing it's identity, it would appear much more transient visitors be it in run down campers or the in crowd coming to eat and drink at our restaurants. Much skinnier houses and multi family dwellings that are moving people out of the front yards and destroying the fabric of "the Neighborhood" basically the reason that Ballard was an attractive place to move to is not so slowly disappearing.

More businesses & services, more housing (though not more rental housing or affordable housing); more population & more crowded transit; too many strollers

Yes, we have many new wonderful businesses and restaurants. Plus more housing and parks.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

I currently live in Sunset Hill, and lived in Crown Hill for 7 years. Sunset Hill has changed little (fortunately). Crown Hill has changed very little (unfortunately); it still has terrible infrastructure (no sidewalks, poor drainage), not much retail redevelopment. Ballard as a whole has obviously changed dramatically, and mostly for the better. While much of the recent townhome development is architecturally horrendous -- the townhome building code sorely need to be updated! -- increased density has brought thriving street life, many new restaurants and shops and transformed Ballard into a thriving urban village and a wonderful place to call home.

I moved to Ballard in 2005 and since then there has been an explosion in multi-unit housing...condos everywhere!

My Ballard/CrownHill neighborhood has been overbuilt with condos and many neighborhood landmarks were torn down to make room for the condos that now sit mostly empty. Once they fill up, it will be way too crowded. The neighborhood has lost some of its character in the rush to overbuild by greedy developers and I don't think the city did a good job in protecting our neighborhood from this. Also there is a big transient problem

Many more (empty) condos, much more street life (great!), has become a destination neighborhood

Yes, the Ballard neighborhood has grown very rapidly. The growth has caused a small, sleepy neighborhood to transform into a densely populated urban village. While I enjoy some of the changes, it seems there wasn't any advanced planning on the city's part to prepare the neighborhood for a growth spurt. Hardly anything has been done to improve traffic flow; the buses are always overflowing; plus parking has become impossible. The infrastructure should have been put into place before turning Ballard into an "urban village."

In the last 4 years I've seen a ton of businesses close for condo developments. Most notably the affordable 24 hour Denny's and 24 hour bowling alley. Now they're just empty lots! The monorail which was supposed to have 2 stations was shut down leaving overcrowded buses to get to my work downtown. And I'm anticipating the shutting down of the viaduct soon, removing easy access to 99. On the plus side, the businesses that are here are still walkable from my house, crime is low and the people are still friendly. It's also less crowded than Fremont (for now) Oh, did I mention someone decided it would be a good idea to put a retirement community on Ballard Avenue aka the bar boulevard? And now the old residents are complaining about the noise? In addition, if the Condo that's replacing the iconic Denny's ever gets under way the anchor store is a Bartels...You know the drug store.... LITTERALLY 20 FEET FROM A 24 HOUR WALLGREENS!?! It's this kind of crappy planning that is ruining the neighborhood

Lots more pan handlers, graffiti, and too many shelters that we can't support.

More condos have been promised, more businesses demolished or become vacant, and more local institutions have disappeared due to rising costs.

Ballard is so much less affordable than it used to be. Housing is very expensive here.

Since I've been here (about 2.5 years), it seems that little consideration, if any, is given to disabled residents when it comes to conversations with public transit. Also, there is no public check on the loss of quality independent businesses while new businesses do not cater to the most common income level of the neighborhood. (example: Asher Anson, do we really need \$100 jeans? while we've just lost the two best used bookstores in the city?) I love the feel of Ballard and the community minded-ness, but it does seem to be rapidly evolving into a place I can't afford to live and shop.

Small local stores driven out by rising rents. Large condo buildings blocking out the sky...unoccupied and unaffordable. Traffic jams. We still have no railroad station. The Loyal Heights playfield ruined with plastic grass. On the good side, the farmer's market thrives and many excellent new restaurants have opened. The Burke Gilman trail extension is well done. A few pocket parks added.

Q1: How has your neighborhood changed?

Ballard is much more dense then it was 10 years ago. It is much more busy and crowded and more like part of the city then a residential neighborhood.

Houses have been replaced by ugly 4-plex condos. The streets have become crowded with parked cars. Property crime has increased.

There are more apartments and condos and more restaurants

neighborhood density is has gone overboard. Ballard's character is slowly being stripped away with the addition of condominium after condominium. Driving north over the Ballard Bridge provides a veiw of the beginnings of a Ballard's very own skyline. Nothing against Bellevue but is that where we are headed?

Ballard has become much more dense, businesses have thrived and the parks have continually improved.

The higher densities located in Ballard have resulted in a neighborhood that seems more like a city and less like a neighborhood. The city government seems more intrusive in the daily life of the area. Parking meters etc. have removed the sense of community and the dense cookie-cutter housing makes Ballard look like every other place in Seattle, much less every other city.

It is denser, wealthier, hipper, trendier, has more business activity, and feels more vibrant.

Large numbers of existing single family dwellings have been razed and replaced with high density apartment, condominium, and townhouse structures leading to a significant increase in population (as per the urban village philosophy of the plan). However, there has been NO concomitant increase in police, fire, or bus service. While water and sewer infrastructure capacity has been updated I do not know if electrical substation and line carrying capacity have. Sen similarly upgraded to serve increased number of households, residents and demand.

There have been both positive and negative changes. Traffic is much worse, not to mention that 24th going southbound crossing Market is a nightmare most of the time. How about the left lane be for eastbound traffic onto Market, the center lane be southbound only and the right lane be for westbound traffic onto Market. And we now must pay for parking in the downtown core. Areas are being overtaken by those who seem homeless and mentally challenged while causing some uneasiness with residents. Love the Sunday Market, library and the BG Trail that ends at GG. Truly wish we could get the missing link finished. Some parking would be sacrificed but for the betterment of the whole. Many pedestrians and cyclists use this area now and it would be wonderful to have it finished to bring more of the same to Ballard.

More core density, traffic, increased bike-car conflict/tension ...

Lots more people and cars. Noisier. More businesses that I like are here now, such as Fred Meyer and Trader Joe's, although many small businesses have come and gone during this time.

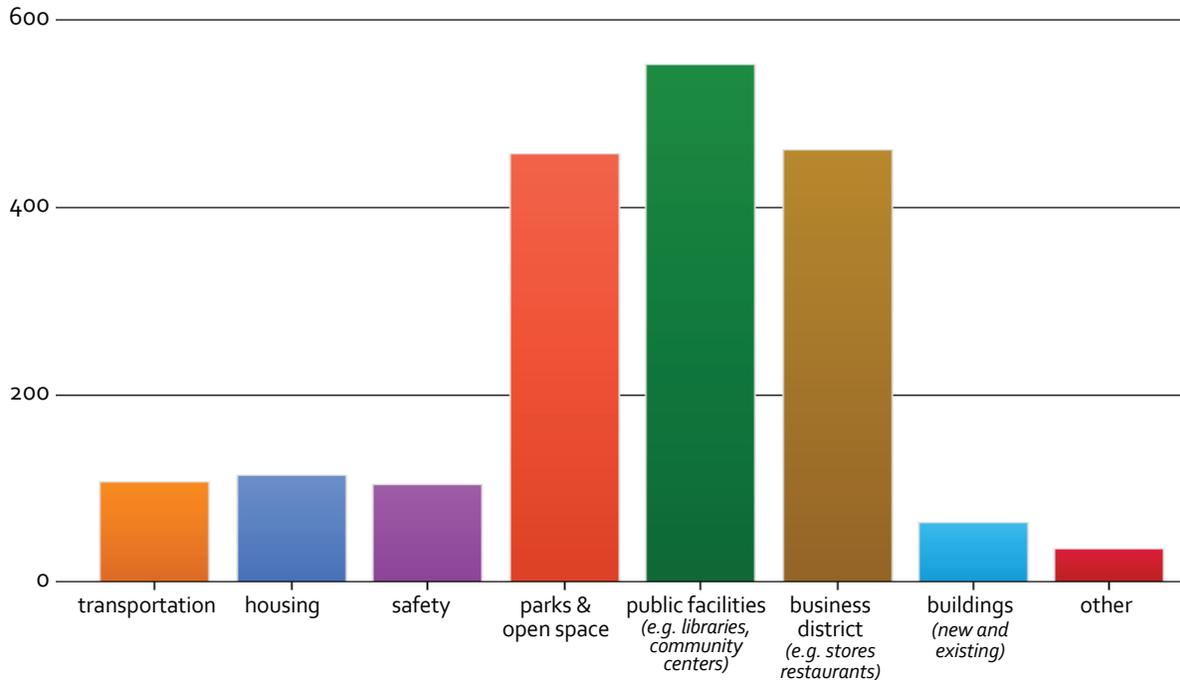
Lost the monorail.

Public buildings, like the library, have been welcome additions. But, the additions of unattractive condominium buildings has been horrific.

The neighborhood has seen tremendous growth. Much more housing and retail space. Not enough public transportation options.

Increasing number of young families (a big plus since bring stability, youth, energy and commitment to neighborhood improvement). Increasing number of cars parked on street - streets more difficult to navigate and difficult to pull cars out of driveway safely. I live on 80th and traffic seems to go faster as time progresses - big negative. Starting to see some new businesses in Crown Hill - revitalizes area. Big negative - Safeway gas station added development that is NOT neighborhood friendly. Both City Council and Mayor's staff (DPD/DOT) dropped the ball for our neighborhood by failing to follow through on commitment to maintaining pedestrian zoning per agreements with neighborhood groups and allowed a window for project to move forward. Would have benefitted from alternate uses like multi-use business/residential development on site.

Question 2: What changes or aspects of your neighborhood are you most pleased about?



Other things respondents are pleased about:

- *It's still fairly quiet here.*
- *Old Ballard District, new cottages*
- *Farmers market*
- *Parents are engaged in their kids schools.*
- *More people walking and on bike as a lifestyle.*
- *some historical houses still around*
- *Walkability*
- *The founding of Crown Hill Neighborhood Association and our own Sustainable Crown Hill group.*
- *walkability, I don't need my car most of the time*
- *the mood*
- *pride in Ballard (including Ballard High School)*
- *you got the library and Ballard Commons Park right*
- *Overall vibe is still friendly.*
- *sidewalk cafe / restaurant options*
- *New bike lanes*
- *active street life, people out at all times*
- *too many new buildings*
- *farmer's market*
- *no sidewalks*
- *I am glad Denny's is gone.*
- *Our ballard blog: myballard.org*
- *farmers market, community events*
- *None of the above, all are in terrible shape*
- *Most pleased when Ballard is left alone by downtown interests. Also, Bus #17*
- *Great new businesses*
- *Ballard Ave landmark district is a jewel.*
- *common meeting places for groups*
- *neighborhood feeling*
- *Sustainable Ballard*
- *That the Crown Hill school will be a community friendly area and not a condo village.*
- *art*
- *Overall feeling of liveliness.*
- *Online community blogs like myballard.com!*

see previous page

Keep the Parks Levy renewing! Ballard is woefully behind on green space, but it made good progress in the past 10 years with Ballard Commons, Salmon Bay Natural Area, Ballard Corners Park and the recent purchase of the New Park on 9th. The library and Neighborhood Center is fantastic. I use both all the time! I like that the business district is attracting new restaurants and pubs. I'm seeing a lot of long time small businesses leaving the downtown district and being replaced by chains. This is not good. The building owners are becoming too greedy by increasing rents. This needs to be controlled.

Q2: What are you pleased about?

The Ballard Commons park is nice to have, but we need more of a police presence to keep the homeless from sleeping and littering our park. We are also fortunate to live next to the Ballard Corners park which has been a great small open space for our son.

I am pleased about the value of property so we can hopefully soon sell our home of 47 years and get out of this city. It is too crowded, noisy and impersonal.

better choice for food

I love the open spaces Ballard crown hill provides. That is one of main reasons I moved here.

I like the business development. I like the open spaces.

Nice civic center development (library and park), new restaurants- lots of options as well as nice stores (can almost get anything one needs in the neighborhood).

Ballard homes are all so unique, I'm happy they are being refurbished and not just raised for a new modern box. I LOVE the nice restaurants and all of the choices. The new condos are OK, some of the designs are a tad boxy but it could be worse. I believe in density with that neighborhood feel!

The library is a saving grace, as are the Locks.

Cottages development great density option (60th street), great park in Ballard Commons,

The library is wonderful, also the parks and open spaces have clearly been given a priority and it's a joy to go to any of the playgrounds in the area. Everything from the zipline at Salmon Bay to the grounds have been well maintained. I love the thriving downtown Ballard, it's generally a nice place to walk around and window shop.

The new park is great. Very well designed for a variety of users. I'm glad they included the skate bowl, even though I'll never use it.

I like the large commercial buildings that are going up, like Ballard Blocks. But I don't understand why there aren't better businesses going into these?? There are too many trendy un-needed stores going in everywhere in Ballard, and I think we need more of the "staple" stores.

Although pleased with the momentum we've had with parks and open space in Ballard, we need more to provide livable spaces for people - particularly as more people are attracted to living in dense, mixed-use environments. I wish that Bergen Park could be improved and made more of a community asset than it is. Also - the business district on Ballard Avenue and Market Street, as well as the smaller neighborhood business districts need support to remain viable. That doesn't just mean shopping there - but also ensuring that land use decisions are not made to create car-oriented mall-type developments on the edge of our community that will detract from businesses we need within walking/biking distance. We've just lost all our bookstores - and I think that's a shame.

Providing all the additional housing is great because Ballard is doing it's part to prevent urban sprawl. The additional businesses in Ballard is nothing but good and the new construction is bringing life back to the neighborhood.

nice library and park, variety of businesses

the development of Ballard Avenue into a retail district

new library is great

love what's happening on Ballard Ave.

Historic district (Ballard Ave. is a constant and an anchor.

I like the local shops of old Ballard and hope they continue to grow and thrive.

It is a nice area to walk.

I love that the buses are available to many of the locations I frequent. Sometimes they are a bit too crowded and not always air-conditioned.

Although we love our home and neighborhood, we wish it were more pedestrian friendly.

The restaurants and bars just keep on comin'! It's nice to have so many new options, and most of the establishments improve the neighborhoods.

More parks and green spaces please.

Q2: What are you pleased about?

I'm glad we've kept the skate park, the water park is great, and the library is also fantastic. I'm always pleased with green space and kid friendly places and will always vote to fund them.

Enjoy the new restaurants. Wish there was a better plan for parking in these areas and congestions.

We couldn't be more pleased to see the purchase of the old Crown Hill Elementary School by Small Faces. And the purchase of the open space by the City of Seattle. It really shows how the Crown Hill community can work with the City of Seattle to make good things happen in our own backyard.

The Ballard Library is nice and so is the little park on Market with the eccentric artwork. Unfortunately, we can't afford to live in Ballard.

Happy Small Faces got the old elementary school. Looking forward to a community center there along with a better park. Also happy about red light camera at 80th and 15th. Should have one at 85th and 15th going all directions. Nice new library in Ballard, too bad a homeless couple with vicious dog are often in front scaring children.

Upgrades in facilities like the Ballard Library and the fountain/skateboard park.

Library should have been 20,000 sq.ft not 15,000, we knew we would need the space and Deb Jacobs agreed with me eventually. Need to convert the basement to more computer user space and eject the cars.

It has been great to see the investments in our neighborhood libraries (Ballard and Greenwood), new park development, and some improvements in the B-G Trail. It has been great to see the new businesses in the Ballard urban core (great restaurants).

We are very supportive of the pocket parks and other green spaces (Ballard Commons, etc.) that have been developed since we've lived here.

New libraries, new parks!

Ballard offers as much as anywhere in the city for culture and entertainment

New stores and restaurants are great. Good to have lots of options in one's own neighborhood.

Love the library. Love the BG trail (pls finish it!). The park/skatebowl are nice, but could have used less concrete. Love our farmers market.

Kudos to the city Parks & Recreation for purchasing the 7th Elect Site Acquisition site. Also for the pocket parks that have been established.

ballard has a serious condo problem and is losing its heritage

Love the skate park. We need more places like this for teens, and especially male teens, to hang out productively.

The addition of new businesses, nightlife, culture has made the neighborhood significantly nicer than it was.

The increase in housing density is good (reduces urban/suburban sprawl), the library is great, I do the majority of shopping and much of my eating out in my neighborhood now, and many of the homes in my immediate neighborhood have been renovated or otherwise improved.

I'm one of the few people who don't mind the new condos and townhouses. I think they're nicely kept and add livelihood to the neighborhood. I just wish there was additional public transportation to help with the increased density.

Good job on library and open space, farmer market

Love the new library and the bike trail to Golden gardens.

Ballard used to be boring and felt isolated from the rest of the city. The new public facilities/parks and new businesses, particularly on Market & Ballard Ave, have made it a fun, interesting neighborhood. I feel a much greater sense of community here than I did 10 years ago.

Ballard Commons Park is wonderful as is the Library. I like the old library building, so I'm glad it's still there. I think the increased housing density is good.

The new library is nice -- on the inside. Outside, it's surrounded by aggressive panhandlers and chronic homeless. In spite of the wave of new Ballardites, Metro seems to be holding up pretty well -- my commute is as smooth as ever.

Q2: What are you pleased about?

Strong sense of community and local ownership, many residents support buying locally and getting to know each other

I love the Farmer's Market - keep it up.

We strongly advocate bike paths for commuting and like the improvements but feel more can be done.

Wide diversity of businesses and public services/facilities

I love the new Trader Joe's!

Ballard is full of enjoyable parks. The two nearby libraries, Fremont and Ballard, are excellent. It remains a pretty safe place. The retail services, including night life, food shopping and restaurants, have improved dramatically since I've lived here.

LOVE the new library and skate park.

We're fortunate to have a thriving "downtown"

I like Ballard Ave. I think it was tastefully renovated but I regret that it doesn't honor the seafaring culture in Ballard.

Growth in downtown Ballard is great.

Ballard is an urban oasis with a near-perfect blend of urban amenities, density, residential neighborhood and recreation.

I really like the influx of new businesses to Ballard.

I'm very happy that the city has partnered with Microsoft to support the "Connector" bus service for Microsoft employees.

I love this neighborhood. Generally speaking, it has been able to maintain it's character regardless of the massive changes occurring. The people that live here share a great sense of community.

Ballard still retains a great 'sense of community' and the parks and community centers no doubt have a lot to do with this. Although the East stretch of Market St. between 20th and 14th and 15th Ave between Market and 85th still leaves much to be desired (bad 60's architecture, trash, strip clubs, random blood bank with people hanging around, boarded up buildings, etc.), the central shopping district on Ballard Ave has retained its charm and improved for the better with new restaurants and shops.

one of the main reasons we moved here was because we love the parks and library - plus how close we are to the heart of downtown Ballard.

Commuting to work through public transportation has been an added value of living in Crown Hill.

I am commenting on Crown Hill The purchase of the Crown Hill School & Park I am very please with. There have been no other changes so I can't be pleased with anything else. If rapid-ride (as planned), or light rail goes in I will be happy My neighbors The variety of housing, architecture That the neighborhood is not upscale.

The new skate bowl and library are great.

I love the new ballard library and commons park. I am really pleased with the parks program. The community centers are amazing and very useful.

I think that Ballard has one of the best business districts in Seattle! There's a great selection of stores, restaurants, and bars.

I have enjoyed the new restaurants opening around Ballard and the wonderful library we have.

Like the new library.

Crown Hill School site purchase!!!!

There are a lot of parks to go to with children. I like the new library and I love all the new stores and restaurants. I end up staying in Ballard most of the time and I think it has a great sense of community.

Q2: What are you pleased about?

I love the skate park and library and the smaller parks located throughout Ballard. I love the small town feel of Ballard (although this is changing with all the condos). I love there is an older generation living here that stabilizes the sense of community to balance out all the younger folks moving here.

I'll speak to aspects of the neighborhood since I haven't lived here long. I like that Ballard is getting increasing bike-friendly, since I bike for recreation and commuting. I love Ballard's old buildings. I love that there are lots of independent stores and restaurants.

I love the true "neighborhood" feel of Ballard. Active community centers, families playing in parks, great walkability.

I like the parks, and the fact that a new one was opened recently. The library and service center are very impressive, good service.

Again, downtown Ballard is becoming more vibrant during the day and evening . . .the civic additions downtown Ballard add to the community feel along with the Farmer's Market on Sunday, the Library, the downtown Park . . .more apt's and codo's downtown. More vibrancy downtown makes it feel more safe.

the new developments in Ballard have been great. Although, it's too bad that we are not seeing more of that kind of thing closer to Crown Hill. When the Greenwood Fred Meyer is redone and the 85th corridor is revitalized, that will be great for me. Again, perhaps Crown Hill needs to partner there instead.

Love the bike lanes/sharrows. Love the library.

Overall, I am very happy with the communal aspects of Ballard (parks and open spaces.) I am particularly pleased with the pedestrian friendly nature of downtown Ballard.

The library is great.

Looking forward to the new park in Crown Hill when/if it ever comes.

The new library is great but is a little to small for the demand, specially of meeting spaces for neighborhood groups. The community center since to provide mostly spaces for kids. There is a lack of indoor activities spaces (different than bars and restaurants) for the new youth adult population coming to the neighborhood. The new parks and open spaces are great but more is needed.

I like the small park near the library but need MORE park space. Sunday Ballard Market!

I am pleased that through this growth period we are preserving some historic buildings. I am pleased that parts of the Burke Gilman trail were completed (but the most dangerous section was not completed).

Increasing number of owner-occupied homes resulting in improvements to housing/neighborhoods that make them more attractive, livable.

Library is wonderful asset and resource. Interesting businesses.

I like the new Ballard commons park, with the new library across the street. I also like the increased variety of businesses and services available (although it would be nice if the Bartell's Pharmacy was open 24 hours like Walgreens).

Library is great. Love that we continue to have family owned businesses. Quality and variety of restaurants are getting better and better.

The libraries and parks are the best thing about the neighborhood.

The fact that we continue to see new businesses open is good. Hopefully they won't all be resturants and high end clothing boutiques.

I think the library is great, if only they would get rid of the three guys always drinking outside.

The library reflects the personality of Ballard that *was*, but is now gone. The park does what parks *should* do -- you can go by virtually any time and there are people using it as it was intended. Congratulations on these two projects -- job well done!

Q2: What are you pleased about?

Our library and new parks are wonderful!

The community seems very concerned and tries to really clean up its parks.

I've always loved Ballard for the easy access to practically everything one needs such as grocery stores, music stores, restaurants, movie theater, parks, gyms, etc. However with the economy being what it is, I am sad to see many wonderful businesses that have served the public for many years vanish.

I like the shops & restaurants in downtown Ballard. The community centers are great.

While it's sad to see a lot of the longstanding businesses disappear in downtown Ballard, the neighborhood is definitely a thriving center of commerce.

The public buildings and area parks are fantastic.

The overall housing stock quality has increased along with all of the development, that's a good thing. There have been city resources put into parks and open spaces with the Ballard Commons. And we could not be more pleased with our library about which we are very proud to use on just about a weekly basis.

if you are going to increase density, you should increase parks and open space as well, however much of a contradiction that sounds like.

The parks are excellent here. There's always somewhere to walk. The Ballard Library is a beautiful building. It's good that we have a Loyal Heights and Ballard Community Center, although I feel disconnected to them. Ballard has a nice amount of small businesses and restaurants.

I absolutely love the big new condo buildings! Nothing pleases me more than the density and walkability they can bring to the neighborhood. Transit continues to be good - the buses are running on time, and seem well-used. I do wish east-west travel was less of a joke in Seattle as from Ballard we must do so much of it. We definitely need to be way out ahead on getting a LINK station placed as rail connections will really let us grow into the walking neighborhood we should be and make us less of an island.

I'd like to thank Mayor Nickles for his simplification of the application process for getting a sidewalk cafe... having them, and therefore having people sitting outside and showing themselves, lowers crime, increases the sense of neighborhood and community, and is just fun. I love this trend, and hope it continues.

Thank you for better and more parks and open space.

New library and park are great.

I love all of the stores and restaurants in Ballard. It is great all of the community events that we are a part of, including the Sunday Markets, Art Walks, Tuesday nights out and more.

Great parks and library.

I love Ballard and there is very little I have displeased about.

I love the Ballard Commons and the diversity of people using it.

New Ballard library is nice. Like that it has green roof.

The library is FANTASTIC.

Great parks, wonderful businesses, love the new library.

Thanks for buying the new park.

Really enjoy "old town" ballard and the restaurants and shops there. Enjoy the locks and golden gardens.

LOVE the library! Love the busy street life!

I am pleased with the increase in density.

I appreciate the extra attention given to parks, the extra police patrols and the work done to the Burke-Gilman trail; I appreciate the new civic buildings like the Comm Ctr and the Library. And I like the unque restaurants and businesses that have moved in such as La Isla, Piccolino's and Cafe Esperanza.

I am generally pleased with safety, but I don't feel as safe as I did a few years ago. I love all the parks, but usually don't go there in the evening, due to troubling reports.

Q2: What are you pleased about?

Love the new library and community areas, new parks in ballard.

The parks that are here are great - I'd like to see more space devoted to parks instead of high rise condo buildings with retail. The library is fantastic. There are many new and wonderful restaurants and businesses in Ballard. I hope most of them survive the bad economy.

The commercial district is lively and attractive, though I'm concerned by the growing number of "mom-and-pop" businesses being driven out by escalating rents.

The library and local city office are wonderful. The improvements to sidewalks and to various buildings in historic Ballard are also wonderful. The growth in restaurants is nice.

A lot of new upscale stores and restaurants have made their way into downtown Ballard and are bringing a liveliness to that area.

Love the Ballard Library.

The library is nice, but it's currently filthy. Smokers are allowed to sit in those metal seats, and their cigarette butts have been packed into the metal stairs down to the parking garage. But again, the actual library itself is very nice.

the library is great. parks have been good addition too.

food choices (restaurant, grocery, farmer's market), nice library space

Nice to see new, entrepreneurial business trying their hand in Ballard. Nice to see new parks opening up.

New parks and existing park are wonderful. I use the library and community center pool several times each week. Farmers market is exceptional and shopping and eating can't be beat!

I love the library and all the stores and restaurants in Ballard.

I love the new library and am looking forward to the new Metro transportation opportunities.

i like the new parks and skate bowl.

Great public spaces, indoors & out. Also appreciate the diversity of shops & restaurants and things like the Farmers' Market.

Farmers Market

Good bars have opened up in Ballard. Pretty good resturants as well. A few condos are good looking but several are terrible looking! Who approved these things?

The new library is nice and the park rehab projects have been effective.

Glad about the library and the public park. But why take away the parking at the library? Added to the mess on the street.

More parks are welcome, but only when the are not over taken by vagrants, drunks and panhandlers.

the farmer's mkt is a nice addition to Ballard

Finally, we have Crown Hill school site. We've waited 7 years to get this done. The school district should never have put it up for sale, but the city did the right thing in purchasing it.

I like the parks. I have a young son and we use them all the time.

Bus routes are nice down 15th, now we just need the rail car in

Love the business district and various events (Tuesdays in Ballard/ Art walk). Library and community center are fantastic

Ballard feels very safe. I like the greater density and housing in downtown Ballard.

Bus transportation is close to where I live, big plus. My neighborhood/housing & neighbors, the best. Playfields not too far away, close enough for the grandkids when they visit. Library is at the hub of activity and is a focal point.

Very little to be pleased about - less cultural diversity than expected. More gentrification.

Q2: What are you pleased about?

Ballard library is good, fair number of parks within walking distance. Downtown Ballard business is still thriving and attempts to preserve Ballard Ave feel is good.

I like how Ballard seems to be it's own nice little town. I can pretty much function totally within Ballard. The library is amazing

Glad to see that these facilities have been improved.

Library and new Ballard Commons Park are nice additions.

Looking forward to the new park that will come to light at the Crown Hill school.

Love the new library. I'm really happy with the improvements in the bike arena.

Great job on the new library and neighboring park, but I put parks as both good and bad as there are more of them and they are nice, but many seem to have been taken over by drunks and drug slingers, not exactly what we were hoping for.

Love the new library. Nice options for eating on and about Market st. The area is hopping.

New construction updates the neighborhood and, in most cases, is tasteful and fits with the surrounding atmosphere and neighborhood decor.

Parks and open spaces mitigate the building development to a great degree. Do not want Ballard Crown Hill to become another concrete downtown.

I love the Ballard Commons Park and the community centers in each neighborhood (Loyal Heights, etc)

LOVE, LOVE, LOVE the new Ballard Library, Ballard Commons Park and Ballard Corners Park. Would like to see Bergen Place become something more diverse and interesting, not just a place to sit down.

Love the library and commons. Like the density in general.

Thank god we have our parks and community centers still. They rock!!

Great library building.

Like Commons Park.

I feel lucky to have been able to purchase a house in Loyal Heights but worry about accessibility of housing for others (such as when the Lock Vista apartments were going condo, or when we got kicked out of our last rental due the owner's personal reasons).

New Ballard commons and other small parks nice. New library is fantastic. The variety and quality of shopping and eating in downtown Ballard has increased, though I do miss Blazes and Sunset, we still have Hatties Hat and the Sloop!

The new park near the library is great. I like the many restaurants and shops that are new. I like the sidewalk use by restaurants--it makes for a vibrant neighborhood.

Library is nice

I really like the fact that we are building more libraries, creating more open spaces and trying to get more of a sense of community. There's more work to do, but there seems to be a good start.

It is clear the both the parks and public spaces have been well thought out in terms of user needs and impact.

Bus transportation has improved. The new library is a wonderful asset to the community.

That view diagonally across the new Ballard Commons Park to the new library is just wonderful - A neo Ballard moment

I like that can walk to the grocery store and a few restaurants. The Metro buses #15 and #28 serve this neighborhood well. Hope to see the new Rapid Ride soon.

Money going into public facilities is great, and will always be repaid many times over.

The park at 57th/58th and 22nd is really gorgeous. Maintenance at Salmon Bay Park is sufficient.

nothing has changed in crown hill. Still no sidewalks.. Unacceptable

Q2: What are you pleased about?

We live a couple of blocks away from the Loyal Heights Community Center. We have two young kids and we are constantly going there to play, as well as attend classes and neighborhood meetings.

The library is fantastic and I like the skate-park with the water fountain. I am very excited about how the business district has developed in the past 10 yrs. I can just walk down to Ballard ave without a plan and always find something great to eat and drink.

Ballard is lucky to have well-maintained parks and beautiful libraries. Also, the neighborhood sidewalks make the area very livable.

The new Ballard and Greenwood libraries, Golden Gardens facilities, and Ballard Commons are very nice--my family and I visit them regularly.

I love the 15 & 28 bus lines!!!

I am looking forward to a new park at 9th Ave NW & also on the Small Faces property.

I feel we are under represented in city counsel and otherwise. When can east ballard get some open park space and safety improvements and when will the city put higher expectations for the random condo/retail buildings coming in so quickly?

metro express routes along 15th and 24th ave is excellent, and I'm looking forward to the transit corridor and the completion of the "missing link" of the Burke-Gilman.

Unlike many other neighborhoods in Seattle, Ballard maintains a small town feel by providing for all aspects of daily life within close walking distance. I love being able to leave my car at home; I only use it on those rare occasions when I need to leave the hood and a bus won't suffice.

Some of the nicest libraries and parks of any city I've lived in.

I like the changes in the business district, but see continued loss of small businesses (other than restaurants and bars) as a threat to our community.

Ballard has seen an explosion of small boutiques and locally owned restaurants and bars in it's downtown core. This has been very pleasing.

I am pleased that the community is trying hard to get help to change thing. For the better. I wish we could get some serious assistance.

Sunday Farmer's Market

Need more businesses on the fringes as well, but living in a healthy, walkable, sustainable neighborhood is worth the price of housing. During the snowstorm I did not leave my neighborhood because Ballard had everything I needed for work, life and recreation.

Several small parks have been installed, but I worry about the expense of proper upkeep of all parks.

I am pleased that I was one of many who yelled loud and hard a couple of years ago about keeping the #17 bus frequency. There also was an earlier attempt many years ago to gut that route. We spoke up at the Ballard library. So ilm glad that the folks behind that idea weren't allowed to take the easy way out. We made 'em think, and then work a better plan.

The Skate park and the new library are two places I am pleased about. Ballard Landmark was also a good addition. Still waiting for the waterfront hotel...

New library and surroundings.

See question 1

Playgrounds, green spaces, community centers are all greatly appreciated (and could use more funding).

love the library, and the parks. Enjoy the retail in downtown Ballard.

Several parks are within walking distance and this is great for everyone.

The library is nice; but with the advent of the Internet, Libraries are a obsolete concept.

I am pleased about the new Ballard Library and adjacent park. I am pleased that the old 3-GI complex was rebuilt into a commerce park, though I am displeased that there are only two businesses there that are NOT national chain/franchise stores.

It's nice to have so many parks within walking distance (about 4 miles for me)

Q2: What are you pleased about?

I love all the new businesses.

I think the new library in Ballard and the surrounding area looks very nice. I appreciate that there is parking available though it is somewhat difficult to know that it is there.

For the most part, I really value the cultural, recreational and commercial opportunities that I have within walking distance of my house. Ballard has done a great job of developing these aspects of the neighborhood.

I am happy to see that we have an abundance of grocery stores that are neighborhood friendly.

The effort to add and maintain parks and open space has been quite a nice improvement.

I wouldn't want to live in Ballard if it wasn't for all the restaurants, shops, movie theater, etc, within walking distance of my home.

Great library!

I like the new library and community center in Ballard and the skate park across from it.

library rebuilds are very nice.

Ballard feels more family friendly today than 10 years ago, which I would like to see continue.

I have checked several as most pleased and most dissatisfied because for instance, I'm pleased I can get to the U District easily from Crown Hill on public transit, but getting to NE Seattle is quite difficult.

I think the area is very safe and has good access to open spaces.

The parks are great, the library in the core of Ballard is wonderful and many of the businesses are also highlights of the neighborhood.

The new Ballard Library is amazing. It is the nicest of all the city libraries in my opinion (much less overwhelming than the downtown branch).

If I were rating the downtown Ballard area, I would have checked every box, but I live in Crown Hill. *I love the Ballard Library and use it frequently.

I enjoy the new public facilities but would like to see even more retail and businesses along 24th, and away from Downtown Ballard.

The Ballard Library and skate park have been great additions to the neighborhood. Old Ballard is better than ever in terms of things to do and diversity of restaurants and stores.

The local parks are great.

The Ballard Library is beautiful. The Ballard Community Center is too. We could use a greener park...one with lots of trees and shade. The current parks have a lot of concrete.

great restaurants and SOME good retail (though more is needed)

The library and adjacent park area is a beautiful addition to the community. The diversification and addition of stores and businesses in ballard also greatly enhances the neighborhood.

We hope that the bus service will continue to improve.

We moved to Ballard from Bellevue. Ballard definitely has more of a neighborhood feeling and a sense of community. People are friendly.

I like that you can walk to just about everything you need to get to.

I appreciate the efforts to maintain and/or rehab the buildings in "Old" Ballard.

I am enjoying the improvements and more availability of green spaces to just relax and enjoy.

The new library is wonderful as is the park adjacent.

The Ballard branch of Seattle Public Library is wonderful. It fits the neighborhood very well. The new Ballard Commons park is a great addition to the neighborhood too. It's small but very pretty and inviting.

Redevelopment of Ballard civic center, especially the library, are great. Extension of Burke-Gilman trail is also critical -- need to finish the "missing link". Addition of many new businesses, restaurants, etc. in downtown Ballard also great.

Q2: What are you pleased about?

aquired new park at 9th and 70-73rd

Ballard is still a safe place to live. I love our new parks and LOVE our new library.

I feel lucky that we got a new library before this recession as I think it will be many years before the City prioritizes improving such facilities again. Relieved we did not get light rail.

Ballard is a fun place to hang out. There are some good shops in the downtown Ballard area. The farmers market is great.

Love that Ballard is being refreshed with new people and businesses.

I love the neighborhood. The businesses are great, prices are fair, there doesn't seem to be an air of elitism in the restaurants/housing/community as there is in other Seattle neighborhoods.

Really like the new Ballard Park - so open and accessible.

The addition of the new Ballard Commons has been great. It's always a pleasure to see kids playing in the fountains during the summer. The skateboarders are always fun to watch. The new library is wonderfully designed. The addition of a farmer's market is fabulous.

I like all of the parks and the business district and especially the Ballard Library. Transportation is okay, but I think there should be light rail coming to the west side of Seattle and the Burke Gilman needs to connect to Golden Gardens as the current path along Shilshole is very dangerous.

The library is lovely and the adjacent service center is nice too. Best thing that's been done in Ballard!

The library and parks that have been added are great!

I feel that the existing buildings are getting a "face-lift" and new business is being brought to Ballard... which is great!

Love our Ballard Library and their staff!

It is nice to see local schools being upgraded and the facilities improved over the summer.

I would like to see more parks and open spaces. This is something that is currently being worked on in Ballard and I fully support. I still think we have a long way to go to re-green Ballard. I do like the boutique shops and new restaurants coming into Ballard. That is a bonus. Keep them coming.

Great work on the skate part and library/svs center.

The new Library is wonderful. Ballard Commons is a good addition to the community, getting better all the time. It's nice to see new shops and restaurants opening, but the pace seems unsustainable. Overall the area feels much more vibrant and alive than it did ten years ago.

The Commons is wonderful.

Love the new library and new water park.

Ballard Commons is nice.

Local merchants are always great!

I like the library

good focus on parks

Great job with all the parks, new and existing. Same with the library, cc (classes offered). Love the restaurants, shops.

The new library is really a beautiful building and fits into the neighborhood so well. It's a great new building that really adds to the neighborhood.

The new restaurants(last 5 years) are great and really help the local area rise.

the buildings in the common area are quite nice (the park and the library)

i love love the new parks, esp. the 9th ave park because it is right around the corner from me but it needs to be developed more. and ballard commons needs more policing.

Retail expansion in Sunset Hill has gone very well

Enjoy the retail and restaurant options now available. Non-traditional housing options are also a plus.

Q2: What are you pleased about?

The Ballard Community Center does a very good job at offering classes, etc for the neighborhood. It is a welcoming place to visit. The Ballard Library is also an excellent library with a good design and helpful staff.

I enjoy the new parks and open spaces most of all, though Bergen Place is underutilized. It needs programming and some active use like a coffee shop with outdoor seating. I enjoy the new restaurants, but I wish more of the older shops I love were able to stay in business.

Community centers are great resources. Libraries are beautiful.

The library is terrific.

The new Commons Park and Library are wonderful additions, although the once-lovely old library building has become an eyesore.

The community centers, Nordic Museum and Library are spectacular.

We love the parks, the downtown Ballard neighborhood is fun and active, the library is a great place for all.

I love the improved park areas! But we need more.

We have lost some businesses, but have happily had new shop and business owners come into the neighborhood!

We love the parks and community centers and utilize one or both daily. We love that we can walk to almost everything we need (stores and restaurants.) It is a great community.

I like the new library, especially because it has plants on the roof to limit its footprint.

I love the walkability factor and that there is diversity in services provided.

Very pleased about the 9th Ave. NW pocket park, and other parks that have been or are being developed in Ballard and Crown Hill area.

I think the library, community center, and open spaces are pleasing to spend time in and encourage a sense of community.

Ballard has moved from a sleepy urban-suburb to an area where it's easy to go out and shop and eat. I especially love the new library, the farmers market, the park and skate bowl, the tuesdays in ballard and other community promotions.

The improvements for which a targeted tax was approved by a public vote have been completed, e.g. Ballard Commons Park, Ballard Library, and Neighborhood Service Center.

the bus lines are all over ballard! fantastic! our library is wonderful when not full of homeless using the bathroom to take showers and turn tricks in, and the library as an all day hang out meeting place

I have been in Seattle for 18 years now, and am raising my children here, so I feel I know the city very well now. Having lived on Capitol Hill, Eastlake, Green Lake and Fremont, I can say with certainty that I would probably not remain in Seattle if it were not Ballard.

i am overall satisfied with my neighborhood.

i am very happy with my surroundings, golden gardens, sunset hill park, locks, our industrial areas, shilshoal marina, and our beautiful library commons area

While I didn't think a new library was needed the facility and service center are nice.

New park by the library is nice though the benches are not very comfy.

very happy with Ballard Library and Ballard Commons Park. I feel safe in my neighborhood and am happy about my very local businesses- Sunset Hill Greenmarket, Walter's Scoop, Rain City Video & Picolino.

I'm so excited that we're on course with getting mass transit and we need to press on with the Viaduct replacement. Tunnel or viaduct replacement .. I don't really care. Pick one and let's get going.

I think the city has done a good job growing Ballard but they have forgotten about some key issues along the way.

The new library is great. I'm pleased to see that the water/skate park still exists even with all of the development.

Q2: What are you pleased about?

The direction old Ballard has taken, and the community involvement in reducing crime by neighborhood watch programs, and reporting on illegal activity to police in our open/public spaces

Downtown Ballard is a gem. Keep the bricked streets and quirky stores. The restaurants and bars are great. The Ballard Pool and library are great. Keep more bus routes (and options for future light rail?) and times coming -- the more single drivers we get out of their cars the better.

Crown Hill school/neighborhood center. additional parks

Great commercial center, close to library. Always feels like a safe neighborhood.

Happy to see movement of capital into Ballard rather than out (in new business, retail, development)

I love my neighborhood and the original, small craftsmen homes that we are lucky enough to live in. With all of the bars, restaurants and shops in Ballard, I never have to leave (except to work!)

I love the new library and skate park!

I love the parks in Ballard.

I really enjoy having all of the new restaurants and shops in downtown Ballard, it seems like Ballard is growing in a positive way.

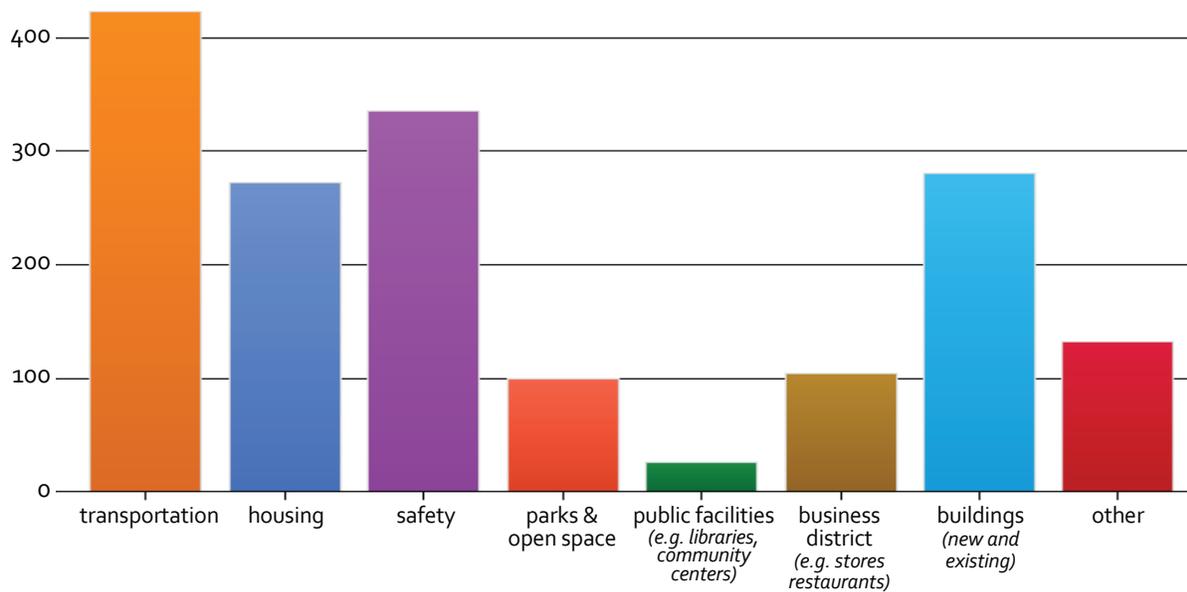
I'm pleased with the plans for the Burke Gilman Trail and the commuter rail, too, though those have not yet occurred.

Safety is ok, more police would be nice. Parks and libraries are great. Need to complete Burke Gilman to Golden Gardens. Crown Hill needs a better planned "downtown" business district.

The public spaces in Ballard are very nice. There are times that Ballard feels like a town separate from Seattle, and the public spaces make it a town to live in.

We love the Greenwood library. We love being close to the 28 and the 48 buslines.

Question 2: What changes or aspects of your neighborhood are you most dissatisfied about?



Other things respondents are dissatisfied about:

- Intersection of NW 85th and 15th Ave NW Ballard.
- Loss of industrial sector.
- crowded streets and long lines at traffic lights. Scofflaws often turning right without stopping onto arterials.
- the missing link should be finished, PROPERLY
- Homeless/Mentally Ill on street
- parking
- Homeless Shelters and loitering near Food Bank and nearby parks
- homeless population as it relates to safety
- increase of crime
- condos and town houses, bicycle infrastructure
- strip bars, plasma center, love zone store, etc....
- condos
- sidewalks
- Crap infill townhouses, failing central business district, no jobs
- sharrows and the big spending on bicycling as a "special interest"
- lack of parking; bicycle lanes in traffic
- density
- parking. Where can you park anymore in the neighborhood north of Market and east of 15th. New buildings have taken curb parking away
- not enough parking on weekend in d/town
- "buildings" is too general - I would say that new townhomes are okay, but there needs to be some kind of regulation on the construction of multi-unit homes on prior single-family lots. This kind of density is not attractive or desirable when we also have
- The abandonment of the neighborhood plan (gas station) and the lack of action on the neighborhood plan.
- Homeless and car-dwellers
- Ticket owners of off leash dogs - running free in parks, schools and Golden Gardens.
- build sidewalks
- Homeless people living in cars and parks.
- vagrants and crime
- Lack of sidewalks or other safer areas to walk.
- Too many large condo projects
- increased homeless population and drug activity
- Homeless services
- traffic!
- Homeless population and threat to safety
- homeless shelters
- Bergen Place
- parking spaces
- crime
- parking due to multi-family housing
- property or buildings that are empty, run down
- Burke-Gilman missing link
- People
- Delay in finishing Burke-Gilman; parking
- Tent cities in churches.
- No Bowling!!!
- Parking has gotten very tight!
- Buildings - being built irresponsibly
- No bus service to Golden Gardens
- New Condos
- 15th Ave NW needs improvements
- Homeless population, petty crimes
- Homeless population
- Loss of blue collar jobs
- Roads not very good for biking
- poor design and land use in new condo and townhouse units
- Influx of homeless and other migrants
- sidewalks!
- unleashed dogs
- traffic flow
- backyard cottage proposal
- need for more social services to poor and homeless
- no sidewalks
- Police presence
- I wanted the Monorail. I am permanently angry.
- traffic
- East Ballard has little in the way of parks and community centers.

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

Other things respondents are dissatisfied about:

- Bicycle and foot traffic safety; child safety
- ALL of the above!
- new high rise residential condos (too many)
- Small condos on side streets unwelcome; large condos on avenues by public transportation welcome.
- Graffiti.
- Graffiti, general filth and rundown look of Ballard
- parking for OldTown Ballard residents
- Homeless people, drug and alcohol use, RV camping
- Transportation along 20th Ave NW and 65th Street NW needed
- Loss of the Monorail
- Burke Gilman Trail
- Bad meth-head element moving in
- Homeless
- The transient population that has exploded in Ballard.
- too many condos and too many vacant buildings
- Condo development needs to cease immediately
- Trees and beautification efforts have lagged on 15th NW and other busy thoroughfares.
- new buildings
- too many condos!
- Burke Gilman missing link
- graffiti
- Street lights/signs
- Lack of attention to parking or alternatives to driving like bike trails and routes
- The ongoing fight over the missing link.
- traffic, parking, drug dealing, graffiti, vandalism
- increase in homelessness
- Multi-story Condos and lack of parking.
- Too many condos and apartment buildings have been built.
- too many condos
- Ugly condos
- Leave Ballard alone
- Burk Gillman trail still being held up by selfish businesses.
- Lack of sidewalks
- more curbs/sidewalks and traffic circles... congestion on 85th
- all the ugly condos that are starting to block out the sun and create a sad dark area of the ballard walking experience
- homeless meth addicts. beer cans and trash left everywhere.
- Crime and criminal activity
- A couple of businesses holding up the Missing Link Completion!
- Lack of affordable housing for local/ maritime workers.
- transients, people living in parks, abandoned houses
- Lack of parking
- Specifically dissatisfied with new buildings.
- Lack of sidewalks north of 85th.
- redevelopment and bike lanes
- Burk Gilman Trail
- Burke-Gilman trail.
- Condo
- garbage dumped in neighborhoods off 15th Ave
- Homeless People in parks
- Missing Link--gap in the Burke Gilman Trail
- need more dog parks - whittier heights area
- Pedestrian safety

Architecture of townhomes and larger apartment and condo buildings is horrible. I've seen better aesthetic choices made for a casino boat in Mississippi, this is a major shortcoming of the design board. - More public transportation is **DESPERATELY NEEDED**. The city is doing a civic disservice to the taxpayers and voters (that one is to you, bigboy Nickels...). - Please do something with the homeless!!! Since being kicked out of the 3 public parks they have taken up residency at the old Ballard library, formerly housing the used book store. **PLEASE GET THE HOMELESS OFF THE STREETS OF BALLARD!!!!** - Last, but most importantly: finish the last piece of the Burke-Gilman. 50 years from now, half the businesses on the water will not be there regardless if it is completed or not, simply because the cost of doing business within the city limits will be unaffordable, and the city cannot sustain its governing existence by giving them free tax rides, just for the sake of occupying space. - Become employees of a real city, not a bunch of over-educated non-leaders.

Too many ugly condos and townhomes. We can do better than this! Developers need incentives to do the right thing.

1) I think there should be stricter design standards for residential areas. 2) The business district has too many A-board signs and newspaper boxes on the sidewalks. 3) Drunks and panhandlers are prevalent at the library, in front of the city service center, and parks and on market street. Too many people selling Real Change papers on the street.

Empty lots and high rises; but we accept the high density housing as a fact of life. The bowling alley could have kept going if it was going to take this long.

What's the hold-up on development of the Denny's and Sunset bowl lands?

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

1. Metro route #18 should run more frequently. 2. Metro route #48 should be revised so it does not get off schedule all the time. 3. Eliminate parking at ALL HOURS on Elliott Avenue so getting into downtown doesn't change to sometimes two lanes rather than three lanes. 4. Do something about the wacky intersection at Market Street and Leary and 22nd avenue. It is crazy for both drivers and pedestrians. 5. Revise the code or design requirement for the townhouses so the miniature driveways and ultra-tiny access areas for the garages are not allowed. These "garages" become only storage rooms. Very few people can actually maneuver a car into those spaces thus we now have massive street parking competition in front of all townhouses. The builders met the letter of the code "1 garage per townhouse unit" but not the true intent of actually parking a car in a garage. 6. Engage some creative architect or designer to make aesthetic improvement at NW 85th Street and 15th Ave NW intersection.

Condo-centric development with little oversight. Many of us like our neighborhood the way it is/was. Townhouses and tall-skinny residential architecture also erodes the character of our residential neighborhoods. Greater density is OK. Bad architecture, excessively rapid development are not.

We need more public Transit now. The developers, some how, need to be held to higher design standards. Most of the new townhomes are truly terrible and offer nothing to the public street realm. Please complete the Missing link of the Burke Gilman and keep the entire link on Shilshole. It needs to be maintained as a separated multiuse path and the "interim" detour up onto Old Ballard will be nothing more than a narrow defined bike path on a narrow busy commercial street.

Too many people jammed into a small neighborhood. Beaches are overused and gangs congregate in the evenings. No apparent traffic control or parking revisions on arterials. City government only cares about feathering their own pockets.

No more skinny houses, enough with the overbearing and mostly empty condos, and any sidewalk restaurant seating should be temporary, if people aren't eating outside in the fall/Winter/spring why have the sidewalk restricted. Oh and if they are going to tear down a structure and then leave an empty lot they should have to plant grass or put in a temporary playground or garden or something other than an empty hole

I don't think there is the best transportation to and from Ballard. And I don't like seeing the tearing down of buildings

Traffic has gotten much worse (specifically the route to and from downtown via 15th) - 15 is even worse but we try to avoid it when we can. There are so many building projects around town that aren't being finished - I'm hoping the water-filled holes will get filled soon.

The transportation along Market and 15th is abysmal and Ballard has been set back decades by the lack of a monorail solution.

Would like to see the missing link completed to make bike commuting safer. More housing leads to more people and an increase of crime, have seen an increase in graffiti, trash left in yard, robberies etc.

too many townhouses, apts and condos

I generally bike to work, and find (most often) the 18 bus service reliable, however, on baseball game nights it can delay this service, as well as severe weather. And, it can be very full during rush hours. I would like to have express bus service later in the morning- possibly through 9 am. I generally feel safe in the neighborhood, but have been reading about car thefts and problems in the parks. I personally have not had any problems. Housing is less affordable but I own my own home, so it does not impact me (except when property taxes are raised).

Too many condominiums Too much urban crime Loss of small town feel

New buildings are allowed to show more recent buildings as models, leading to greater mediocrity. Would prefer Ballard Avenue District approach to all of Ballard to better control designs that take away from streetscape.

Stop Building!!!!, Clean up the litter.

Parks seem shadeless and overrun. Housing is beyond affordability. Safety is questionable due to increased density and increased crime.

Too many multi-story monolithic big-box style condos --the scale and "texture" is wrong. Need small scale and better design --too many ugly squished, cheap townhouses. Too many homeless (aggressive or mentally ill) in the few parks we have.

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

SAFETY...with all of this growth happening so quickly, we need SPD man power! The 'cop on the beat' and ON BIKES, would be the BEST! We could get to know them and they us. WE have way too many homeless, and dumpy RV's living here. The few parks we do have seem to always have this element loitering about, I'm sick of it and of them! More buss service is a must to downtown if you really want people out of their cars. Max 10 minute wait, cleaner buses (no urine smell and NO tolerance for those that don't pay, drunk, etc) I've traveled around the world, can't we copy some of their transportation genius? Library is TOO SMALL (while that big monstrosity down town sits with way too much space, what were they thinking???)

Not only should the missing link be finished it should be routed up Shilshoe as originally planned not crossing and running up Ballard Ave part way. That's just plain silly. Why does the city always bend to business owners who only have their own interests at heart and never consider the community at large?

The townhouses and condos have been built without regard to quality or good/diverse design.

New housing is not affordable. Local businesses are being run out of the neighborhood (Archie McPhee, Epilogue Books). The towering townhomes are an atrocity. More violent crime. Thanks Seattle!

At the moment, my "burning" issue is the very disappointing lack of maintenance on the new, expensive, extensive Burke-Gilman trail from the Locks to Golden Gardens. The original landscaping was sophisticated with irrigation incorporated. Since then it has been nearly neglected and is now nearly weed-choked in places. As a tax-payer, this is infuriating. I realize the City has priorities that compete with this, but the neglect shows very poorly on the City's leadership. PLEASE MAINTAIN THE TRAIL.

I do not like having everywhere be pay for parking.

I wish there was some way for me to take the bus within Ballard. I live and work here and it's more expensive for me to take public transportation than it is to own a car.

I fear that we are losing the "flavor" of each individual neighborhood, as we move toward a homogenized Seattle.

1) Homeless issues/quality of life issues (noise, being approached) 2) Bus schedule limited going downtown and to the UWMed Center. Also, waiting for the bus is frightening, it's a rare day that there isn't a malodorous person and/or openly psychotic person waiting for the bus even during business hours at 15th and Market. 3) Townhouse structures are poorly designed for parking creating parking issues. 4) Two used bookstores and Archie McFee's were forced out of the neighborhood due to rising rents, very unhappy about this. I felt that the bookstores were important for the neighborhood especially. Archie McFee's was a Ballard landmark and contributed to our "quirkiness", now we've lost it to Wallingford, of all neighborhoods!!!

One word: monorail. OK more words: I think improved bus service would be almost as good. The think the biekshare idea could be great for linking bus routes from East-West. For example if there were bikeshare bikes along NW 67th. You could get on any bus downtown that was going to Ballard and make the east-west connection via bike.

The bus system in Ballard is great!! My only concern is that when they put in this new tunnel to replace the viaduct, that will NOT be an advantage to Ballard commuters. I guess this is more of a new change and not part of the last 10yrs. plan...

I like all the condos and apartments that are being built. But for people in my generation, who grew up in Ballard, are having to leave since it's too expensive. It would be nice if there could be apartments built that more people could afford.

We need to improve the bus service in Ballard, I am hoping that Rapid Ride will do that. I am concerned about the amount of police presence in Ballard especially as the new businesses bring more and more people into Ballard. I don't agree that the "improvements" to Loyal Heights park were good for the neighborhood. Taking away a natural grass field was a slap to the neighborhood and a shame. This is an example of taking away Ballard's neighborhood feel and handing it over to special interest groups that want to come into Ballard to engage in activities and give NOTHING back.

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

Since living in Ballard we've noticed a lot of property crime. Every year we've had something happen, whether our car was stolen, a window smashed in our car, or a briefcase stolen off our front porch while we were on our own lawn. Of course, this is not violent crime - but its frustrating to have this happen. I lived in Downtown 8 years prior to moving to Ballard and never once had any property or other type of crime. Why is this neighborhood more prone to crime? Also - as mentioned above, by far the easiest way to get to/from Ballard is in your car. My family only owns one car - and we can only do that because I work in the only place with okay transit service - Downtown Seattle. We need better service to Downtown Seattle (both faster and more frequent as well as reliable). But, we also need much better connections to our neighboring communities like Fremont and Phinney/Greenwood, as well as better west-east connections to the U-District and connections north to Northgate area. In terms of housing - its great to see new mixed-use buidlings being built in our urban village. But, I don't like the monotony of who they are built for. I would like to see more variety in the types of multi-family mixed-use buildings that will make them more attractive to families. It seems like all these places are being built for young singles/couples, as well as empty-nesters/seniors. They're all 1- and 2- bedroom units - and not very attractive to families. I'd like to see Seattle make its urban centers and urban villages places where families would be welcome to live as well.

I see drug activity every day - work on 14th and 50th NW. Do not feel safe. The highrise condo/apartments have destroyed the community feeling that was Ballard. Lack of parking is a huge problem.

sad to see businesses lost due to transportation changes that didn't occur, no transportation changes, shootings, closing of dennys and bowling alley which were good places for high school kids wanting to stay out of trouble, too many multi unit houses and beautiful old houses being torn down.

Again, the new construction is lifeless. How many more beige brick condos will be built? Who is on the design review board? I equate Ballard with Portland's Pearl district, which has been refurbished in an interesting way. Development is inevitable. But we can develop and keep our roots at the same time.

Though we like the increase in public parks and the new library, they are primarily used by the homeless population. I no longer bring kids to the library or parks because they are not well policed. It seems like a strange situation to raise money in Seattle for new parks and libraries if they are not well-policed and safe. Drug sales now occur routinely in our parks. In addition, there are also a large number of itinerant homeless in Seattle. These people live in their vehicles all over Ballard. The overnight parking restriction on 14th Ave NW has pushed the vehicular homeless population into living on residential streets.

prevalance of property crime

Market street throughput is a joke. Eastbound from Shilshole is especially bad. Backup on the Shilshole speedway approaching Market gets really bad. Intersection at 24th and Market operates strangely and very inefficiently.

Sadly, everything is looking more rundown in Ballard with buildings being torn down (Old Denny's, etc). Safety is becoming a concern with more transients hanging out in parks and on streets. Trashier as a whole...becoming the new Belltown, unfortunately.

Transit (bus service) can be very limited. Some trips to nearby neighborhoods require so many transfers it can be faster to walk.

People urinating in public and passed out on sidewalks is not the vison I have for Ballard. We believe there is a house that sell drugs out of a basement apartment on our street and we have only see the police drive down our street one time in nearly four years of living here. We would love to see MORE police presence throughout Ballard.

some of the buildings in our neighborhood need to be renovated or torn down.

upset that the monorail was killed and Ballard is largely left out of other mass transit options. concerned about Burke Gilman trail and finding a way to have that without negatively impacting the existing industrial area very very concerned about the viaduct. Would like to see it replaced. Feel the tunnel option is not user friendly to our neighborhood.

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

Most of the condos are cookie-cutter and are unpleasant to have directly in one's view. Safety? My neighborhood on 17th Avenue NW is a mecca for drug deals, homeless people, drunks, and drunk kids primarily coming from the Bit Saloon and intent on destroying property as the stumble back to their cars to drive back home to Auburn. The sidestreets connection 15th Avenue to 17th Avenue, and Leary to Market, have become mini-freeways. All day long I witness near-collisions as drivers simply run through the intersection with nary a California stop in sight. One of these days someone is going to be seriously injured or killed in these intersections, and only then will we see stop signs inserted where the street meets the Avenue. Yes, believe it or not there are no stop signs along 17th Avenue NW between Market and Leary Way. Crazy.

I really dislike the new structures being placed watonly around Ballard. I also dislike how old structures are being torn down and never replaced, it makes the neighborhood an eye-sore.

lack of monorail or light rail to down town. bus does not work, becuae it is stuck in traffic.

hate the ugly townhouses

Very disappointed that much of the new architecture of condos and townhouses does not compliment the culture or existing architecture. Need better bicycle infrastructure for commuting. Burke trail it too recreation focused to meet commuter needs. Need better policing of busy streets. Too many speeding autos.

Monorail would've been nice. Now, new condo buildings are everywhere, without transportation infrastructure to support it. Ballard Bridge remains a bottleneck, along with all east-west arterials. We need a light rail expansion. Burke-Gilman expansion will be nice if and when it happens.

Public transportation east/west is dismal. Businesses that sprout (especially restaurants) are too upscale for my family of 4 (or not kid friendly). Traffic on Market is icky and the retail area there just isn't friendly (for pedestrians or parking).

Seems that 15th Ave is becoming a mecca for strip clubs and seedy stores. Have noticed a lot more graffiti in the past few years. Shootings, robberies, etc... have been increased in the past couple of years. Transportation to downtown and accessibility to freeways are difficult. Without the monorail, it can take 40-45 minutes to get downtown in the A.M. There is a strong need for a better busing system or a light rail.

We really need transit solutions other than buses. Also, a single seat ride to Montlake would make connections to the Eastside faster and easier. Our parks are overrun by drunk and disorderly homeless people, making them unusable by most of the community, and the level of property crime seems to be on the rise.

We need to encourage small and local businesses and not over-emphasize condominium and multi-unit living.

Traffic safety is a real concern in the Crown Hill neighborhood. Most streets do not have sidewalks and therefore cars are parked randomly along the street making it very dangerous for pedestrians, cyclists and other cars. With the influx of children in Crown Hill this is a serious matter. It's only a matter of time before someone is injured weaving around cars and out into the traffic. Additionally many of our blocks are very very long and drivers use some of these long corridors to drive between 100th and Holman road. Add higher rates of speed and weaving around parked cars and its a recipie for disaster. It surprises me that if nothing else the corridors between schools or between bus stops and pedestrian overpasses don't have sidewalks. That's where I would start first in building our sidewalk infrastructure. Holman continues to be the BIG DIVIDE. We're crying out for additional stop lights between 3rd and 15th along Holman. Even pedestrian activated lights would be an improvement. Regarding Business Distric, it would be wonderful to create an Urban Village look and feel in Crown Hill. Most of us would love to walk to shopping, cafe's, coffee shops, galleries instead of having to drive to these amenities. Given the increased density of Crown Hill with the building of so many condos, it seems to be a perfect environment to invite our retail owners to open up shops in Crown Hill.

Why the City of Seattle has dragged their feet on their obligations regarding sidewalks north of 85th seems likely to be because it's not something developers want. If developers want something, they get it. But because residents want it, they have to figure out how to get it themselves.

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

Need improved crossings on Holman/15th for kids/ pedestrians and a light or crosswalk by Dicks. Golden Garden park needs better police presence at night. Hopeful there will be plans in future for light rail access to Northgate with direct buses from Crown Hill.

Too many high-density condos without regards for basic infrastructures, transportation and population overcrowding.

No missing link completion - no mass transit (no monorail - no light rail) The over zoning of the 4 unit townhomes are a mistake. All impermeable surface, no one parks in thier tiny garages, the designs usually lack an architectural merit. Why not brownstones?

see above

I am most disappointed in our transportation options. I believe the Seattle citizens most committed to alternative commute options (biking and public transit) live in Ballard/Crown Hill/Greenwood/Phinney. Yet, it seems we've been penalized because we'll take what we can get and be happy about it. We lost our rapid transit option (the monorail) without any plan for replacing it -- sorry, the "rapid" bus proposal that still makes a run through lower Queen Ann doesn't count. It is quicker to get downtown from Edmonds than it is from Crown Hill. And, the fact that there is still a missing link for the B-G Trail is appalling. It effectively cuts off a safe bike commute from the western-most sections of Ballard/ Sunset Hill on their way to the Fremont Bridge for a commute downtown or continuing on to the UW via the BGT. As our neighborhood becomes more and more populated, we need to have excellent (not just OK) options for traveling other than by car. We need to promote and favor bikes, not just passively accept that we have to share the curb with them. We have to make public transit the preferred option for getting to work or to other activities, not just have it as an option for those who can't afford a car. My concern about the business district is not with the Ballard hub, but the Crown Hill urban area. Seattle has good examples of more pedestrian friendly cores (like Lake City or even Ballard and Greenwood). The area around 85th and 15th is very disappointing. It is challenging for my family to make our way on bike or foot because of the traffic. And, it just isn't attractive. Can't we add some trees and traffic calming? How about a nice median with trees and plants? And, more crosswalks. I'm sure there are some good ideas out there.

We've had some criminal activity in our neighborhood (car prowls, break-ins) that is probably more a function of living in an urban center (in a recession) than anything specific to Ballard. It would be nice, though, that things like that not get too commonplace. On another note, the architecture of some of the new condo developments leaves something to be desired. As I said to a developer recently, I'm not anti-growth, but I am anti-ugly.

Need more crosswalks on 85th and Holman road. I live on 13th and that has a pedestrian overpass, but I feel sorry about all those that have to cross holman road elsewhere. 85th is very busy arterial - lots of traffic on weekends as well.

Public transit has not kept up with the growth plan and the new condos being built will greatly overwhelm what is here. RapidRide will help, but is not here yet and seems to have its funding in doubt.

Complete lack of planning in regards to encouraging increased density and the effect that has on surrounding infrastructure. Incredibly unattractive new buildings. Increased crime.

The development that Ballard has absorbed seems disproportionate to the size of the neighborhood and the infrastructure investments that have (or have not) been made. Bike/pedestrian safety is a big problem, no improvements to bus service have been made, our streets and sidewalks have been torn up/blocked off for years, for all the housing that is being built, there doesn't seem to be any that's affordable.

Thumbs down on the Condo invasion, the poor street maintenance, and the lack of support to small businesses that have not been supported by the city planners. Ballard has become a morgue for the small business owner - and this is a sorry statement for a community that claims individuality as a welcome feature. (Or at least use to.)

The streets around the Market and 15th intersection do feel completely safe. There are times when I get off my bus in the evening that I feel unsafe. I believe that the proposed building where the Denny's and Sunset Bowl were located will bring more pedestrians and better lighting to the area, but the empty lots seem to be filled with garbage and there is a significant amount of loitering that occurs on these corners.

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

again, too many condos not enough foot friendly business development, particularly in crown hill part of town. This community doesn't end north of 65th.

Density and building heights are making Ballard feel unlivable. I'd restrict condo/apartments to 4 stories (3 is better). I'd make density restrictions a "cubic foot" measure for single family homes (go high or wide, but not both). And I'd put less money into bicycle commuting and more into social services and industrial/living-wage job retention. Cut the \$\$ for sharrows and don't bother with the missing link, at least until budget problems are resolved.

Better policing of the neighborhood and esp. Market / 24th is necessary - there is far too much tolerance of socially unwelcome behaviors (i.e. public drunkenness, drug use, etc). This is particularly problematic given the increase in the population of children in the neighborhood.

see my survey responses!!!

There are just too many condos now, dense and looming and overpriced mediocre construction, and not nearly enough housing for folks with fixed and/or lower incomes. I don't like that the old businesses and restaurants have been driven out, mostly by gentrification's rent increases. And the huge increase in traffic, especially around Market, Shilshole, Ballard Ave, and Trader Joe's, has made it quite dangerous for bicyclists and pedestrians. I don't think our traffic safety measures have had time to catch up.

Still need sidewalks, better street crossings, street improvements, traffic calming, more bus service, more bike lanes and completion of the BGT in the rail ROW. Most trees on Ballard Ave should be removed. Need street improvement districts to maintain cleanliness.

Crime has dramatically increased and anybody with cardboard and duct tape can build a condo.

east-west bus service is slow and little effort between bus drivers to to facilitate bus route connections in downtown Ballard.

Transient activity in Gilman Park is not taken seriously, and posted laws against camping are not enforced. We have regular campers around the park. Calls to appropriate officials only result in cars moving in circles around the park.

Safety has become an issue in ballard. Years ago (5) there were homeless who appeared to be harmless. Now there is a new element of homeless in Ballard and they are more aggressive. Drug dealers run wild in the neighborhood, drug deals out in the open. There needs to be a police presence in Ballard. Bike cops who ride thru the residential areas. A shooting at the Pit stop were the store clerk was killed. This is just the beginning of the end for Ballard.

condos everywhere driving up the prices - blocking the sun

Lack of a light rail option, lack of the "missing link" section of Burke Gilman trail, loss of old standard businesses and the character they added to the neighborhood, oversize houses and condo developments not built to fit in with the neighborhood.

Increased homeless population and general vandalism in Ballard.

I don't see any appreciable change in the availability of public transportation. I work downtown and I ride the bus every day. I would love to see light rail in Ballard.

Where transportation is concerned, the buses are very often standing room only, just packed full. And the monstrously large buildings that are popping up at 15th and Market and thereabouts are going to heighten the number of people who live in this neighborhood. I sincerely hope that they are providing parking!

Bikes still get short shrift—we need more real bike lanes in the interior of the neighborhood. Traffic lights that respond more quickly to pushing the big silver button. More frequent bus service.

This city needs to get a handle on the aggressive, chronic homeless that flock to Ballard's parks and open spaces. Every time a new park opens, it's only a matter of weeks before the homeless discover it and move in. See: Ballard Commons, the lookout just past the Locks, the new "living room" park.

More and more homes and businesses that give Ballard character and attracted people in the first place are being torn down for "modern" structures. Land and home prices are out of reach for the average person.

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

As condos have been developed in the central Ballard core, very few have any community area or outdoor space or even a set-back from the sidewalk. It creates a feeling of walking at the base of a cold cavern. The opportunity to integrate neighborhood open spaces with the new developments was lost. It's most frustrating to have lost the bowling alley - a great gathering place for people of all ages - to see it just sit vacant and surrounded by transient populations. Neighborhoods that were typically single family areas are being replaced with townhouses that all look the same and don't allow enough onsite parking for owners - more people rely on street parking. Paid parking downtown encourages people to walk, which is great. I rarely see police cars patrolling the streets.

Too many cookie cutter townhomes that fill the lots, shoddy construction that will not age well

Very poor traffic engineering, poor bus service West of 15th, non-existent light rail service in-place or planned, Burke-Gilman missing link is *still* missing.

It takes sometimes upward of an hour to take the bus from near my house to the University Medical Center. The 46 doesn't run early enough in the morning to get people to work before 8:30 and the 44 takes an inordinant length of time to get from Ballard to UWMC. I was looking forward to the monorail to downtown, but now that isn't going to happen. I'm concerned about what the construction on the viaduct will do to traffic from Ballard to downtown.

Most of the condos are a blight. Most of my friends can only afford to live in the south end. The bus service is not awful, but I wish it was better.

The explosion of condos in downtown has almost eradicated Ballard's identity along Ballard Ave & Market St. No one can expect to introduce that much population density (mostly from areas outside of Ballard) in such a short time and expect that spending patterns and neighborhood culture will remain intact. I have to ask the question, "What on earth were the zoners thinking!?" Did they hate Ballard so much that they wanted it to disappear?

Transportation in and out of Ballard (East-West) is extremely difficult. The 44 Metro bus is the only bus to and from the U District, which can take 20+ minutes JUST to pass through the N 45th St. bottleneck under I-99.

Safety is a huge concern, especially with several high profile recent events (murder on 15th, etc.). Need better and more reliable public transit heading east, and better bike access across the Ballard bridge.

Ballard seems to have become a den for drug addicts, and petty criminals.

The wrong materials were used for the beams on the new library, they are already starting to grey and rot. Many of the new "townhomes" show peeling paint and warping fences.

Business obstruction of the Burke-Gilman "missing link" is shameful. Seattle as a whole lacks sufficient park spaces, although the ones we have are excellent. Our building code seems to be producing horrible townhomes, although the condos are tolerable. Surely we can make density more architecturally attractive and not repeat the mistakes of the 60s!

It seems there has been more crime lately. Really sick of all the condo development which has led to much congestion.

I'm very unhappy with the frequent crime in Ballard and specifically the recent murder. I am however happy with the response to the community concerns over drug use issues at Ballard parks. I feel that many new commercial buildings don't fit aesthetically with the community.

It's not that I'm dissatisfied with each item that I have selected (expect housing - too much, too fast), it's just that they don't seem to be responding (or capable of responding) to the growth. Finding a place for people to live is one thing, but what happens when the resources to satisfy the masses greatly diminishes?

See previous comment about certain stretches of Market Street and 15th Ave NW near 85th.

As a native New Yorker, I was surprised with the amount of petty crime that is reported - ie. car theft. Also, surprised by the amount of homeless people.

I feel the homeless have nothing to fear in Ballard and our panhandling/ loitering/ public safety rules need to be better enforced.

I really was unhappy about not getting some rapid transit such as the monorail in my neighborhood. I do not like the idea of filling Ballard up with high-end condos.

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

I am concerned about the lack of sidewalks in Crown Hill. There are a few cars that drive through the neighborhood at speeds above the posted limit and it poses a safety concern while walking through the neighborhood. Understanding the difficulties of the economic downturn, but there has been a rise in old buildings being torn down to be replaced with new condos. It is my hope that instead of tearing down these buildings, they could be refurbished to keep the residential appeal of Crown Hill.

It took a huge effort on the neighborhood's and Small Faces part to get the park and the school purchased. While many people within city and other governments supported it, it should have been a given based on the neighborhood plan, without so much hassle. Neighbors want to develop one of our street ends, and this was discouraged by the city, even though developing street ends for public use is part of our neighborhood plan. As to the business district. We need to have a way to support and have independent small businesses in the neighborhood. That means a way to support the existing retail space and expand it. Too often these retail spaces get torn down or dolled up and then only chain retail establishments can afford the rent. (ie T-mobile, Petco). This encourages cars and small business people will have no chance. The point of an urban village is to have some people that can live and work in the village. Well, retail sales help at chain stores can't afford to live here, and local independent businesses can't afford the rent that comes with new buildings. Fix this problem. Require developers to make retail and business space affordable. Safety has been good, but it is getting worse. We need to develop the urban village such that people are walking and outside that helps to discourage crime. Pedestrian safety - Look at Holman road. No safe way to cross between 13th and 6th NW. And holman road bisects our Crown Hill community Housing - tear downs. The replacements are ugly and out of place in this neighborhood.

I am concerned about safety, especially early in the morning and late at night. I am also concerned about public transit. I would really like to see a commuter rail station built in Ballard, before a street car network.

We really need sidewalk north of 89th. Also, I wish we had better enforcement of trees and bushes not impeding the roadway. I see some local businesses closing. I attribute this in part to the fact that this isn't as good of a walking neighborhood as it could be.

A few old buildings that need to be addressed. Possible plans for rail commute option or at least express bus to rail access.

The street lights are not bright enough to light up the neighborhood streets.

15th avenue seems unsafe especially late night and early morning. There are people trespassing at the church and the school, intoxicated and sleeping on the sidewalk at times. Drivers on 15th don't look for pedestrians before making turns, and when the light is out on 59th it's impossible to cross

Homeless are everywhere. This is an issue that needs to be dealt with rather than just pushing them from place to place. I rarely go to Gilman Park with my kids as there are always a few homeless sitting by the wading pool.

Lack of development of the CH Residential Urban Village. Lack of pedestrian amenities. Better bus service to points east. Need more green space. Need sidewalks (I don't feel safe walking home from the 85 at 5:45 to 6:30 along 13th Ave NW, 12th Ave NW). Crossing Holman is hazardous to one's health. Holman ped overpass at 13th is really ugly. Why can't we get some art in Crown Hill.

It is not that easy to get to all the places you might want to go on public transportation, such as the airport, eastside and east Seattle. I would like quicker and more direct transportation to those places. I also feel a little uncomfortable with the level of graffiti and drug use I see all over Ballard. I think that is the first sign of a neighborhood going downhill and it makes me nervous.

Ballard is losing its identity and becoming too much like Fremont with all the condos, townhomes, etc. The small town within a city feel is disappearing. Apartment owners aren't improving the buildings, but increasing rent and charging us for everything! There are several apartments that look more like motels than actual apartments which, to me, lowers the value of the neighborhood. Also there are too many of the same type of restaurants. For example, 4 sushi restaurants, over 7 pizza places, etc. Not enough variety.

Transients/panhandlers are no bueno. A shocking number of local independent businesses have closed on Market this summer and I'm worried that national chains will move into their spots. We don't need more nail places, tanning salons, or quiznos!

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

I'm not knocking the design of the new condo buildings -- I think they're lovely. There are just so many of them! The skyline of Ballard looks totally different than it did just four years ago when I moved here. The appearance makes it seem much less like the unique, cozy neighborhood it once was and more like every other neighborhood in town. As for safety, I don't have anything concrete to base my dissatisfaction on other than it simply *FEELS* less safe than it used to. I hear and read more stories about break-ins, drug deals in our parks, and other crimes than I did a few years ago, and it's disheartening. Makes me a little worried about raising my family here.

We need light rail. I know it's not planned any time soon, but we need a light rail line from downtown up 15th Ave NW. Or somehow adapt the rail line along Puget Sound into local rail. Ballard needs more affordable housing. Rental prices have decreased in the past 9-12 months, but when the economy picks back up, people are going to be priced out. Need more 80% of median, but also more for very low income people, to prevent homelessness.

I am surprised by the amount of homeless people in Ballard. This makes me feel less secure concerning potential drug sales. Also there are many people living in vehicles and public places. There is also a lot of trash in shopping carts and graffiti. Also, there seems to be the potential for criminal activity at or around Golden Gardens. I don't notice a police presence in this family area.

We never got the monorail which would have been great . . . I would have taken that to West Seattle regularly! Still have to rely on the buses which have become less reliable because of "hang ups" as you get downtown (can walk faster once you get downtown). Housing - too many townhouses as infill in Ballard and no control over the ugly design of many of them . . . all look alike, goofy footprint and garages useless for parking since it is so hard to drive into them. Safety is a question mark near the parks, etc. because of panhandling and alcoholics on the street begging, sleeping, camping out in bus shelters, etc. Trying to keep more of the existing buildings and fixing up would have been better than tearing them all down to put in 3 unit townhomes . . . in some multi-family zones . . . for every one house with a yard, we got 3 story townhomes with more people parking on the streets! Not using their garages.

I'd like to see an attempt to bring in a balance of business types, not just bars and restaurants. Also, I'd like to see a standard enforced on the many condo buildings going up that would make them blend better into the neighborhoods and age more attractively (canal Station is already starting to look cheap).

I regret increase in bus fares and decrease in bus service or planned expansion in bus service.

I think we really need to complete the "missing link" of the burke-gilman trail, that Ballard Chamber of Commerce's law suit is quite discouraging -- not really sure whose interests they think they're representing.

Disappointed about the failure to extend Monorail or establish firm plans for another form of mass transit in the past 5 years.

Transportation into Crown Hill - not good. Since the Monorail idea got blown up, what else are we looking into? The streetcar idea stops at Market Street. Housing - too many condos and mixed use retail. Buildings - there are some old outdated buildings that need revitalization, especially along 15th avenue and along 85th street. 15th Avenue and 85th street are embarrassing.

There are several instances of new homes that are TOTALLY out of character with the neighborhood. Split lots with nearly every square inch taken up by a way-to-tall structure right on the property line. While I really like the parks that have been added there are few areas where one can engage in aerobic activity (e.g., jogging or cycling). This is especially acute when you want to jog on a soft surface. I am not aware of a soft surface path longer than a few hundred feet in Ballard. Carkeek and Greenlake are the only nearby options.

tons of new condos and tons of old businesses are leaving.

There seems to be a decreasing amount of affordable housing with the proliferation of upper-income condo development. There is also an apparent lack of safety in some areas of the neighborhood, especially after dark.

Read my comments in the previous section they're all applicable here

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

Huge buildings with lots of condos and little parking near the main intersection of Market and 15th is too much. Also the traffic cameras - ridiculous!

If no sidewalks are going to be put in, means to slow traffic are necessary.

stree parking for apartment dwellers is terrible!! need a better system for parking for those of us who live here

There is more need for public transportation to access other area of the city and within the neighborhood. Although density its important, the rate of multifamily buildings in relationship to the alternative public transportation is very poor; producing excess of vehicular use and lack of parking spaces.

rents unaffordable for families w/more than 2 children, older kids, seniors

Concerned about Ballard once all those condos are occupied. Not enough open space.

Not too pleased with the massive condo/apartment infrastructure in the Ballard area, which most are empty. Also the "to-be-demolished" areas which attract vagrants - a whole other problem in itself.

It's so long to take a bus downtown-the express still stops so often and it's virtually impossible for me to take public transportation to my job in Bellevue.

We have been unable to complete the "missing link".

Business district needs to be more pedestrian friendly in crown hill.

The side streets require better traffic calming measures (roundabouts, speed bumps etc) The area on greenwood opposite and including Fred meyer on 85th should be redeveloped. The neighborhood is affluent and would benefit from better shopping / retail.

See prior comments re: Safeway gas station. Also need improvements in crosswalks and pedestrian access to cross and use 15th NW.

I feel that drug dealers and homeless folks take advantage of public areas making them unpleasant for kids and families to enjoy. Public areas need more lighting, police presence and rules.

I can walk the 3 miles from the Salmon Bay Park area to my job in near the Fremont Bridge almost as fast as it takes me on the bus. And that is too long. Need a direct bus that goes from Crown Hill through Fremont without a transfer.

The extra density and new businesses have resulted in more crowded buses, extra danger at night, and ugly townhomes. It would be nice to have more transit, in the form of buses, rapid transit (like service the monorail would have provided), and/or commuter rail. Faster bus service to UW would be nice since the 44 bus is extremely slow due to having to stop every few blocks. Seeing 100 year old houses being torn down to be replaced by ugly townhouses that look exactly the same as every other townhouse is tragic. We need to be more creative in the way we add density so that we don't ruin the neighborhood feel in the process.

There is far too little open space and parks. We still don't have a bike path that connects the missing link. Streets are too narrow for parking on both sides of the street. Market street traffic is far too congested. The condos that have been built are too many, too large for the plot of land, and lack a unique character.

I'm unhappy about buildings like Sunset Bowl that were sold and then sit there as eyesores collecting trash and vagrants.

We desperately need more parks with real trees and open spaces. I do not consider a cement slab overshadowed by a giant condo a park. I use the bus to commute to work which is in the Sodo area. My bus ride is over an hour long which is ridiculous considering I can drive it in 20-30 min. We need a better system. I think that architects had an opportunity to reverence the Scandinavian vernacular in a number of the new buildings-but did not. That's a shame.

There seems to always be some crazy guy/gal wondering down the street shouting abuse. Also go down any of the alleys behind the 7 Eleven and there are people drunk/stoned out of their heads.

I feel like there could be more parking spaces

The bicycle and bus transportation facilities need improvement. I know they are slated to come soon, but we are overdue.

It's getting to the point where you can't afford a decent apartment here, and shopping here is outrageous.

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

We need more police in the area to stop the homeless and drug dealers

There was total disregard and dis-respect shown for Bergen Place. Where else in Seattle (perhaps even King County?!?) did you have a tree planted by a visiting head of state, re-dedicated by his successor, and visited yet again by his heir presumptive? This totally healthy tree was thoughtlessly destroyed, then turned into a monstrosity someone dares label "art"?!?! I try to maintain an open mind, knowing that "beauty is in the eye of the beholder," however never in my life have I heard so many negative comments about anything labeled "art". The housing, and assorted new buildings appearing, have destroyed the unique personality that was Ballard. It now looks and feels like it could be anywhere, in any city. Ballard now elicits feelings of claustrophobia, which cannot be a good thing in anyone's opinion. There are ways to move regions and neighborhoods into the future, all the while honoring the past and *NEVER* showing any lack of respect. I know the people on the various committees and such have tremendous responsibilities; however, I would have to say it seems the primary responsibility of and to the people, personality, and history of this neighborhood were totally left out of the picture -- a loss that Seattle will never be able to regain.

I think what I find dissatisfied about Ballard is attributed to the excessive amount of new development. I'm open to new buildings through time, but not at this quick rate. Again, new buildings equal a greater population, therefore more traffic. And again, I feel the safety of people and their families is ----- by seedy transients living in/near the poorly or unlit vacant buildings that wastefully lie nearly a year now waiting for new development that may or may not happen. I am also unhappy about how quickly the area is becoming gentrified with architecture that does not fit the character of the area. Many of the new buildings lack character and feel sterile and corporate, something that should belong to Bellevue rather than Ballard.

There are tons of homeless people/bums and addicts hanging out in parks and in the library making me not want to take my children there because I don't feel safe. Also there are tons of campers & cars with people living in them on the streets. This should be outlawed.

I feel like this plan has been lumped with Ballard and all of the great changes have occurred in Ballard and Crown Hill has been severely neglected. Our neighborhood is still seriously lacking in support from the City.

I appreciate the need for higher density developments near transportation, but would appreciate it if new buildings were subjected to a stricter design review process.

The vast conversion of apts to condos and the generic architecture of new town homes and other big box houses that are taking over where Ballard's famous cottages once thrived are diminishing the aesthetic quality and opportunities for renters.

too dense in all aspects.

New construction buildings are too drab and boring

I would have liked to have seen a floor/height limit to new condo facilities... I miss seeing the city and sun

While pleased at the overall housing stock quality, I am very concerned that housing for middle and low-middle income people be available in our neighborhood. People shouldn't have to live in Auburn or Kent or Lynnwood to work in Ballard or Seattle. The development in the neighborhood should be appropriate for a RANGE of income-earners. And I say this as a home OWNER (townhouse). I would gladly trade some of my unit value for affordable housing. And rental units. Finally, the demise of the Monorail was very disappointing. We moved into our current townhouse in anticipation of the monorail being built. The street car system being developed is a joke, that's not mass transit, it's just a bone for developers like Paul Allen and real estate interests. And Link Rail will probably never come to Ballard. We'll see how the Rapid Bus works in Ballard.

I would like to see much more leadership by the planning department regarding the housing projects. They look like cartoons. If you are going to encourage density, you need to build great buildings that people love. You should not simply allow the developer to, ultimately, build close to the cheapest thing possible. A little brick on the first story does not make a building a good urban response.

There are a lot of newly vacant lots in the last few years which seem to be attracting the homeless and vagrants. It also feels as though the crime rate is increasing in this area.

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

In 2 years, our cars have been broken into 3 times. And, it seems like everytime you turn around there is graffiti somewhere new. I don't like that commercial property owners are allowed to leave land looking run down and uninhabited. Can't they be fined for poor budgeting and planning so they know we don't approve of the eyesore. I also wish 15th Ave in Ballard didn't look so industrial between Market and 85th. 15th Ave has no neighborhood feel, it looks old and run down.

need better connection to NE seattle.

I wish I was more satisfied with our parks. Perhaps they're still in their infancy, but I don't feel like they're good community focuses. The tiny parks at 22nd aren't big enough to be welcoming, and Ballard Commons feels very sterile and exposed. The business situation is difficult. There's a lot of turnover and even as a short-timer I feel the manufacturing vs. restaurant tension. Much of the new retail going in lies vacant, seemingly for want of pedestrian traffic and investment. I hope as more of these condos fill in that will change.

Seattle has an unfortunate notion that a "park" is anything that's half-a-block that doesn't have a building in it. If cars are driving by within 100 feet of my bench, it's not really the kind of park I'd like to see. I do appreciate, though, the community park with fountains and skateboarding on 22nd and 57th... it's a great way to concentrate people, but it is a totally urban place.

New condo buildings that remain mostly empty.

I am concerned that condominiums are being built so rapidly without without the availability of either requisite parking or better transportation.

curb cuts for wheelchairs. No light rail future.

Ballard has been overbuilt without any increase in infrastructure to accomodate hugh influx of new residents. Traffic, parking is abominable; business district has been destroyed

We are so isolated in Ballard as far as transportation. It seems as if we have to go up to Northgate or Downtown to get anywhere using public transportation. We are a green community and if there were options available to us I am confident that we would use them.

A bus route that goes through Ballard and Fremont would be great. Like an 18 that goes down Leary all the way to Fremont. Did you realize that there isn't a single route that goes from downtown Ballard through downtown Fremont? I am amazed.

Please no more services aimed at encouraging homeless people to come here. Churches should not be allowed to do things the neighborhood is against.

I wish the Burke-Gilman trail would finally get finished.

I hate these huge new apt/condo complexes and worry that the QFC one and the one proposed for east of the library will block the light in the Commons park

Housing prices are to high!

Moved to Ballard in part because of the monorail. Is a shame that we let that slip through our fingers.

It is still hard to get to Ballard, Crown Hill via Metro...at least it is harder than many other neighborhoods.

Development is great but could use a little moderation. Transportation great but a more bike friendly Market St. would be nice.

My car and my wife's car and a number of our neighbors' cars have been broken into. 13th btwn 73rd and 75th, right by Whittier School...

There are a sea of ugly ugly townhouses in Ballard and most of them have only one car garages, which are likely used for storage. So people park on the side streets, rendering many of them one lane only.

Too many condos were approved for development. I'm unhappy that the Sunset Bowl and Denny's were bought, and have been left as empty, run down holes by developers.

Transient problem increasing every year, terrible litter issues, no bus service on Seaview Ave during the weekend (it turns into a parking lot!).

FAIL: end of sunset bowl. Too much density has made a loss of friendly neighborhood feel... Though surprisingly, crime has dropped as neighborhood has gottn more upscale

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

Too many condos...My opinion is that they are taking away from the character of the neighborhood.

The 44 can be slow, slow, slow. It takes me less time to ride my bike to the UW than it does to take the 44. Would it be possible to have a 44 express? And I know an express is coming from Ballard to downtown (thanks!) but it really should pass through downtown Ballard, not just run along 15th.

The perceived increase in crime is concerning. Also, I'd like to see access to light rail from Ballard.

transportation = parking, meaning it is difficult but many economic stalwarts have been pushed out such as the Scandinavian shops and Ballard Camera.

Need better public transportation, that doesn't use the streets.

Urban village plans for Crown Hill have been unrealized. The potential for this area is so great and it is a shame that it has not been implemented with greater walkability and transportation options.

I was disappointed that the Monorail was stopped. There are too many condos and apartments, many unoccupied at this point. The recent murder at the BP station was an indicator of troubling safety issues.

The new townhome/condo developments are oversized and ugly, and have nothing in common with their surroundings. Public transportation, quite frankly, stinks; there is no easy or fast way to get from Ballard to Capitol Hill or Northgate, and the downtown routes aren't sufficiently frequent.

Making the lot at the locks a pay lot has displaced lock visitor parking up the hill to where I rent a studio for my business of art at BallardWorks. Makes it difficult for me to find parking or my clients to find parking. I also believe the higher parking rates on Market were one of the factors that has caused so many business to leave or die in the last couple of years. We don't have adequate public transport to make it convenient to use to go shopping and it is being cut or threatened all the time. We also need dedicated areas for scooter and tiny car parking to encourage their use. How about more social management by carrot instead of by stick?

the streets are getting much more crowded with more condos, etc vs single family homes being built.

It seems like we have more people so criminals and the homeless have increased. I think the city and this neighborhood has not reacted to these issues fast enough

Need increased bus service and incentives to get people out of cars; would prefer a more diverse demographic but planning seems intent on trying to appeal to young suburbanites; built increase of population density (which is good) but poor planning to accomodate; businesses are turning in to all restaurants - no support for the original businesses there (Burke Gilman trail is an example). I moved into this neighborhood because of the economic and more ethnic diversity. The planning department seems intent to drive out both.

While the number of residents has increased and will continue to increase, it seems like there's an increase in graffiti that is not addressed. The public transportation is frequently overcrowded and bus service is too infrequent to/from downtown and not infrequently late particularly from downtown to Ballard. Crime seems like it has increased.

Crime, drug activity, and homelessness are huge problems right now.

Dissatisfied about the lack of design guidelines, setbacks, and neighborhood cohesiveness of new building in Ballard--opportunities for good responsible development have been ignored and the area is becoming increasing ugly and cheap looking. Extremely unhappy about the fact that increased traffic has not been addressed and the condition of sidewalks, roads and visibility for drivers.

Rise in visible drug sales, vagrancy, and vandalism have me concerned.

It would be nice to have our long buses back, but if we have to keep the short buses, they should come more often. We need more police officers here, both in downtown Ballard and Golden Gardens. The new buildings are too damn tall and too close to the street. Also, the businesses on their ground floors are too difficult to get to, both because of the difficulty to find parking, or the metro buses that park right in front of them, blocking them from those of us on the street (Leary).

not enough families with kids

many new apartments - which seems good but many of it is out of the price range of most people

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

Concerned about the transient population and the safety issues that brings up. My children attend school in Ballard and we often see homeless sleeping in and around their school campus. More alcoholic beverages consumed at city parks (like Golden Gardens, Gilman) -- not safe to go to at night, and then they leave their rubbish (bottles, etc.) for those of us who try and use the parks at day.

Let's have an outdoor swimming pool and more to do outdoors for everyone, kids and older-than-kids alike. Look at Spokane's parks, grass and trees and pools. Spokane doesn't have much money, but they have fabulous parks for the people. Also, let's have beautiful buildings. And roof gardens mandated.

There are too many large cracks and potholes in major roadways that are dangerous for bicyclists. Plus the burke gillman trail ends in a dangerous location over railroad tracks that many bicyclists crash on.

To many condos have sprung up and many are not selling.

I'm just cautious that we maintain a real community and don't become too homogeneous, housing cost need to stay diverse to keep a diverse community.....ie Queen Anne is not diverse

Many long time businesses have closed and/or demolished with no replacements. These lots are eyesores and attract crime. Many small businesses have closed. We've had at least 4 high rise condo buildings go up in the past 3 years; they have high vacancy rates and we should explore housing as a way to encourage economic diversity in our neighborhood; these types of buildings when constructed en masse add to gentrification UNLESS a low-income option is a part of the plan. The work the Capitol Hill Housing Group is doing with new development son Cap. Hill is a great model.

There are so many more bikers than 5-10 years ago, yet very little has been done to accommodate them. The city leaders of Seattle keep stressing that they want more and more people to commute and run errands by bicycle, yet they don't add infrastructure and law enforcement (of drivers of cars AND bicyclists) to make that situation safe for everybody. As Ballard grows and more people would like to bike (which is great!) conflicts between bicyclists and cars will only escalate unless some kind of action is taken.

My neighborhood has been affected by tagging, which I fear could compromise public safety

no more condo buildings please.

I feel like much of the new construction was poorly designed & doesn't keep with the look & feel of old/true Ballard. Also, it's been a shame to lose old places like the Sunset Bowl & the Dennys. It's sad to lose character (which many of the new buildings don't have). I also wish the new buildings had more interesting things in the retail spaces. Do we need more beauty/nail salons?

Need: better traffic law enforcement; more bike lanes; extend the BG trail to include the "missing link"; more green building renovation; develop some pedestrian-only streets

Where is the monorail? How come Ballard is totally left out of Gramma Nickels mass transit plan?

I'd really like to see the Missing Link completed, and while this unfortunate lawsuit unfolds I see no reason to wait on fixing the Fred Meyer to Shilshole crossing situation, particularly the dangerous track crossing, as well as installing traffic lights. What I'd like to see added to the Plan are some Bicycle Boulevards. I have some suggestions here: <http://totcycle.com/blog/ballard-bicycle-boulevards.html>

Way too many condominiums, too much personal property crime with no police presence

Too crowded and the bike trail through the industrial waterfront of Ballard is just the pushy way of getting rid of everything that was here before. Rushed, rude people. Car breakins. Graffiti.

The new buildings are far to big for the neighborhood they take away all sunlight and leave the neighborhood looking cold and empty. Two allow a two story building to be replaced by a 20 story building is criminal.

Why is the city not doing more about the large and growing number of people living in trailers and rv's on the streets of Ballard and Crown Hill? These campers are leaving garbage, human waste and other unwanted items on the streets.

15th NW continues to chop both Crown Hill and Ballard in half. New density has been nonexistent north of about NW 60th.

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

in spite of the large increases in density/new businesses/new housing, very little (if anything!) has been done to improve public transportation or roads. If the city can not afford to improve transit, then perhaps the developers (choosing to build new dense structures in Seattle) should be mandated to contribute funds to fix roads or improve public transportation.

Townhomes. Poor design and many remain empty (85th and 8th, Holman and 3rd). These have replaced cheaper duplex housing in many cases, and will become run down rentals over time, rather than a good option to single family homes.

I would like to see continued work to improve overall safety in the neighborhood and better manage issues related to the seeming influx of homeless people in the downtown Ballard corridor.

New construction does not feel unique or diverse.

We need more buses going downtown in peak commute times. I am sick and tired of the gross street people who panhandle constantly and leave garbage everywhere. They lead to health problems and crime. We need more police officers in Ballard!

housing: yard maintenance businesses/buildings/spaces: goodwill and adjacent parking lot is an eyesore, and the convenient store on 8th and 65th is shotty and has shady clientele

Car traffic on Shilshole as well as bikes has increased and it makes the daily commute much more difficult and longer...esp. turning left from Shilshole to Market NW.... This intersection needs work.

Too many cars, of course. Stupid bicycle lane system, look to Copenhagen/Amsterdam 'Sharrow' absolutely idiotic, places biker/driver both at risk for injury/liability. Needed dedicated 'bicycle boulevards' one block off main arterials with frequent auto turn outs. Look to Portland, Berkeley, Eugene. Far too many homeless living lifestyle types around. They have no stake in the community. Presents an unknown to public decency/safety. Panhandlers a problem. The library, overused. Other venues just fine. I won't support businesses who support the 'ones who choose to be homeless'

Housing: would like to see more "universal inclusion" housing: developments with a mix of living units for retired couples, young families, couples without kids, people with disabilities, low-income people. Would love to see more cohousing, cottages (backyard and clusters around courtyards) -- a greater variety of housing types, with some of these in single-family neighborhoods as well. Transportation: It would be great if the City could finish the missing link of the bike trail along Shilshole Ave. Would also be great if the City could set up a bicycle-loan program like the ones in Paris and Portland (I think). The neighborhood plan called for a commuter rail station in Ballard, and I didn't see anything in the status report about this. I think that's still needed as a way to provide a rapid, mass transit connection between Ballard and downtown. The City and region still need a mass rapid transit system, maybe with a heavy rail corridor along I-5 to connect with Portland and Vancouver BC. Light rail is a start, but we need a network that connects neighborhoods to each other and with downtown (trolley, light rail, subway?). Or maybe a fleet of really low-cost taxis like they have in some South American cities that enable people of all means to get around? I would also like to see pay-parking garages in Ballard and other urban villages/centers. This would be a good way to boost business districts and create a more pedestrian-friendly environment. Get parking off the streets (at least the arterials) and free up road space for bike lanes, pedestrian plazas, sidewalk cafes, more public spaces (farmers markets, gathering places), etc.

Golden Gardens needs much more police presence and enforcement during the Summer. PLEASE HELP

I bike, need to extend BG through Ballard despite recent setback lawsuit. Need more bike safety emphasis. Housing is getting replaced by high density condos and apartments which increases the transient population and contributes to crime. Additionally car prowls and theft of items and plantings in our yard are discouraging.

I grow concerned about older smaller businesses being able to survive. It's kind of like I see so many extensive shi-shi businesses coming to Ballard (which is fine) but it is really saddening to see the older establishments struggling. I think the diversity of business types is important for Ballard to remain a viable community.

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

The abundance of street people in downtown Ballard has made it unpleasant to take my kids to the library and the Ballard Commons park. It seems to just keep getting worse. I also do not like to see Ballard losing its character and becoming an extension of Fremont.

Increased density has led to less affordable housing, lack of parking. Infrastructure has not kept up with new density. Maintenance of public spaces and streets has been neglected. Size of many new buildings is out of scale with existing community.

Safety has become more of a concern due to increased traffic and a transient population. Disappointed that the monorail failed to come to fruition. Wondering how this rapid transit is actually going to improve traffic flow to and from downtown. Crown Hill needs more community oriented buildings and spaces. Many existing buildings and homes are in disrepair and new buildings are not built with longevity or design sensibility.

Homeless population is getting out of control...more brash and dangerous

14th Ave is a mess. On 14th and many other streets, there are tons of safety issues with having folks park so close to the intersections. It's impossible to see whether a car is coming without nosing so far into the intersection that you block pedestrians and oncoming traffic. Maintenance of signs and lines is spotty. There are lots of places where these are so faded that they are totally illegible. Residential sidewalks are ridiculously dangerous, cracks, unevenness, etc. abound. Lots more to be done to encourage variation in design and layout of new buildings in the Ballard neighborhood. Many of the new condo buildings present very little in the way of public green space or interest. This leads to canyons of inactivity. A great example is Leary south of Market St. One block over is lively and well-used. The block of Leary south of Market is abandoned and sterile.

Tricky to bicycle to other Seattle neighborhoods. Buses inconvenient off hours.

There should be a direct Ballard to Downtown bus line that doesn't deviate through Westlake Ave or lower Queen Anne (constant, not just Express buses). Also, the neighborhood has gotten awfully expensive to live in.

housing - I don't know how anyone thought that 1000+ new condos was going to be a good idea. Now we have vacant lots and buildings instead of a bowling alley that actually had people in it that would prevent crime, now the place is ripe with meth heads and drunks as they have plenty of places to move into through broken windows. Bad planning and greed lead to vacant lots and crime

Really need BG missing link. Traffic is worse. Want light rail to downtown and beyond.

traffic going eastbound on Market St., esp. at the 24th Ave intersection, is very, very slow. Also, on Shilshole Ave, coming up to Market. Worried about the effect of many more residents on Ballard traffic when more of the tall buildings become occupied

With the recent push to increase density and services, there has not been a commensurate focus on public parking. The lack of public/pay lots makes it very difficult to find parking when the neighborhood has become a destination for shopping, dining, and nightlife. I also find that the increase in townhomes and condos has compromised a lot of the character that initially attracted me to Ballard. When I was looking to buy a home, I was very careful to note the zoning for not only streets I was looking to live, but surrounding streets as well to ensure the single-family detached neighborhood I was looking for would remain that way.

As previously mentioned, 1:4 family dwelling conversions are choking the neighborhoods with cars. High density population is bringing with it some of the dregs. Lots of illicit drug use at Bergen Place, lots of homeless taking up temporary residence in the parks, 4 break ins on our block in the past year.

We are saturated with condos and multi-use new construction. Not pleased to see places like Denny's and Sunset Bowl, enjoyed by the old Ballardites, shut and torn down in favor of empty lots with plans for yet more condos etc.

There is not enough policing by bike or foot. The parks are for everyone, but seem overutilized by homeless and drunken people, especially in the downtown Ballard area.

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

Downtown Ballard does not seem to have planned additional parking to accommodate all the new multi-unit housing projects and new restaurants/evening related retail venues. It is SO hard to find parking. Also, for people who work in downtown Ballard it is nearly impossible to park close to their buildings.

Wife works downtown but there is still not quick easy public transport she will use. Much new housing is ugly and uninspired and will be really ugly in 20 years.

Too many new buildings that are high rises with "pretend" parking. All this urban density is making people cramped and intolerant. Much more crime.

I oppose the backyard cottage proposal because it would bring more problems and noise to the neighborhood. It dilutes the single family neighborhood and our community.

Need rail or streetcar. Bus is not enough. More parks.

No enough public transportation. Need light rail. Better bike solutions: Missing link, bicycle blvds are essential. Golden Gardens is out of control at night on weekends.

The missing link is a big problem for bike commuters. So much has been done that it's silly this is standing in the way of overall improvement.

The new condos are impersonal, imposing and over crowding downtown Ballard with cars and people are everywhere. Traffic is slowing during peak periods and much of the character of the core is going away.

Too much crime--there never used to be muggings in Ballard.

We were overbuilt with condos, the area is becoming too dense. Safety issues regarding transients and crime.

I really wish that the condos could be smaller and have less impact on downtown Ballard. They have really taken over the feel of the place. I also feel less safe than I did 10 years ago. Seems like no one has really taken a leadership role on that front.

Businesses cannot stay rooted/sustained in Ballard. The business district changes from month to month and it's hard to remember what is still there as they seem to close frequently. High rent??? Also, the new construction is making Ballard feel like the Dark Lord's condo planet. There is, however, a group of newly built "cottages" that helps give a fraction of balance to the overwhelming placement of condos and apartments.

Downtown Ballard has been developed in an unpleasant way. Essential businesses (books, groceries, cameras) have been replaced by bars, expensive restaurants, and clothing boutiques. The traffic at 24th and Market is ghastly, and the noise level downtown is obnoxious.

The homeless are more visible and, perhaps more numerous. I actually wanted to see the Monorail in Ballard. Service downtown is good, but east/west is not so great - just the 44 on Market.

I am worried that Ballard will become over run with those huge condos.

Too many older homes being torn down and replaced with townhouses that add no historic beauty to the neighborhood.

I'd like to see some improvements to the Soundview Park. The playground is dated and there isn't a restroom near by. I'd also like to be able to walk around my neighborhood on sidewalks.

If the trolley extension that has been talked about happens, I'll be much more satisfied. The Burke Gilman Trail connector needs to get finished!!

parking is almost impossible ~ I think twice about shopping on Market St or Ballard Ave because parking is such a pain.

So many condos promise an overrun, less approachable business district in the future.

Buses are packed and don't service the North/West side of Ballard well. No light rail station! Glad about the Burke Gilman trail getting completed. I love biking in Ballard.

I'm disappointed that the monorail to downtown didn't happen

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

Lots of abandoned buildings, particularly the checkered building at 3rd and 85th need to be razed. Sidewalks are needed badly north of 85th.

Really wish the light rail were coming!

We need sidewalks in crown hill. Period!

Ballard, Crown Hill, Loyal Heights, Sunset Hill would benefit from a greater police presence. Many residents complain about witnessing drug transactions on the otherwise quiet streets.

We need more bus capacity - either the longer buses or more frequent buses. People jostle for position to get on the bus and sometimes get left behind because the bus is too full. This is ridiculously poor service for people who just want to rely on public trans to get to work. I will forever be bitter and angry at the people who killed the monorail. I have a list and I will never vote for those people. The new condo buildings on 24th NW are too tall and they are taking too long to build. I really want the Missing Link of the bike trail to be finished and I do not believe the businesses will be harmed.

Townhomes and condos are taking over and robbing old, traditional neighborhoods of warmth and charm. What's worse, they are not built with adequate parking. Thus, their cars plug up residential streets. Finally, I'm a part-time bike commuter. "Sharrows" are not bike lanes and they are NOT safe for cyclists. We need real, protected bike lanes.

I'm a bike commuter, so the traffic doesn't bog me down so much, but it's clearly becoming a problem already, and is poised to get worse....

I would like to see more mass-transit (i.e. light rail) come to Ballard and Crown Hill.

Regarding transportation, the streets are not being improved to handle the increase of traffic we are seeing with the increase of housing units. Nor are bus routes having increased buses to handle the increase in demand and we no longer hear about the RapidRide that was being proposed.

Ballard is quickly losing any of its charm with all the cookie cutter condo complexes popping up all over town. Parks are used throughout the day by the every increasing homeless population and that often keeps me and my children away, especially during fall and winter when we could possibly be the only neighbors there.

Metro bus service in Ballard is horrible. Why do my tax dollars go to supporting suburban sprawl and metro bus service outside the city? I've essentially given up on riding the bus as the service is infrequent, buses are overcrowded, or buses do not show up. Cycling facilities have a long way to go in Ballard and deserve much more attention from the city.

It would be nice to have a little 'downtown' area. I've seen the RUV map and realize it might just take a bit of time. I'll be patient.

Due to recent muggings and robbers in the area, I have not felt safe walking around Ballard alone at night. The recent killing at the gas station on 15th only causes more worry.

I was most upset by the outcome of the monorail project; also the Safeway gas station at 15th & 83rd. Also- my husband & I were victims of an attempting mugging this year near that gas station.

There should be more free parking to encourage more people to come to the area to shop and dine. The lack of it has become a deterrent.

all issues that come growth see to have been ignored. it's all about the developers and the income from taxes.

Need more affordable housing that will attract a mixed demographic of people. Public transportation and the traffic in Ballard is congested and slow, hard to take public transportation to work if you don't work in downtown or the UW.

Although we are just starting to feel it (many of the large Condo's and apartments are not at full capacity) I am very nervous about traffic in the near term. I think the city has failed to plan for the large amount of traffic that they have encouraged by encouraging so much building with an road infrastructure.

see previous statement

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

Existing/former buildings such as the Sunset Bowl and Denny's along market sit vacant and are targets for vandalism. Vacancy rate of the new condos is relatively high, yet more are planned, driving rent rates for existing homes and apartments higher and forcing low and middle income people out of the neighborhood

Not only are the new condos bringing people who do not seem to be able or willing to maintain the longstanding culture of this wonderful neighborhood, the majority of them are hideous. They block views and create more wind tunnels. They also seem to have created a housing shortage as most people cannot afford these overpriced behemoths, and affordable apartments are scarce, particularly near Old Ballard and other locations near the heart of Ballard.

Hands down the most inconvenient public transit system of ANY city I've lived in or visited!

I like the new parks and open spaces, but we still need more!

Far too many bars and outdoor seating have been allowed in Ballard. The bar scene is attracting a narrow demographic and alienating everyone else. Public safety is an issue. More traffic, more alcohol consumption.

I am not displeased about existing buildings... I am displeased about the horrific condos and not-so-great townhomes going up throughout Ballard.

There is a serious problem in the area, it is growing, that is the great part, but the city seems to forget about us and does not bother to provide us with a safe place to walk, shop, ride buses and frequent parks. The wonderful places one would want to frequent are being taken over by the homeless, street people and drunks/drug dealers. If it continues I can see Ballard quickly decline in population because the people who live here, spend money here, contribute to the community is not being reflected the way the area is being managed and protected.

See previous comments about how the neighborhood is changing.

Need more buses to downtown and eventually light rail.

Need to accelerate implementation of both rail and Rapid Ride bus service. Reliable public transit, rather than car capacity, should be our approach to moving people to job centers.

Cross-city transportation is frustrating, especially connection on the commute home from the eastside and 520 transit at Montlake.

The city just screwed us over, once again, with parking on 28th street between 56th and 57th. Quit issuing so many high-density building permits if you're going to shut down parking or not find other options.

Multiple small condos on side street drive out the single family ownership of family homes. Large condos and apts on the main avenues make public transportation advantageous for those residents.

Well, you have read my previous comments by now. Building the condos in Ballard was the biggest mistake ever, and we will never retrieve the Ballard we know until you tear them down someday. We now get graffiti on our private property, and on the street signs, same as downtown! Yippee! Stop any more building growth! Keep it downtown, where people who want that lifestyle can go live there and have it. I was talking to another old-timer recently, we both agreed that jaywalking on Market Street near Matador has increased over years ago. The young, downtown mindset has invaded Ballard with their disrespect for mere crosswalks. But, you planners have met your growth targets to impress your peers who do the same deteriorating things in other city neighborhoods in other cities. Obviously, I am blaming city planners. There is no one else who has the power to have made this happen. By the way, the new library does not seem to be much bigger at all, for the money spent, just taller. In 15 years, city planners will be admitting as much when they go after a plan to replace it to build... another multi-story condo there!

There still isn't a "safe" biking route from Downtown to Ballard.

Transit seems to overlook Ballard. I have friends who live in North Shoreline and door-to-door have a shorter trip taking the bus - that's a joke since I live 20 minutes closer than they do. I know there are BRT plans, but seems far away and with latest budget crunch, not sure I'll see it. Public safety seems to be waning - more incidents reported; can North Precinct increase patrols?

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

Extremely inadequate bus service makes it difficult to go anywhere other than downtown seattle on transit. Poor zoning code development and regulation has led to terrible townhouse ghettos with no positive street presence.

The city has reduced parking through in-efficient use of space. Places where back-in angle parking could be used are paralell

We came from California 2 years ago. I probably would not have chosen Ballard but rather a nicer neighborhood. It seemed at the time that housing was less expensive in Ballard, but I should have spent more. I am 57 years old. I've never lived anywhere where I felt uncomfortable about being robbed or hurt by strangers where I live, till I lived in Ballard. Also, for example, 2 days ago, while I was exiting the Ballard Library, there were between 6 or 8 drunk people sitting around on the metal chairs and on the ground, yelling at passersby - not hurting anyone, of course. Just yuck. It is unpleasant sometimes to be around these people.

The continued reduction in open (non-2 hour only) parking on Ballard Avenue and nearby streets makes it difficult for those of us who live in the older buildings that don't have garages. This is also a safety issue, as parking further from my residence means a longer walk home at night.

Places being shuttered (Sunset Bowl) and torn down (Denny's) before solid funding for new construction is ascertained is irresponsible to the community. The fast pace at which change is being made in Ballard is disturbing and depressing. The new condominiums overshadow existing buildings. 24th NW is fast becoming the new "tunnel". All the changes on NW Market to the businesses give it a feel of depression era. The bike trail brouhaha needs to be resolved. Yes, bicyclists need a trail but not at the expense of the businesses that have been here for decades (Pac Fish, Ballard Oil, Salmon Bay Sand & Gravel, etc.). Surely a mutually satisfactory solution can be found. Bus availability should be expanded to accommodate the increased population and encourage usage. Specifically, bus route #46 could/should have more times scheduled. That route is far more convenient to some commuters than #44, which sometimes adds up to an hour to the evening commute depending on traffic congestion. The hideous sculptures at Bergen Place park need to be replaced by art that truly honors Ballard's maritime and Scandinavian roots.

More crime moving into the neighborhood, many MANY car prowls, can't walk alone at night any longer, etc. Neighborhood buildings that were *COMMUNITY* and served many many people of all age ranges and likes were taken over and put to one use for a small portion of people (the little buildings at 65th and 32nd that are now solely used by Piccolino's - overpriced pasta and only used by people who drive here from elsewhere, crowd up the street, and don't obey traffic rules like the 4-way stop!). Monstrous houses being built that look nothing like anything around them and use up the entire lot, and bring in people with so many cars they block the entire street. No enforcement of parking laws. No enforcement of speeding (all the people who cruise our neighborhood on their way to/from Golden Gardens). Parks and Locks and Market St are taken over by druggies and bums. Drug deals go down all the time, I see them, and never a cop around - and when we call we're told they can't do anything about it. Crime creeping into the city and nothing being done about it. Tourist traffic shuts down Market on weekends, takes an hour to get from Locks to 15th and Seattle DOT says nothing to be done. Enforcement of use of library would be nice, I am so sick of seeing people *BATHING* in the drinking fountain in the lobby!!!

See question 1

So many businesses are closing, due to high rents.

New developments seem out of control. Architecture is poor. Too many things being built too quickly and too many people flowing in with no time/resources for the community to adapt and integrate the changes. As far as transportation: we still wish the monorail were being built! Metro buses aren't keeping up with mass transit demand. Viaduct replacement plans are confusing and lacking good leadership, which makes Ballard feel especially in danger of being cut off from easy access to downtown/airport. More/safer biking options are still needed. Crime feels higher and police do not feel present/engaged. Overall, the neighborhood seems to be lacking leadership, someone to help focus civic priorities. Can we get a mayor of Ballard??

crime is definitely increasing in this formerly very safe-feeling area of the city

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

Regularly encounter homeless people or people who camp / live in their RVs who use drugs and alcohol. Their behavior is not acceptable. It is VERY disturbing and the police seem to do NOTHING about it. Speaking of which, we never see the police!

The loss of the monorail clearly broke the plans for Ballard. But most of the construction projects should have been stopped. 15th is going to be horrible for an entire generation. The bus and Rapid Bus System will help a little bit but traffic will get worse and worse. Over all Ballard has been over developed.

Old Ballard is gone. Killed by greedy developers building condos that block out the sun and big box retail spaces that are an eyesore. (Ballard Block)

It's unconscionable that we don't have something besides buses to get downtown. Why light rail goes out to nowhere instead of servicing the majority of the population and tax base makes no sense to me. As a 12 year daily bus rider it works fairly well but we need rail. Light, commuter or streetcar. Something that is not beholden to cars.

We moved here from California SPECIFICALLY to be near the BG Trail - sadly, the City has been unable to get past the few curmudgeons that seem to be single-handedly holding up progress. This neighborhood is an extremely high-cost-of-living area and I feel like I've been duped! There is no access to the trail here - not if you value your life.

While some of the condos are architecturally pleasing, most are not. This is a disease across our city. The city has become ugly. This is Mayor Nickels' legacy --- ugly condos and no Monorail. And now I hear we'll have "cottages" in our backyards. Wonderful. Can't wait for Shantytown.

The regular Ballard drunks were OK but now we have a different element. We have younger, gang-banger folks and more drug-freaked meth (probably) types.

The buses grow more and more crowded during the morning and evening commutes. We need more express buses to downtown.

Traveling along Leary Way/24th/Burke Gilman trail is not pleasant, whether you are in a car or on a bike, particularly on Sunday when the Ballard Farmers Market is in session. Parking is a bit of a hazard as it is so busy along this route. The area where Burke Gilman runs past the Fred Myer and under the Ballard Bridge is also a hazardous route, particularly because it seems that there isn't enough room for car and bike in this area. The road should either be closed to cars or widened to make it safe for cyclists.

Businesses have veered toward the boutique more than the day-to-day vendor. This trend could make Ballard more of a tourist destination than an affordable place to live.

Public transportation to the downtown area is pretty good, but I would like to see the capacity of these routes increased. They can be very crowded, especially during rush hour. Transportation on east-west lines is completely inadequate. Too infrequent and too little capacity. As a bicycle commuter, I would really like to see the missing link completed. This will make the commute safer for cyclists and make bicycle traffic more visible and predictable for drivers (including industrial transporters) who use Shilshole and Market Aves. I have also noticed an increase in drug use and petty crime over the last year or so.

I used to feel very safe walking around Ballard at alone, but in the last few years I feel less safe, especially in the five block radius around where I live (on 52nd near Swedish Hospital).

Housing: the new condos are changing the face of Ballard. Changing what drew people here in the first place. Safety: With the influx of new residents and construction travel through Ballard's side streets has become treacherous. Park: The new park by the library quite simply is a joke. It's usefulness as a place of refuge is nil. It is not a comfortable space. The park should have included more trees to create a sense of seclusion. As it is now it seems like a parking lot with some grassy areas.

weekend congestion on eastbound NW Market st. Waiting to see the impact of all the condos.

There is not a lot of options for affordable housing, busses are overcrowded, and the new condos do not add any value to the neighborhood. This just makes me want to move to Portland.

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

We need much more green space in Ballard.

The increase in urban density as seen through the many large condo complexes that have gone up is changing the look and feel of my neighborhood. I voted to have urban villages many years ago to save farmland not urban small cities.

I would like the 17 express to run more often than just the peak times. The new buildings are too tall and massive for the ballard locations they have been squeezed into.

Something must be done about the congestion - if it's serious about drawing business from outside the immediate neighborhood, either the city should create a highrise public parking facility for the neighborhood, or Metro should get its act together and provide more comprehensive service (more frequent buses on current routes, plus new service to fill in the gaps, like Fremont to Ballard via Leary Way).

We look and feel like every other neighborhood. The sense of what makes Ballard unique is long long gone.

Too many condos, too much density.

Don't like the traffic circles.

I am concerned about the homeless drunks hanging out in the parks and next to the library. I don't know if there are services in Ballard available to them and I'm not sure they can be revitalized, honestly.

Increased violent crime and ugly, ugly condo blocks going up all over blocking the sky. Density is fine, but what a missed opportunity to have done it with attention to green design and aesthetic appeal.

Parking in Ballard is becoming the most challenging in the city.

The general lack of alternative (to personal vehicles) transportation is one of my largest concerns for Ballard. The idea of a monorail was more than I could have expected for, my exuberance was crushed when the plans for a monorail were torn down.

That said though, it is (as one library float put it) the "scariest and stinkiest" library in the city. I think it is sad and inexcusable that the bathroom doors at the entrance must remain open in order to discourage folks from shooting up in the bathroom. There is always someone panhandling outside the library when we go, and though the skateboard park is lovely and a great place for teens to congregate to skate and little kids to play in the water park, there are always groups of inebriated homeless gathered there any time of day. As for transportation, Ballard continues to be (as it was when I lived in a different neighborhood) one of the hardest neighborhoods to get in and out of from other Seattle neighborhoods except for the downtown financial district.

* Holman Road / 15th Ave are dangerous for both drivers and pedestrians. * I live in Crown Hill. While Ballard has plenty of public facilities, Crown Hill does not. They are trying to develop something at the old Crown Hill school, but that is probably many years away because I don't know where they'll get the money to fix up the place. * I hate that almost all the businesses in Crown Hill cater to people who drive--mostly people from other neighborhoods. There seems to be more space dedicated to parking lots than to the businesses themselves. Huge gas stations. Office space. Box stores. Compared to places like these, there are few neighborhood stores and shops which we can frequent on a regular basis. If I want to experience a neighborhood commercial district I have to get in my car and drive to other neighborhoods

I would like to see more open space. Hopefully we can one day create a waterfront park or expand Ballard Commons. I would like to see streetcar or light rail service to Downtown.

The permitting process in Ballard should be seriously reviewed - permitting of large buildings should be stopped pending mass transportation capacity. The town house codes also need a serious review - they lead to buildings that are eyesores. Ballard should have town houses that are "City fronted." The lack of light rail in Ballard (or a plan in the next 20 years to get light rail) is an embarrassment to the abilities of our city planners. Federal Way is slated to get light rail before Ballard. Transportation capacity needs to follow urban growth -- either stop allowing growth or start building mass transit.

Downtown Ballard has a fair bit of vagrancy.

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

We are told that despite harrassment by transients, the police won't respond. I know it's low priority, but even increased drive bys are appropriate to let folks know that we're safe. Right now it no longer feels safe to be a single female walking in Ballard.

Ballard seems to be losing businesses left and right! Especially old businesses that have been here 40-50 years. Transportation: going east/west from Ballard to the rest of Seattle remains a challenge. The 44 bus line is the only one that really goes this direction and it is full and extremely slow. Traffic on Market/46th has become quite unreasonable. There need to be alternatives in this direction.

Busy streets such as 15th, 8th and Market are neglected; trees should be added, walkways improved and signs should be better regulated.

The condo development has really changed the character of the whole area. The welcomed increase in businesses has lead to an increase in crime.

I am 58 and have a knee replacement. I have fallen several times on the uneven sidewalks on Market Street and surrounding area. Market St. is the worst.

I can not believe that with the growth and development that has occurred, a plan for better and faster public transportation has not happened. We need an option aside from bus service to get us downtown quicker.

It's very time consuming to leave Ballard. I work downtown and the busride home is often "standing room only" We really need more express routes that are the double articulated type and not single type. Also, there is a pretty significant homeless problem in Ballard. While most of the folks are hramless there are the occasional individuals who aere harmful. I think the taking abck of bergen place and marvin gardens will help to illeviate some of this trouble though.

Dissatisfaction is more resultant of new buildings, specifically housing.

The rents have gone up drastically. A unit that rented for \$700 in 2005 now rents for around \$850. More housing is being built, but it is not affordable. A luxury apartment or condo doesn't do any good for someone who is already being priced out of the neighborhood they've lived in for several years.

I realize compromises have to be made when so many want to move into such a small space, but why are so many of the new buildings so ugly? And, if it does get built, how does anyone think that monstrous complex at the corner of Market and 15th is really going to improve the neighborhood? There is no feeling to these buildings. They are all going to look awful and get torn down in 25 years. What a waste of resources.

Sunset Bowl is a monument to everything that has gone wrong in Ballard.

Current public transportation options are at capacity limits, and commuters are turning away from using public transit in response. On the other hand, all roads leading to and from Ballard are also now at capacity during rush hour, and there is no foreseeable way to add private car capacity. After approving a Monorail plan in public votes four imes and it's defeat finally after a fifth vote (sincerely un-democratic process tat was) the people of Ballard have been offered no alternative. It feels like the city and county governments are punishing us for taking some initiative. The Ballard train station idea has no real promise from any government leadership, no funding source, and no real likelihood of happening. Meanwhile Ballard is serving as the repository for population density in King County, while near empty new buses are rolling into downtown from the suburbs every morning rush hour commute. I'm a little beyond dissatisfied with the situation. There has been a marked increase in aggressive panhandling in the neighborhood, which really just seems like a by-product of Ballard's new popularity on weekends and evenings. There has also been a very noticeable increase in graffiti in the past several years, and more recently we seem to be undergoing a bit of a violent crime wave. The recent shooting at the convenience store is simply appalling, and not something I would have expected in Ballard just a few years ago.

Not enough bus service or other transportation service, not enough affordable housing, not as safe as use to be even 4 years ago, not enough parks, green, or other open spaces.

Public transportation has not kept up with the pace of population growth. Ballard desperately needs to be added to the Link light rail system. It also seems that crime has been rising of late.

You are not doing anything to stop people from speeding thru neighborhoods. It is unsafe for children, wildlife and older neighbors

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

Public transportation remains downtown-centric and the buses are too crowded and don't run anywhere near on time. Housing is too expensive for many.

While the density has increased, bus service is lacking, particularly for the routes that do not run downtown. I also am sickened by the inability of our community to finish the Burke-Gilman Trail. That is a woefully unsafe situation. Affordable, single-family homes are scarce.

Very concerned about tunnel option for Viaduct replacement and the negative impact it will have during and after construction on Ballard.

Too many condos. Too much density.

It isn't too bad yet but the amount of traffic and the lights on Market do get annoying. Also not a big thing and the feasibility is pretty low but it'd be nice to have some green space in the main downtown Ballard area.

I wish there were more buses and that you would add additional express routes to downtown. That bus is always crowded

It takes more than 15 minutes to drive from Market & 24th to an entrance to highway 99. In comparison, it takes another 15 minutes to get from the entrance to highway 99 to outside of Seattle. This was my daily commute for six months, so I'm quite familiar with it. There seems to be an increase in vagrant people laying about in parks and teenagers vandalizing things.

The bus service in and out of Ballard is limited to the 17 or the 18. And it is difficult to get around on the weekends or after the rush work hours on the bus. The library is great but it is quite full all the time. There does not seem to any where else for the public to gather. The park is a good weather option only - not rain friendly.

Too many condos, too much development, loss of character and open spaces.

If you want to increase density then you should increase mass transit. New housing should be able to accommodate 1 to 2 vehicles, not zero. Even if we do take buses into work, we tend to keep our cars to get to the mountains. Some of the new construction is just ugly.

Ballard will continue to turn into Seattle's newest ghetto until the police enforce the laws.

Housing is becoming too expensive and there are too many condos.

Too many condos going up without adequate parking available.

The city appears not to have planned for a transportation system that keeps up with the downtown development which it encouraged and approved. The development itself is positive but not so the transportation options considering a significant number of residents commute to work. Why isn't Ballard a priority for light rail with all the density and commuters in the neighborhood? Why do some plans (mailed by the county/city) for potential future light rail do not include stops in Ballard even as light rail is apparently developed through Ballard? Why is it that to extent any plans for light rail include stop in Ballard these plans are so far out in the future that the city/county will continue to fail to meet the transportation needs of Ballard residents/commuters even as the city continues to encourage high density development in Ballard? In addition, there are some blatant omissions of practical, common sense things like street lights. For example, the city has failed to come up with a street light for a busy five-way downtown intersection on Leary Way and 20th in downtown Ballard. Pedestrians have to run across Leary (4 lanes) and hope that vehicles coming from 5 different directions will stop. This at an intersection with a condominium development in the corner with a potential of hundreds of new residents (and not counting the new development across the street that has not been completed).

the historic area has lost many of the historic uses. As a boater and tinkerer I found the proximity to these services useful - not just quaint

There is not enough parking nor bicycling routes and trails, at least one of these should be worked on, if not both.

Would love to see more of a SPD presence in the downtown area where there are drug deals going on right before our very eyes. They've overtaken Bergen Place and the Commons Park.

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

In regard to safety: I don't find that Ballard is not safe, but I do feel uneasy about the high density of homeless peoples in the city park and loitering around the library. I live nearby and avoid those areas, especially at night, unless I have to go there. In regard to new buildings: I really don't like the towering condos near downtown. They take away from the quaint neighborhood feel and "cuteness" of Ballard. We are not downtown Seattle and don't every want to be anything close to.

I have seen a rise in the amount of homeless individuals loitering around my neighborhood, and there was just a murder in Ballard at the gas station on the corner of 15th and 58th. I also would like to see some more parks that agree to off-leash times for dogs in Ballard.

Why are so many RV's allowed to remain on Ballard streets. Ballard is now known to be a RV park. Why aren't businesses made to clean up graffiti and why aren't they fined once they are reported? Why are homeless people allowed to loiter and aggressively panhandle in downtown Ballard? Why are homeless allowed to bathe in the Ballard library bathrooms and park drinking fountains? I am discouraged to bring my children the local parks and library because of this. I usually take my children outside of Ballard for parks and libraries.

Things need to be thought out completely, not just what fits into your little box. I see some of the things you say will work for road projects and it all sounds good on paper but just does not translate well in a real working situation. I am frustrated by all of the permanent outside dining. With cyclists on the sidewalks it makes it too much of an obstacle to have them all year round. This is a new thing and is not beneficial to the community.

It took over 2 weeks for the police to take action on the mentally unstable, profanity screaming, homeless man who was living in the bushes at Loyal Heights playfield until early August. We need more resources for the homeless, but we also need to protect the neighborhood.

Too many multi-unit complexes, whether its condos, apartments or multi unit houses. The overall look of the new condo/apartment buildings leave a lot to be desired. If they have to come at least they could make them aesthetically pleasing and built to last.

The city has allowed Ballard to be overbuilt without concern for adequate parking given the need for vehicles in this area v more central neighborhoods to DT Seattle,

Too many cookie-cutter condominiums and mixed-use properties have been built. While it is good that there are new stores and restaurants moving in, I fear that rents are escalating to the point where important, but marginal businesses are forced out. The area could definitely use better bus service; perhaps smaller busses running more frequently on shorter routes.

Traffic has increased on my street in the past 3 years. As well as petty crime, tagging etc.

too damned many condos and town homes. We need better mass transit to downtown

Worried that too many condos and apartments are being built.

TOO MANY CONDOS - too many historic single family houses destroyed in the name of money.

Garish condos, empty lots where bowling alleys and restaurants once were.

too many new condos are being crammed into a lot where 1 house used to stand. Now the developers cram 20 condos on the same lot.

I don't like the condo glut

too many condos popped up too quickly

Hate the amount of condos, way too many and more are being planned! There is no parking for all those people moving in. I know there should be parking in their condos but most people park on the street.

There are too many condo buildings in ballard. I hope that no more buildings will be added. We have horrible traffic, no good solution for mass transit and too few grocery stores and restaurants for all these new and incoming residents. Also, stores are rapidly going out of business on Market Street, it's hard to believe that the landlords would rather lose a leaser than lower their rents!!

Too many generic condos that look low quality and in 5-10 year will be falling apart.

won't ride the bus any more - WAY too crowded. stop letting them tear down one house for 4 ugly condos.

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

Tearing up peoples front lawn for some pseudo-environmental nonsense... permits to cut down trees you planted in your own yard.. Wasting money of traffic circles.. and spray painting for bikers...

Expanding a neighborhood without expanding transportation is foolish. I agree that new roads are very expensive but the City's mistaken belief that we have a good public trans system makes them blind to the problems. 1) Not enough buses. 2) They are far too often late. 3) Too few route selections. 4) Way too slow. 5) They stink. 6) I can't ride them very far without getting an asthma attack.

the city doesn't appear to value single family homes. it seems only multi-family structures are wanted for the future. This policy will destroy the very fabric of the city.

Too much of a push for population density. The area is changiing from neighborhood to city with all the bad things that come with that, gangs, crimes, assaults, graffiti, homeless.....

the new housing is ugly. as for safety, i do not feel safe on market street anymore because of all the bums.

again, too much emphasis on rental type homes/buildings - too high of a transient population is not good for a neighborhood/city.

Lack of bus service & the incomplete Burke-Gilman trail

Ballard is still difficult to get in and out of. Wish the monorail had happened, or that we were included in the light-rail plan.

Far too many new buildings. Traffic is brutal on market and other streets. The Ballard Bridge is a hazard for bikers.

Crime appears to be increasing in this area especially those that involve personal injury---more police officers are needed for this community as is parking enforcement. Parking enforcement is not just about checking to see if the time has expired but to ticket (and tow if needed) those cars that park in unsafe places for walkers.

The increase in homeless in Ballard has a negative impact on my feeling of safety--I no longer feel comfortable walking alone at night. Housing is incredibly expensive. Transportation is deplorable--all we have is traffic, traffic and more traffic.

Buses are crowded and inconvenient. Buildings and businesses are torn down or vacated, only to languish when projects stall.

The residential/business buildings offer little-to-nothing to me. I will never go to a tanning salon!

Too much growth.

Would have loved the monorail connecting Ballard to the Light Rail. Now I fear that we will indefinitely need to drive to Northgate to catch the Light Rail. Would love to see a train stop in Ballard.

Please please please continue to push to get light rail or equal form of transportation here. Thanks for the work on the Burke Gillman trail - a great addition! I support high density housing, but public transportation needs to keep up with the changing neighborhood. We are concerned about safety - recent events in Ballard were quite disturbing and very close to home. During a year, we observe stolen vehicles, are awaked in the middle of the night by loud, disturbing behavior outside, and are concerned that safety can vary significantly from block to block.

I love the improved park area! But we need more.

traffic circles would enhance our neighborhoods, as would curbs/sidewalks. i think there is a lot of congestion on 85th near 15th that could be helped if parking was not permitted during peak hours and if distinct lines were painted on the road indicating it CAN be a 4-lane road.

Gee, I think it's pretty clear. Why can't we clean up Ballard? It is ridiculous that one can't go anywhere without the aggressive panhandling and the drug deals and the trash. How about more cops? Bike cops? Undercover cops? Making it so Ballard isn't Santa Monica North to the homeless--what? Is there an underground advertisement among the homeless to come to Ballard?

overcrowded/difficult to get in and out/frequent traffic back-ups/not enough buses (standing room only at rush hour--ALWAYS)

Please make the old Denny's land owner safely maintain their empty property so that it is not a drug hang-out and not a blight on our community.

As stated previously, we bought our home here because we were promised a monorail.

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

The number of vagrants has increased, and evidence of drug and alcohol abuse in public has increased as well.

I'm impatient for a continuous Burke-Gilman trail!

The condo boom in Ballard really changed the look and feel of this community. Many of these buildings were allowed to be built higher than ever before, are bland in their look and design, and have contributed to a sense of homogeneity that has befallen so many other communities. We're losing the unique sense of place that Ballard once was.

The new development is largely a character assassination on the neighborhood I fell in love with and hustled out from the East Coast for.

I cannot say enough about how mad I am that there are GIANT condo and apartment buildings replacing single family homes all over Ballard. It's ugly, it removes trees and plants, and it ruins the feel of the neighborhood. There is such a thing as too much density.

Really disappointed that there is no monorail and bus does not run when I need it to. Falls on metro's deaf ears.

Lack of public transit/parking (losing the monorail project along 15th), and the proliferation of condos.

Only dissatisfied with the plan to demolish Greenwood market (guess that is the Greenwood/Phinney neighborhood, but we are loyal patrons there!) for the Fred Meyer mega-expansion.

While I understand what lead to the demise of the monorail, there hasn't seemed to have been much in the way of planning and developing mass transit to downtown. The 15 and 18 busses are overcrowded during peak commute hours. Plus there's really no easy way out of Ballard other than to downtown--either by bus or car. At least we've got a nice bike trail to the UW.

not enough busses, walking can be dangerous on streets north of 85th without sidewalks. housing prices are high.

In the past year, people and businesses in Ballard are falling victim to a lot more property and violent crime.

i feel there are some issues with lack of services for the homeless, who then end up using the library as their sanitation station. There are also some chronic panhandlers who are aggressive.

Ballard is a challenge to get to because of Seattle's lack of east/west arterial streets. We can easily get to downtown on 15th St/Ballard Bridge or via 99. It would be great to have light rail make its way into Ballard. Ballard has a significant homeless population, especially near the DSHS building on Leary. My concern about safety is relatively low, but I have noticed a surge in the number of homeless people sleeping in Gilman Park. I have only have one negative encounter but am concerned the city and neighborhood are not doing enough to address the situation. I am aware of the Ballard Food Bank but think there should be greater outreach to provide service and resources for the folks living in their cars and in the parks. I don't think the city should waste money on sending animal control to parks. The amount of revenue that is collected from issuing tickets is likely minimal and this is not an effective use of taxpayer dollars. Moreover, the city should reinstate providing free pet waste bags as this encourages people to pick up after their dogs.

It seems that a significant portion of the population has been ignored or ill served, e.g. the poor and homeless. The Burke Gilman through Ballard STILL has not been completed. This is a major bicycle commuter route. Bicycle access across the canal is STILL miserable, e.g. The Locks and Ballard Bridge crossing. Pedestrian access and safety has not improved north of 85th in the residential area, e.g. North Beach.

we need a faster police presence and stronger mandates about homeless activity in the area! including stricter rules in the parks the exclusion rule will only work with a police presence to enforce it!

Is there a way to relocate people who complain about every change in their neighborhood?

the tearing down of businesses to replace with condos sucks

pandering to developers and the slow approach to provide safe bike paths through our neighborhood and connecting to others

The development has overwhelmed the transportation infrastructure, both roads and busses. 24th Ave NW was seriously degraded by the bike lane installation when the workers gouged off the previous lane markings. Why one of the few smooth arterials was damaged is beyond rational comprehension.

How can you call this a city if you don't have sidewalk?

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

We need more #44 buses running at rush hours.

I'm frustrated that the light rail plan to Ballard was scrapped and feel that some of the newer condos on 24th really reduce the feeling of openness in that area.

Yes. Lots of condos being built without "real parking" forcing more people onto the street. Town homes with parking on the bottom that only the tiniest car could actually get into. It's silly. I know some city planners think if they don't build parking, people won't have cars, but we don't have mass transit at a level to completely replace cars yet. And Gregory is taking credit for bike lanes that aren't really bike lanes. Sharrows, please. Let's build some real one! I also think that the city has gotten too heavy handed with it's code. Did you know that it's illegal for you to build an attached garage that extends beyond your house front .. even if your new garage is 40 feet from the sidewalk?

1. Burke Gilman trail needs to be completed. There's no question that certain Ballard industrial companies are against this due to their NIMBY attitude. This IS Seattle, and cycling should take precedent. 2. There's no easy way to bike from Ballard/Crown Hill to Downtown. It's either the narrow (and blow dart prone) walkway on Ballard Bridge, or the long and slow walk through the Docks. With concern for peace and safety, there should be a bike specific lane through the Docks to promote cycling as an alternative form of transportation.

Our buses are packed and housing is too expensive.

Ballard Chamber of commerce should be ashamed of their resistance to the completion of the missing link of the Burk-Gilman trail.

Too many apartments and condos. The infrastructure can't support them. Parking is a nightmare and on my street people were inovative and angle parked, only to have the city put up parallel parking only signs. There isn't room, they've allowed too many living spaces to sprout up. The old feeling of Ballard is gone. So many shops are closing, it's incredibly sad. Where is the trail extension?!?

I am dissatisfied about the lack of planning ofr condos, aptmnt house etc. There seems to be a flood of them that are now sitting, and if they were full woudl overcrowd the area to the point of traffic congestion, increased crime and the area loses the charm and security of the great place it is to live.

I would like to see more of an effort to clean up 15th Ave, especially the garbage that people leave along the road (i.e. old sofas, chairs, tires, etc.). While currently clean, the West side of 67th/15th (across from Ballard Pool), is a favorite spot for people. I'd like to see more trees along the streets in Ballard. I'd like to see more bike lanes. I'd also like to see less townhomes popping up like weeds in neighborhoods with nice older homes -- there are some cottages that I've seen that fit the neighborhoods that look nice, but I hate those three story boxes with 5 windows. Yes, more dense, cheaper housing is nice, but at what cost? Locate all the condos down on Market and be done with it. Speaking of condos, when are those eyesores on Market going to change -- by that I mean where Denny's and Sunset Bowl used to be. Also would like to see cops making more patrols through the inner neighborhoods around Ballard High -- lots of teenagers like to linger around smoking pot and being a nusense, see Salmon Bay Park and the soccer fields around there.

At night the lighting in portions of the city is so dim it feels un safe.

The missing link is dangerous and needs to be addressed.

need more dog parks - whittier heights area

Much of Crown Hill still does not have sidewalks. I would like to see money invested in infrastructure for North Ballard rather than downtown Ballard/Market Street area. Things look pretty good down there, but there is still much work to be done on infrastructure in North Ballard. 40 years without sidewalks?

Need more parks and public open spaces. New development, especially townhouses, lacks creatuvity or character. More frequent bus service needed.

Noticeable increase in crime, especially drug trafficking.

Increase in homelessness and violent crimes (not necessarily related); increase in condo buildings which seem to be unoccupied; tearing down Sunset Bowl and Denny's and leaving the spaces empty for all of this time

Too much density without improving parking, road access, or transit. Sometimes the bus is too crowded. The traffic trying to get in and out is getting much worse. Right now most of the condos they have built are sitting empty, but at some point they will fill up and traffic/transit/parking will get much, much worse.

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

The buses need more capacity; I'm pleased that the routes are available, but more buses are needed. Housing is not very affordable.

As more people are moving to and visiting Ballard, it seems like crime is going up, but I do not see an equal increase in law enforcement.

We need light rail from Northgate mall to Holman Road to 15th Ave NW, going across the Ballard bridge thru Interbay and intersecting with Link rail downtown. Holman Road is overwhelmed by traffic now. More sidewalks, pedestrian bridges needed.

I don't believe the numbers listed for home value in the status report. Looking around the neighborhood, sometimes there are condos for under 300,000, but the lowest I've seen is in the 250,000-280,000 range. Houses under 350,000 seem like they're only on the market to be torn down, so the land can be used for townhomes, which will then cost >400,000. To claim that 81.1% of home values are under 300,000 seems unconnected to reality.

We wish the wading pool at Soundview PG wasn't closed this summer. We wish we had a community center. We are afraid to walk in some areas pretty close to our house.

Baker Park (across from Safeway)

Cheaply-built, ugly condos and townhomes fill every available spot. Would love to see a greater effort to maintain a level of visual integrity.

Dissatisfaction with the lack of upkeep present on 15th street north of Ballard highschool.

I do not often feel safe in the neighborhood. There are too many vagrants that have been given free reign.

In general I am dissatisfied about transportation and safety. Specifically, I am concerned about the speed and recklessness of traffic along 80th Ave NW in front of Loyal Heights Elementary School.

Instances of crime (car prowls, break-ins, etc) seem to be quite high for this neighborhood.

It seems that the homeless people have taken over Ballard and has made it rather annoying to walk near parks and businesses

more than our fair share of multiple housing units compared to other neighborhoods

Please stop allowing the development of massively overscaled buildings in the area.

Public transportation has not been improved to accommodate high rate of Ballard-Seattle commuters.

Safety: Crime is a huge problem in Ballard. My home has been broken into twice in four years, cars on our street are broken into routinely, and we now have drug dealers operating on the corner of our block. We need more policing!!! Transportation: We need the Light Rail! Buses running through Ballard are way over-crowded and unreliable (yet I am forced to depend on them because I do not drive to work). Buildings/Housing: The new housing in Ballard is physically way out of scale with neighborhoods and also way too expensive. We need better zoning standards, and more attention to pedestrian-sensitive development.

So sad that the monorail failed, and light rail is nowhere near.

Strongly dislike all the multi-family homes taking over the single-family homes!

The apparent increase in property crime is disturbing. I live in the Loyal Heights neighborhood, near Salmon Bay Park, and have never seen a police cruiser. I think an increased police presence would have a positive effect on crime and make our neighbors feel safer, which can be as important as actually improving safety. Also, it is incredibly difficult to travel east/west from Ballard. Would it be possible to improve east/west travel through changed signal timing or some other means?

The development in the urban area (Market Street) is distracting to the city -- it has created more density issues and population growth that affects parking and transportation issues.

The number of homeless people has increased dramatically. I do not feel safe in many of the parks due to this issue.

Q2: What are you dissatisfied about?

The overpriced condos are beginning to dominate Ballard. Ballard used to be very affordable and still is comparatively speaking but I'm not sure if I will want to live here for many years to come if the condo trend continues.

Way too many homeless people who drink and pass out in the downtown area and by the old bowling alley.

Would love to have better public transportation to Downtown and other neighborhoods.

Question 3: Please describe how well your Neighborhood Plan vision and key strategies are being achieved.

The BK trail was supposed to be finished a long time ago.

The failure to complete the Burke-Gilman Trail and the failure to increase safety services (police and fire) and public transportation fly in the face of the rationale for identifying Ballard as an urban village and undermines any benefits density seeks to achieve under the comprehensive plan.

We only have one of our 4 primary goals.

Transportation is lacking.

We need to agree we are done with the density and slow/stop the growth of condos.

Condo buildings over-built. Congestion increased. Public transportation inadequate. Access to Locks limited by parking meters. Small businesses driven out. New housing unaffordable.

Some of the things on the plan no longer apply (light rail)...it seems like we could have a new priority of affordable housing

The original vision was great, but the execution is where things fell apart. Like I said before, the planning just wasn't adequate and they should have looked at the infrastructure to see what needed improvements before adding so much stress on the area.

It seems like based on the plan, things are moving along nicely.

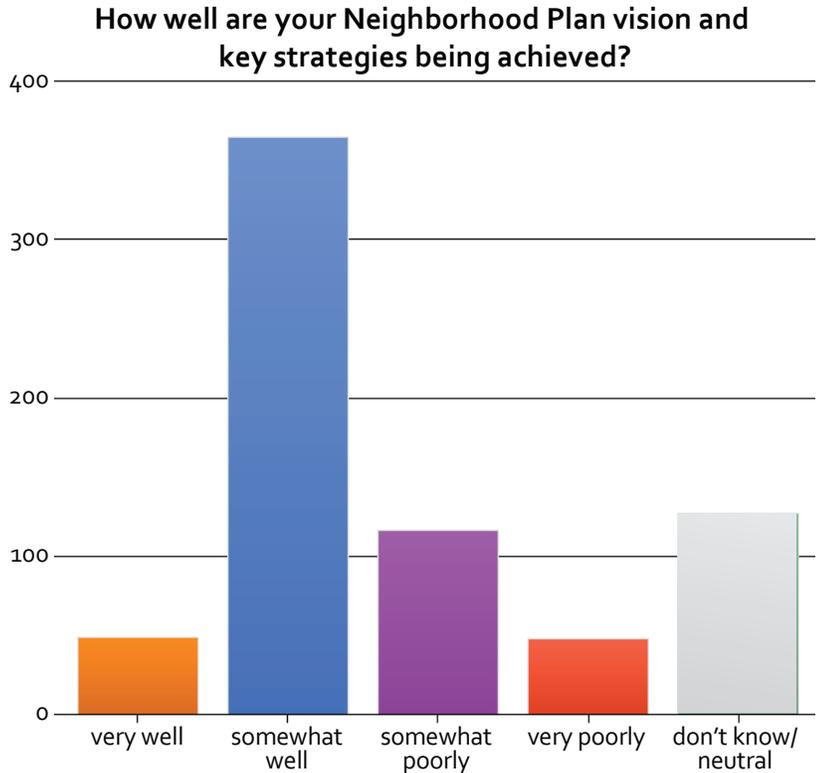
We seem to be pretty much on track, although I wonder if we need some additional vision to guide the next 10 years.

Too much, too fast.

Will the Burke-Gillman Trail ever be finished?

Progress has certainly been made. It seems like there's so much more that could happen in the next phase.

Public transit drags it all down.



Looks like we're on target based on the documents.

The new park and focus on community spaces has gone well; Burke Gilman ""missing link"" project is stalled for the foreseeable future; current and future transportation challenges have been ignored.

According to the plan 10 years ago, the library and park have been completed- but transportation is still an issue. This will be even more of an issue when the Viaduct comes down. The plan to have a monorail is no longer, and except for BRT on 15th, there is no plan for light rail to Ballard that I know of.

I think that families and elderly needs are not taken into account as much.

Evidently, they are yours and not ""our"" vision or strategies.

Not all of the goals seem to have been met.

Great job on the neighborhood core; others are work in progress

I support more density, generally. I'm not opposed to the new condos. Although townhomes are ugly.

there is now less affordable housing than there was before.

Q3: How well are your Plan's key vision and strategies being achieved?

I know how slowly public projects can move, and I do very much appreciate the progress that has been made on the Neighborhood Plan. It's disappointing that the Burke-Gilman trail was identified as a priority ten years ago, and is still under debate. Obviously, having a rail option to downtown would be amazing, and Seattle will get there... this is a much larger issue than a neighborhood plan could possibly account for, although starting a discussion about exactly where that rail station would go, and therefore being prepared in front of SoundTransit and the City, might help to speed up the adoption of a plan to extend a line north to Ballard.

commuters from these neighborhoods should be paid attention to

Ballard is not the same place it has been. That change has not been addressed.

The stuff that has been accomplished to date is the easy, small stuff. The major issues - transportation, maintaining an appropriate balance of affordable and affluent homes, dealing with change, haven't been done well.

If the plan was to mess up a wonderful area then you did a good job. While the Neighborhood Plan might have worked out a bit better if the Monorail was not lost; however, over developing was foolish and huge mistake.

1. I use the Burke-Gilman trail regularly to commute to work and patronize businesses between Ballard and Fremont. Shilshole needs to be better organized for turnover parking rather than keeping the mess that currently exists. Bicycle and pedestrian safety require separation of facilities through this corridor.

2. Reliable high-capacity transit still needs to be implemented. With the new housing in Ballard, people need an option that is frequent and predictable enough to depend on.

What happened to light rail? I'm glad it opened in the Rainier Valley, but Ballard is one of the most dense neighborhoods with a populations that commutes into downtown and south Seattle. Why did the City sell the previous light rail designated land to condo developers? And try to save the Denny's corner. This showed me that the Coty tends to be out of touch with what residents really want. The sale of these properties and lack of planning for light rail is a complete lack of foresight for such high density.

The transportation issue is still completely unimproved. The Burke Gilman trail projects are progressing but the Missing Link is critical to cyclist and pedestrian safety. The parks projects have been great, but there is more to be done here: we need more green, shady parks that are safe both day and evening.

Progress has been great on all key strategies *except* the commuter rail project. Most everyone I know would love to have a commuter rail station nearby!

Hugh emphasis on housing is insane. Way over and above what planning document talked about

Since my neighborhood plan vision differs greatly from Nickels' I guess I would have to say that my plan is not doing well but his sure seems to be.

Where's the affordable housing? The light rail?

The urban center in Crown Hill is simply bad.

Most of them have been completed, which just need to make some adjustments based on the fact that the Monorail was not built.

Only 2 of the 4 seem to be achieved or in process (Ballard Municipal Center and Crown Hill School were done well).

The neighborhood plan seemed to focus on small, cosmetic improvements (which are lovely, but dwarfed by the effects of the larger block redevelopments) to the complete exclusion of creating any sort of building development oversight committee or group. Ballard residents should have had more presence, involvement and say in the planning stages of zoning and property developments downtown.

Again, the buildings

Just the fact that the public has input is essential and necessary for happy and healthy neighborhoods. Neighborhoods are about people.

Well, it's an urban village hub I just don't think it was done in a way that honored the history of the neighborhood. Affordability was part of the plan and that's gone out the window.

This is a poorly expressed question. Who's Neighborhood Plan vision is it anyway? I don't feel any ownership of it in the slightest.

Q3: How well are your Plan's key vision and strategies being achieved?

Transit plans do not support population growth.

Some things happened at the gross level and are good. The Municipal Center, The Crown Hill School, but the Burke-Gilman trail still needs completion, and external forces intervened on the Commuter Rail project. At finer levels of detail level there are quite a few things which occurred and are at odds with the plan or circumstances have changes, making the plan obsolete. We need a strong emphasis on transportation and a good grasp of the infrastructural changes required to support the increased density of residents. We also need to de-emphasize the use of privately owned automobiles.

The plan has goals for density which make sense given proximity to downtown. However, with density needs to come plans for transportation, parking areas for commuters, and community areas.

Many things have been accomplished. The stunning thing is how fast development and population growth overtook Ballard. I would like to see change in Crown Hill not occur as fast as it did in Ballard, for example not allow 6-story condo/apt buildings. Also, I think it is time to put in a sidewalk on the east side of 15th Avenue NW from 9th to 10th Streets.

A and C have been very well achieved. The new additions to the Burke Gilman trail are great but the missing link needs to be finished for the Burke Gilman trail. However, I am very concerned that the plan will not adequately address the concerns of industrial businesses on that link. It is extremely important to maintain places of employment in this community. These businesses will just move away, as have many already, where they feel the community does not want them and treat them as "bad guys".

very little of the plan applies to crown Hill

I think that the key strategies have been/are being achieved fairly well - but I don't think that the overall vision is very comprehensible.

Ballard and Crown Hill are being lumped together but face very different challenges. Most of the focus of the update was on Ballard's urban growth.

I think Crown Hill's neighborhood plan needs a major focus shift. There are new priorities and issues that affect businesses and residents alike.

I think it's a self-fulfilling prophecy in the making, building condos et al.

The major shortcomings revolve around transportation. There has been no progress that I know of on establishing a commuter rail stop. The endless stalling tactics of local industry and the chamber of commerce need to be overcome so that the Burke-Gilman Trail can finally be completed. Finally, many parts of the neighborhood are not yet completely walkable.

One transportation goal that isn't addressed in the plan is the improvement of Metro service to the neighborhood. I'm still not convinced that the Rapid Transit Corridor is the answer. Especially when "rapid" transit to downtown includes a trip through Lower Queen Anne. East-West transportation needs to be improved seeing as it doesn't seem to have changed much in the last 10 years.

The library, park and service center at 57th street are completed and looking great! However, I just can't stress enough how dangerous the missing link of the Burke-Gilman trail is. And so far, there are no plans for a commuter rail (when I moved in, they were planning on building the monorail still) and they're even planning to cut bus service to Ballard, as the population here skyrockets.

Again, Ballard is being improved significantly while Crown Hill is not.

Ballard has taken on a lot of new population in the past 5 years. Is the bus service adequate?

Still need to do some work on the Crown Hill business district.

A bit slow on finishing the Missing Link, I mean a decade is a bit much!

I don't feel like the transportation strategy adequately serves the needs of the current population. I feel like this plan was drawn up before the zoning changes which allowed the 4 single family housing option on a single lot and the growth of the condos/

See question #2

Please put sidewalks in crown hill

Q3: How well are your Plan's key vision and strategies being achieved?

I did not know that the "missing link" was a key strategy. I would expect more of a focus on these ideas. While the city has made much progress with the Burke-Gillman trail I want to see stronger support in completing the missing link.

The Burke Gilman trail needs to be well away from Shilshole Ave, because even non-aggressive riders make driving dangerous. Shilshole is the main road from Ballard to Fremont, what were they thinking? And the block between 17th-20th and 57th-58th is a scary place to walk, even during daylight. Ratty old vehicles on the street and skeezy looking people (male and females) lurking, like they're waiting for you to leave your car. I used to walk home along that street, but it was very scary.

not really good with the big picture, sorry.

The city needed to better deal with obstructionist businesses along missing link corridor.

other than transit and finally resolving the final piece of the Burke Gilman, doing very well. however, those are two major items.

Ballard attracted me because of its Scandinavian influence, but I feel that is slowly going away (recently a long time local favority Norwegian store had to close) to make way for condos and younger generation.

The missing link needs to be completed.

The draft status report provided so little information, it's hard to know exactly what the city planned for this neighborhood with respect to new construction and density. One thing that clearly stands out is the need to complete the Missing Link. Accomplished improvements mentioned in the report are wonderful, but seem quite limited in scope. For example, taking the bus into and out of Ballard can be a nightmare, with extremely overcrowded buses. Was this not an issue before? It certainly is now.

If you go by growth achieved, we're doing very well but that's a negative in my view.

The library, community service center, and park is fabulous! Well done! I understand the challenges with the Burke-Gilman trail and respect that the city has been making a sustained effort on this issue. Transportation is the one part of the vision where there's been a total failure.

The idea that bicycles should take preference over industrial use areas is an example of the new people moving in and demanding that Ballard be just like the rest of Seattle. Industry is vital, we shouldn't all have to commute to Kent for our blue-collar jobs. The parks, library, etc, all that is fine - good progress, but it has cost us all the same.

I hate am frustrated that we are allowing so much density and no infrastructure such as police, welfare and traffic planning to maintain it.

The Neighborhood Plan was designed around the idea that Ballard would soon be served by the monorail or other form of high efficiency mass transit. That has fallen through. Without light rail or Bus Rapid Transit, the density goals of Ballard are unsustainable for a high quality of life. Traffic and its associated noise and air pollution are intolerable.

Need better public transportation, light rail to be more specific.

I like the Ballard Commons and the community that has helped develop. Would like to see the Burke Gilman completed in way that satisfies all involved (cyclists and businesses).

Obviously, transportation is still an unsolved issue. And there is too much urban density -- too many condos in Ballard.

there is great thought put into generating public spaces with very little effort into the maintenance/safety of these spaces

I have yet to see the bike racks we were promised a year ago.

The increase in density way overshoot the initial target, leading to (justifiable) backlash against growth/development.

The Burke-Gilman trail "missing link" needs to be completed soon so bicycle riders aren't hurt on Shilshole (it's very dangerous through there) and the commuter rail aspect I think is up in the air with the monorail from West Seattle canceled and the light rail going up through the city further east.

The infrastructure needs to be upgraded to accomodate the growth. Too little road capacity for vehicles, busses are too crowded.

Q3: How well are your Plan's key vision and strategies being achieved?

Progress on the Crown Hill portion of the Crown Hill / Ballard Neighborhood Plan has been extremely slow, and it feels like we have been a bit neglected.

The biggest single element of the plan for us was to develop the open space at the Crown Hill Elementary property into a park. After ten years this still hasn't happened. Thankfully, however, it does appear that we have finally overcome most of the barriers, and we should see park development begin within the next 18 months. Because the project is already ten years overdue, I urge the City to continue to treat this as a priority. Other than this, there has not been much progress on the Neighborhood Plan.

Back in 1999 we agreed that we wanted our neighborhood to be greener. This appears several times in the plan under various names: "green links," "green streets," "street trees," "arterials with planted medians." And also "greening the Crown Hill/Ballard district will require utilization of existing public rights of way. A network of parkways could provide the community with a connective green framework of tree-lined arterials." However, if you drive through Crown Hill you won't see much green. This is especially apparent on Holman Road and 15th Ave NW, which is the main arterial in the neighborhood. Concrete and asphalt are the dominant theme there--completely impermeable except in its many unsightly cracks. There are some trees along the corridor, but those few trees are the extent of the landscaping. There is still very little green and you can hardly call it a "parkway."

Arterials with planted medians -- we do not have any planted medians in Crown Hill

Pedestrian environment -- Our neighborhood is a terrible place for pedestrians. Two elements of the 1999 plan could have improved this situation. First is the Crown Hill Residential Urban Village. While I understand that some work has been done on this, the restrictions have not been applied and developers are allowed to have their way. A perfect example is the Safeway gas station on 83rd and 15th. This is the type of development one would expect to see on Aurora, not in a residential urban village. Nothing about it feels like what an urban village should feel like. The infrastructure and the businesses there cater to people who drive, not pedestrians. The second pedestrian element of the plan, obviously, are sidewalks. We only have a few sidewalks. It would be nice to have some more walkways, if not full sidewalks.

I think a planted median along Holman/15th would also help greatly improve the pedestrian environment.

Gateways - There remains no gateway demarcations for the Crown Hill neighborhood

In hindsight, the Plan's vision seems to have been pretty small - things like parks and trails rather than qualities of experience. We have the parks and trails, which is great, but if the Plan had addressed what we want as qualities of experience perhaps we would have different kinds of condo developments - ones that augment community for the 21st century.

We seem to be behind in public transportation options and the Burke Gilman trail linkage. That is a huge safety concern. I do not want to ride my bike on Shilshole. It's unbelievably unsafe, and I am embarrassed that my civic leaders can not resolve this. It's a bike trail, not a major interstate highway project.

Half of the "key strategies" are on hold for some reason or another, so I don't really know what to think. (Burke-Gilman extension wants to run through the middle of industrial Ballard, and commuter rail is in the hands of Sound Transit.)

Public facilities and services have increased but are hindered. The parks are less usable due to homeless/crime issues. The library is fantastic, but the hours are too limited. Housing goals have been achieved to a fault. Transportation problems affecting any mode (auto, bus, rail, bike) have increased to a critical level.

The Crown Hill park is a big win, but not much else has been done to develop Crown Hill into a more pedestrian friendly area.

I don't even know what the vision is

The Ballard portion of the plan looks like they are happening well. Doesn't look like much action up here in Crown Hill other than the Crown Hill School Site purchase. Where is the CH Residential Urban Village. Where is the density that supports a vibrant community. Where are the amenities. The Safeway gas station was a HUGE regression against the intent of the plan. The T-Mobile store was also a very pedestrian unfriendly development in the Urban Village ... why was it allowed to be built?

Wish the city could mitigate the "missing link" better. It's really dangerous for bikers!

Most of the items mentioned have already been substantially met.

Q3: How well are your Plan's key vision and strategies being achieved?

Again, except for a few of the big things that got in the works early, it seems like the neighborhood plans went on the shelf or in the drawer to collect dust and are just now being looked at again . . .the usual, let's start again . . . all that work people did 10 years ago . . . most of it was probably wasted.

I don't think MY visions and strategies are being achieved at all because the city government doesn't care about the old residents of Ballard, their families or their neighborhoods. The city wants to cram us all in as densely as possible, and cares about money from developers more than the well-being of people who have lived in this area for decades.

Growth is a good thing, but the pace of growth in Ballard is completely out of hand. It's a great place to live if you live in a new condo, but if you moved here wanting to life on a quiet, safe, residential street, you made a very poor investment. There will be condos with no parking towering on either side of your house in a year or two.

We haven't achieved some of the transportation objectives, there have been setbacks in the BG trail, bus service, monorail/trolley/light rail service.

I think the economic growth is apparent with all of the new business in the ballard urban center. The high denisty plan has made for more affordable housing with the condo units. I do feel though that we are at a tipping point with the high denisty planning where we will rapidly see a collpase of benefits if we keep trying to shoehorn people into Ballard, particularly the single family dwelling conversions to condos.

Commuter rail appears to have fallen apart...

they have accomplished one thing on the list and did it very well, however we are running into issues with the other items and I don't have faith they will be completed.

I'm disappointed by the monorail failing; the light rail is a very long way off. I'm also anti-tunnel vis a vis the Viaduct. I think it will be very disruptive to our neighbors who commute southward.

It is hard to fathom at times where to start and how it went wrong. You do the math, but when you are well above the projected housing units established for 2024, and there is no additional public transportation, bike and pedestrian facilities to accomodate the growth, what do YOU think will occur?

The Library is a great success. Transportation could stand improvement, particularly East-West travel.

see previous comments.

Housing

The strategies listed in the Neighborhood plan were well meaning and made sense when they were imagined. With the exception of getting a sounder station in Ballard, they have been executed very well.

It looks like many of the goals in the plan are being worked on. I really hope they build the missing link for the b-g trail soon!

I was very disappointed when the monorail was abandoned.

They are being achieved without taking into account the impact and long term consequences of the density.

Library and public spaces are doing well, and the plan to work on the park safety is promising.

The commuter train station didn't pan out. Wondering if it ever was supposed to.

The library is great. What is disappointing is that the necessary infrastructure in policing and public transportation have failed to keep pace with the tremendous growth in number of residents.

too many people -- too dense. I didn't mind a few condo development but we have now gone too far.

much has been accomplished on the original plan, however the level of growth that was projected has (I think) been far exceeded. This shifts the priorities significantly, if the new density is to be absorbed in a way that works for those who live/work/play here.

Lots of progress around the library, fed up with the controversy surrounding the trail expansion. It's VERY necessary!!!

Let's see what happens with the missing link on the Burke-Gilman Trail. Businesses just can't seem to understand or allow for a new urban transportation paradigm of foot and bike traffic. We'll see where the city ends up when push comes to shove.

Q3: How well are your Plan's key vision and strategies being achieved?

ballard is getting a lot of open space and the civic core is developing well.

Monorail failure had a severe impact on transportation goals - however the housing growth was not slowed in consideration.

The Burke Gilman trail extension needs to get finished !!

My neighborhood plan vision? Not sure what you mean.

I think the new library and Ballard Commons have really helped with a sense of community.

Good progress on some initiatives, but need to validate initiative priority with the community.

Growth is faster than identified, and the BG Trail is STILL not complete, bus service to downtown, unchanged.

N/A. Wasn't here to participate in Neighborhood Plan.

Would like to know who developed them, they do not seem to represent interests of anyone I know in our neighborhood. Seem more to support the Mayor's density initiatives.

There is too much density now and there are more condo buildings planning to be built! The public areas are good, though, so that part was well thought out.

The parks are in place and an improvement to the area. Further compact housing should be closely monitored, with consideration to more moderate apartments.

You NEED to make it easier to get out of your cars and walk or peddle -- this neighborhood REALLY needs that in order to thrive.

Realigning the walkability is still OK, though the crosswalks on 15th Avenue make pedestrians wait 3 minutes, every time.

Crown Hill has had some huge wins in 2009 with the purchase of the Crown Hill Elementary School and Open Space. We could not be more delighted. Also through community groups and individuals we have had some very positive safety improvements with traffic circles and speed bumps installed. However Holman road continues to be unsafe and difficult to cross and artwork or gateways haven't made their way to our neighborhood yet.

Not all the right priorities

I just do not really like the townhouses, they would be okay but the designs are horrid.

I think we have achieved a great deal in a short amount of time, that being said, there's still more work to be done!

The DRAFT STATUS REPORT: Highlights of Neighborhood Plan and Statistics does not provide good indicators of progress. Data is not presented in a comparative way showing plan targets for each data set and for the most recent data available thus making it difficult to see what progress has been made. Anecdotally, condo and apartment growth seems to have been too rapid and business district seems to be doing well.

The commuter rail and burke-gilman trail extension don't exist, and they don't seem likely to happen soon.

We live in Piper's Creek watershed, yet the trail in Carkeek Park still smells like a toilet. I doubt there's any initiative to educate the folks around as to the status of our stinky little creek that's supposed to be a crown jewel in our park.

More affordable housing (mixed income) rather than expensive condos would have been nice.

Mayor Rice created urban villages and they have impacted our neighborhoods very negatively.

need to readdress WAY more frequently than 10 years. The assumptions are based on conditions that no longer exist

Light rail? Burke-Gilman missing link?

Per the objectives set 20 years ago, they are being met. But times have changed exponentially and, therefore, perhaps the visions and strategies need to be changed.

Too well? Seems like Ballard has exceeded its growth/density, but with no monorail/sound transit addition, the once pleasant downtown commute is horrible.

Q3: How well are your Plan's key vision and strategies being achieved?

Again, we've really failed on transportation. Our buses are almost always standing-room only on the daily commutes (I'm sure that isn't the case in some other neighborhoods that are getting rapid transit or true express bus service). We went backward with our commuter rail option (no monorail and no link to the Sounder). We've clearly failed with the BGT -- the City has marked a route from 11th to the Locks that is downright dangerous. I've seen the quoted stats of about hundred injuries a year. Yet, I know there are bikers going down multiple times/day at the (rarely used by trains) tracks -- some come to the Ballard ER, but many care for their injuries otherwise. I can't believe that the businesses really think the missing link will be more dangerous -- they are clearly not bikers.

Transportation is the area

Spaced out living arrangements. Height limits maintained. Bus service..uh..the same with many more people.

I believe Ballard has become more densely populated than was ever intended, and more densely populated than other neighborhoods in Seattle.

Since the plan was to turn Ballard into a young, white, suburb of Seattle, it has succeeded tremendously.

The monorail would have been a great addition to the area.

The nature of the neighborhood is sacrificed for growth. The condos tower over Market Street, and I avoid going into the "downtown" area because it's impossible to find parking. I wouldn't walk around at night now either because I feel it is dangerous.

I think very good for Ballard, not so for Crown Hill.

You're on target for some items, however the current economy doesn't help with others. How many people find themselves falling through the cracks, being unemployed for so long they don't receive unemployment benefits and are no longer counted in statistics? There are plenty of them living (for the time being) in Ballard, but for how long? They certainly are not going to purchase any of the new 'cookie-cutter' condos that are going/have gone up everywhere you turn...

I recognize that art tastes differ, but I do not care for many of the pieces chosen for Ballard. I am disappointed that there is not a light rail option for Ballard in the near future. The neighborhood plan is good but not comprehensive enough.

I believe most of the vision has been achieved, or overachieved with respect to density. Ballard and Crown Hill are in dire need of getting the plan updated to set new visions and goals to work toward!

I think the city has failed miserably with public transportation, especially in Ballard. There are still no efficient West-East connections either by bus or road. Similarly, the N-S routes remain crowded with frustrated, speeding, red-light running drivers and overfilled, delayed buses. The new library has been built and serves the community well. The Ballard recreation center--though it occupies a nice space and has resources, seems to be underutilized in my opinion. Constant budget cuts have forced it to cancel classes for members in the community who can't afford a private gym.

It seems to be between somewhat well and somewhat poor. With some items like the Library and Park, they are complete and the Ballard Community LOVE the change. The missing link with the Burke-Gilman trail is a confusing issue and the latest design contains some safety issues.

I read the neighborhood plan and while some goals have been met in Ballard (community center/library). Crown Hill is being ignored for the most part. These are just a few examples

- pedestrian overpass - no gateway, no art and resistance from city (DOT?) on doing it. Neighbors want it but we were discouraged
- medians with additional trees. We are trying for some on Holman, but again told no trees, and resistance from city. We need the trees and we need the medians with turn lanes for safety (people crossing Holman)
- Public art. There are two murals in Crown Hill and that is it. Ballard has public art.
- Sidewalks!!!
- Greening - we are now getting some support for alternative traffic calming options on residential streets, but we need radical changes for these streets. Like support for c-streets

Q3: How well are your Plan's key vision and strategies being achieved?

We got the library, park, and some valuable crosswalks. We still need the Missing Link of the B-G Trail and other improvements to commuting between Ballard and our jobs and other activities downtown.

I've been impressed with the fact that the neighborhood achieved most of its goals in the original plan. Obviously, good public transportation is a big gap. We need the missing link in the Burke Gillman filled. (We don't use the trail because that part is missing. It's too dangerous for our kids.)

Transportation is still lagging behind. I know that Rapid Ride is coming, but it is a little late relative to the growth. People who moved to downtown Ballard with the idea of taking a bus to downtown Seattle probably went out and bought cars to drive downtown after the first week of standing all the way to work. The lack of coordination between building the Urban Hub and providing transportation for all the people in the hub is very evident.

Some good progress on parks, open space, and greater density. Still...there is no Sound Transit commuter rail station in Ballard yet. Missing (and key) Burke-Gilman bike-pedestrian trail link in Ballard yet to be built. Still need a greater mix of housing types that is more broadly affordable. Glacial progress on bringing mass transit to Ballard (and the City/region) and connecting Ballard with both downtown and other neighborhoods. Would to see more public places and a greater variety in street types/environments, especially in the urban center/village, and other places like 15th Ave. NW and 14th Ave. NW.

Very slow extension of BG trail.

The plans hope to achieve a central area of businesses and housing. Economically, the opposite seems to have happened. With all the additional housing in such a small area, it is close to impossible to find parking and the changes planned on the corners of 14th and 15th and Market has not come to fruition.

I would love to see light rail extended here - the monorail death seems to have killed our prospects.

From what I read, it looks like the priorities have been addressed or are still being worked on.

Transportation issues are still horrible in Ballard. Cycling and walking are still dangerous here, and bus service is absolutely unacceptable.

Not sure if completing the Burke-Gilman Trail will ever happen, which is very frustrating.

Came to the neighborhood recently, but it appears that many items on the plan are going well. Hope to see increased transportation beyond rapid-ride to accommodate the increase in population.

weel if you consider that the density is high on the desired list but NOT mine.

need better transportation. the Monorail would have been very nice. too bad 2 yes votes weren't enough to keep it going.

The one key strategy glaringly in trouble is the ""missing link"" of the BG trail.

The streets and parks are nicer, but there is still too much homelessness, crime, RV's, ugly empty lots (Denny's, Sunset bowl, old Ballard library, empty store fronts) that are detracting from the improvements. You focus on the visual decline of Ballard/Crown Hill more than the improvements.

Crown Hill was to be a walking neighborhood-but 15th and 80th has created a scary chasm that no one can safely cross. The cross walk light does not work some times for three minutes at 75th and 15th. There are no crosslight-lights at 11th and 80th. This encourages people to take risks.

It appears that the plan, sans the transportation issues, has been carried through.

I feel like money for developers has trumped all planning initiatives.

The overbuilding and plans are not in sync withthe commuunity needs

Transportation has not changed substantially in over 10 years.

Seems like a lot of businesses have moved in and the general atmosphere of the neighborhood has improved.

I believe we have already achieved the urban density called for in the plan.

Q3: How well are your Plan's key vision and strategies being achieved?

I have asked for a real sidewalk on 15th NW -- north of Whitman Middle School -- for years. Kids walk in the street and are a real hazard to drivers. Nothing has been done -- even mentioned -- about this.

it does not appear that they are following the plan or communication to the community

I really think parking should be addressed. Also, some concerns that all these multi-unit buildings will have a hard time being filled which might lead to a depression.

obviously developed recently and just addressing what is currently happening today. More of a current to do list then a plan or vision

My Neighborhood Plan is to maintain what a neighborhood is, in terms of density. For instance, in no sense of the word is downtown Seattle a ""neighborhood"". It's a bunch of city buildings. I do not want Ballard to become a bunch of tall buildings, creating condo canyons where the sun does not even strike the street except between 10:30am and 01:30pm. But, you actually meant your questions to be worded like this: ""How well is our Neighborhood Plan vision and our key strategies for your neighborhood being achieved by us?""

I think it's safe to say you are doing what YOU have tasked to do, including wrecking Ballard's livable density. Oops, I used one of those vague words.. livable. We can debate forever what that word means, can we not?

Density is much higher than projected for this time, but lots of retail space vacancies.

bg bike trail not complete
the city managers not only helped kill the monorail that would link ballard to other parts of the city, but also have no plan to bring light rail to us. it is nice to be able to vote these managers out of a job. see you greg

There's obviously some controversy over the Gillman-Burke trail.

Transportation failure at the city/regional level.

Wow--impressive, really! Still, the lawsuit regarding the missing link is a terrible turn of events.

The light rail station is obviously not here; busses need more frequent service to compensate for that. Again, the Burke-Gilman trail is still an open item.

I love Ballard! Is that a yes?

As noted before, more density, more open space, transit is lagging

Love the re-development in downtown Ballard - new sidewalks, possible completion of Burke Gilman, new libraries, new parks in area and nearby.

There are some really great changes in Ballard - thank you to those who have worked to make more and better park space, integrate art into the community, extend the burke gillman trail, etc.

Density without any real thought as to how it affects the existing feel of the neighborhood. Make town homes with usable garages. Increase buses to accommodate new commuting residents.

The Burke-Gilman needs to be connected!! As a bike commuter from Ballard to Children's Hospital, it would be so nice to not have to hop over railroad tracks.

Who's paying attention to the urban planning? Who is permitting all these bars, outdoor seating and condos in Ballard? Where's the balance?

Question 3: Please describe the priorities for your neighborhood.

The problem with plans is the lack of adaptability or responding to change. At this point, it's way too easy for the City to say "it's in the plan," as a reason to continue with the cookie-cutter densities and the failure to accommodate the large increases of people.

Transportation, schools and safety are the top concerns.

It's hard to say at this point; some have been achieved, some have not

I can imagine that 10 years ago, creating the municipal center was a top priority. It's been here as long as I've lived here (except for Ballard Commons Park, which opened soon after I moved), so I don't know any different. What I'm saying is, we can probably stop talking about that achievement. :)

At this point, I think improved public transportation is still a priority, whether it be light rail, more frequent buses or something else. I think the transportation strategy should definitely be adjusted to reflect the need for ease of access from Ballard to the new downtown tunnel. This is a huge concern for those of us who chose to live in Ballard because it provided direct, easy, off-highway access to SODO via the viaduct.

Obviously we will not be getting light- or mono-rail anytime in the foreseeable future. We seem to have achieved most of our major plan goals, which suggests we need some new visioning work.

Crown Hill needs more focus.

Having the Sounder trains stop near the Locks would still be a good idea, but then the 46 bus would need to be more frequent.

Often it doesn't seem that way. The ridiculous lawsuit over the Burke missing link comes to mind.

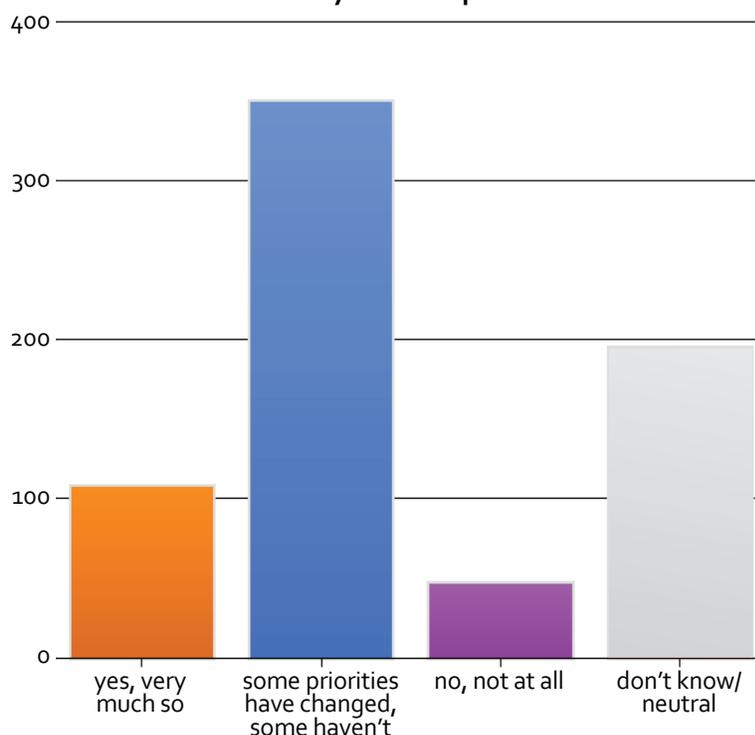
Must focus on transportation, especially public transit.

We need a more comprehensive transportation plan, affordable housing is an issue, and more open space and trees.

Never have been. Ballard was truly an area of Seattle that should have been treated as a gem with both its intrinsic historic value and its fantastic geographic location. But, for some reason the city decided to sell its soul.

These just don't seem like top priorities anymore.

Are they still the priorities?



keeping reasonably priced retail stores in the neighborhood

The Plan needs to be radically revisited. The Ballard of five years ago is not applicable. If we go too much further Ballard will not be recognizable. We will be Belltown north.

This is inevitable, and I think this process is, overall, quite healthy. I'm glad we're doing this.

I think given the faster than expected growth in population, public transportation needs to be made more of a priority. And don't just stop at Market Street. Go all way to Crown Hill.

Need continued investment in schooling, better policing.

I think a light rail station might be nice if they decide to bring it north to Ballard

The priorities should be re-ordered to fixing the neighborhood. Traffic, cycling need to be the top priorities. The Sounder station is great but it only helps people that work downtown, and much of the residence DON'T work in Seattle.

Q3: What are your neighborhood's priorities?

especially light rail - this needs to be prioritized to match the growth in population due to condominium development.

The light rail station isn't going to happen. It's not a priority. Since the population has increased, affordable housing needs to become a priority. Also, safety is a concern. There has been a marked increase in transients and crime in the last couple of years.

To whom?

The trail linkup is still a priority. I would also suggest that a priority be "slowing development to allow the neighborhood to absorb all the new units."

Yes, we still need the Burke-Gilman Trail to be completed and the Commuter Rail to come to Ballard.

The items that did not get finished seem to be a low priority now; as if a couple of people pushed through the first few changes and then left the group or lost interest, leaving the remaining projects undone.

Crime prevention and transportation now outweigh schooling concerns.

When I moved to Crown Hill a Monorail stop was going to be in walking distance, then it was Rapid ride...now it is reduced bus service.

Transportation hub for light rail should be a priority.

I think we should delete the "commuter rail" station as a priority. We can better serve Ballard and Crown Hill with the "rapid ride" that is coming from Metro and getting serious about getting parking off of Elliott Ave and off of 15th Avenue so transit can move quickly.

Transportation, safety, and non-service job opportunities need to take top priority now.

A lot has been accomplished. We badly need better transportation.

Pedestrian and bicycle access in residential areas north of 85th.

Light rail or trolley service would be great!

particularly the transportation piece, we would love to see more mass transit, we dream of light rail.

I think that for the most part the priorities are the same/similar. But, some of the key strategies should be changed. I don't personally see the value in a commuter rail station that will be located outside of our urban village. I'd like to see that priority changed to either fast-tracking a light rail extension to Ballard from Downtown and/or U-District - OR - some true bus rapid transit that is both more frequent than the current bus service between Ballard and Crown Hill urban villages and faster than the current service.

I'd also like to see more emphasis put on making our neighborhood business districts that are within walking/biking distance more viable - and to keep businesses and services that we need for every day living in them. I'd also like to see greater emphasis on making our communities safer for pedestrians and safer from property crime.

With plans to increase density, these transportation problems will only get worse.

TRANSPORTATION has to remain a pressing need.

Need better pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure

Get real on element 4, either connect Ballard to Sound Transit or stop listing this. Streetcar is a poor substitute to high speed high capacity rail line.

Crown Hill needs support. The community is involved and ready to go, but we need the support of the City to make the improvements needed! We need sidewalks! We need public services, we need protection from police, who we RARELY see in our neighborhood even when we call, we need street improvements! Our parks are even getting more scary in the last year and feeling less safe, not more!

Burke Gilman missing link is highest priority, as well as more bus routes (see earlier comment about lack of route from downtown Ballard to downtown Fremont)

The library has been completed, but the rules are not enforced. The sidewalks on Ballard Ave are smoother, but they're still filthy from litter, so I don't want to walk there.

I miss the Scandinavian heritage

I can't really tell how some things are being achieved measurably

We need a bigger emphasis on public safety.

Q3: What are your neighborhood's priorities?

Completion of the Burke Gilman train is a priority.

I don't see the trail or a commuter station happening any time soon, sadly.

I think there needs to be more focus on public transportation/rapid transit to the downtown area and better connections to the east side.

number one priority, take back the parks and the streets.

AFFORDABLE housing is now lacking in this neighborhood. Housing that is appealing to the eye is being wiped out for cookie cutter condos.

I do not feel I have lived here long enough to have an educated opinion.

The urban village construct is not what I thought it would be or perhaps I should say it's more than I thought it would be. It has changed the look and feel of Greenwood and Ballard and made them more into a part of downtown Seattle and all the bad things that that brings with it, ie. crime, traffic and bad politics.

Safety wasn't a concern in the original plan.

Per above. I would like to see Ballard in particular put out some requirements for condo developments - that they be 'green' designed, have street level appeal, include trees and green space, and be overval designed with greater aesthetic appeal.

We need effective mass transit. Transportation is the most important goal.

The Burke Gilman trail is still a very big issue in Ballard but I don't know much or hear much about the other items.

Commuter Rail should be #1.

I think safety is becoming more of a priority...the businesses and homes have been established and are growing.

I think it is absolutely critical to implement the missing link the Burke Gilman trail in the Ballard industrial district near Fred Meyer. I have seen numerous bike accidents varying in severity. It seems improbable to me that the city is not moving more quickly to mitigate a clear and defined hazard to bicyclists.

Safety is our largest priority now.

I would rather the city focused its energies on improving transit in and out of Ballard rather than throwing itself after the completion of a recreational bike trail.

Growth is outpacing the goal.

Citywide neighborhood plans are consistently ignored by the City Council and Mayor.

I think the commuter rail aspect has changed, but the Burke-Gilman ""missing link"" piece is a current item.

The housing plan has been hit, can the infrastructure now please be upgraded?

I don't think public transit (like light rail links) are a priority. And the bike trail seems to be stalled indefinitely.

The ""missing link"" bike path will benefit a small minority of Ballardites and isn't worth the legal cost, or the cost of putting longtime business out of business. Commuter rail is a pipe dream -- it would only run 6 times a day anyway, wouldn't have any pre-existing bus connections, and would take just as long as any express bus downtown.

More art, more pedestrian amenities, make Holman Road crossing safer for pedestrians. More trees, green space.

My priorities have changed. And it would be great if we could get rail up here one day. Too bad about the monorail.

Transportation is still a priority . . . still no direct route to Shilshole for Burke Gillman. Safety is important . . .has improved but still needs work at the neighborhood parks and downtown - street people/alcoholics congregating. Housing continues to increase and that is okay . . . but, we need a little more control over the appearance and how they fit in the neighborhoods and not rows and rows of them! Increasing the vibrancy of downtown continues . . .the more we make that into a hub the better . . .

Plans for transit remain unclear. We vote for one thing, they buy property for it, then everything is cancelled. I'll believe it when I see it operating!

Q3: What are your neighborhood's priorities?

Especially the establishment of light rail stations in Ballard!

Transportation and better zoning regulations are the most important in my mind. Completing the Burke Gilman in a timely fashion is important too, but unfortunately, mayor Nickels has already lost literally 1000's of votes in his inability to get this accomplished in a timely fashion. Time to give him the boot and get somebody else (with a new team that hopefully takes these questionnaires seriously....) to get the jobs done that need to be done.

We need to preserve some of what makes Ballard special. The loss of the Denny's and Sunset Bowl properties were unnecessary and ill-conceived.

Mass transit should be priority #1 for Ballard. Priority #2 should be yanking building permits until after #1 happens.

Transportation, transportation, transportation. We need neighborhood shuttles and light rail.

Parking is beginning to be an issue....Too many townhomes (which I'm fine with) but no one parks in their garages so now sometimes 8+ cars are in the space where there were 2!

Would love the monorail to be built and connected to Ballard. I would also like some law stopping local churches from housing tent cities and shelters if the local community is against it.

Growth should now focus on quality improvements, infrastructure improvements rather than adding more density.

Are we going to get light rail in Ballard? I took the train for the first time this past weekend and loved it, but have to go downtown to catch a train. That makes a long commute. I took it for recreation, rode my bike downtown to catch it, would be frustrated if I had to bus 30 minutes to train another 20-30 (was going to Columbia City).

I'm not sure what's going on with the light rail.

Still wishing for more/better public transportation. Sustainable growth should be the goal - meaning the infrastructure needs to increase at the same rate and the increase in residents otherwise this is not going to be a neighborhood that any one wants to live in.

Ballard stop on Sounder is a key priority
Rethinking awful Burke-Gilman extension to get it away from industrial base MUST occur
Fixed guideway transit (streetcar) on East West axis as well as to downtown needs to happen
Continue to increase urban density -- drop parking requirement in core area, for example

Increased density brings higher priority to transit, pedestrian/bike safety, public safety, and open space. Affordability is a major issue (Belltown's redevelopment is the analogy that always comes to mind).

I believe the struggling economy has forced some priorities to change.

emphasis on walkability and denser populations in crown hill make finishing sidewalks a higher priority to make those other priorities really work.

transportation is more important than ever.

Build and they will come, and they did, now what?? Along with crime, vandalism, homeless. I do LOVE the graffiti hot line and it really seems to work!

I believe the bike path is struggling to stay on track.

N/A

See above - we need the City's help to break out of the car culture.

Since we now have too many cars, traffic management and parking needs work.

I was surprised to see a commuter rail station listed as a priority. I like the idea of a commuter rail station. However, I assume this means heavy rail - along the existing railroad tracks which doesn't seem very useful to me. While I live near the RR tracks, arriving downtown at King ST station and then taking a bus North would take longer than busing from Ballard.

Q3: What are your neighborhood's priorities?

Need to prioritize services for the elderly and homeless, those in need of public services. Development planning is all wrong.

I think Light Rail has always been a priority for some of us in Ballard. I also think it would wipe out a lot of local businesses, so I can see why it's been on the back-burner for some time now. Even I have qualms about it.

Again, not enough information.

I think the transportation dreams (monorail) are gone. We need a new vision for transportation

Enough on the huge condo developments, lets work on smaller scale and smaller infill on under developed (empty churches, houses that are literally sagging on their lots)

see above - now we need to move businesses back in to the empty lots that were torn down for more condo greed so we can take back the neighborhood from the drunks and methheads that are moving in, harrassing and assaulting people before the neighborhood goes completely to shit.

More incentives and low cost commercial development to aid in small business growth and community building please.

Yes, we need to complete the objectives. No, we have some things to think about i.e. infrastructure.

We need excellent alternate transportation options. We deserve them.

Transportation. Kill the monorail, thank you hizoner.

These priorities need to change

Just because a plan is put into motion doesn't mean it can't be revised and improved along the way. Priorities *have* changed, and perhaps those in a position to do something about it are actually paying attention now?

The vision for the community is not articulated. Instead, the projects that are drafted are good ones, and I support them.

I believe many priorities have changed, especially with respect to sustainability, transportation, and building design.

I wonder about the expenditure for a bike trail no one uses. You still have to dodge the bikers on the street.

Safety with the missing link should be a #1 priority but it appears there are other forces of influence.

We need more specifics in the neighborhood plan for the Crown Hill area.

Making the neighborhoods more walkable.

Support and make more opportunities for more independent small businesses (This will keep people in the community and the money local and support walkability.)

strict limitations on chains

Is commuter rail still a priority? I haven't heard anything about it.

The people who killed the Monorail are the enemies of Ballard.

I think we need to work to keep what we have, but find a new focus to galvanize the community like the commons did. Now that that's accomplished, what next? I think the next big problem that needs to be solved is accessibility in and out of Ballard via a completed bike trail, better public transportation, etc.

We are no longer going to have a monorail, but we still need the buses.

Can we get a mayor who cares about neighborhoods throughout the term, rather than just at election time?

Transportation needs to be addressed and better public transport. Light rail here would be wonderful!!!

From what I see, transportation isn't much of a priority in Ballard/crown hill planning. I even had a DPD staffer tell me that vegetation blocking sidewalks was not a priority for them to enforce. I guess walking isn't much of a priority for the city, so why should I be surprised that busing and cycling are not as well?

Doesn't appear we will have rail in Ballard in our lifetimes. Still, it seems that existing transit could be improved even more: (1) East-West options are limited, (2) Fremont isn't far -- unless you're trying to get there by bus, and (3) Are there any options for East-West buses between Market & 85th? It's like a desert between the two.

crime increasing all of the time, need a better police presence

Q3: What are your neighborhood's priorities?

need more parks as density increases

I care more about the bike trail than I do about a place for kids.

New priorities should be to remove loitering people from the area, move the RV's, have stronger graffiti laws, and work with the city to fill empty lots/properties or at least clean them up while they are empty to they aren't such a blight to the neighborhood. Have you seen the old Sunset Bowl or Denny's site recently?

Lets not spend so much money on bicycling. I know it's a vote-getter and the Cascade Bicycle Club is a powerful lobbying group. But enough is enough! It's time to grow up and spend money on real needs not fee-good vote-getters.

Getting traffic thru as quick as possible seems to be the only priority and blackets and blankets of pavement for parking. What about the run-off? What about the Salmon?

Transportation is always a priority.

I don't think we need more density in the way of huge complexes and w/the added density we need more open spaces like the Ballard Commons park.

Economy has changed dramatically, resetting the needs of the community. We need more affordable housing, open space and community areas and less expensive housing and bars.

again it looks like this was just written and not a future plan at all

The rail access has obviously been the big disappointment

Are they still the priority, you ask? ""Whose"" priority is the better question. The answer to that, well, is what I am belaboring to write about in this survey.

Hard to tell what the developers are going to do once they have access to funding again.

Transportation...

Public safety and the amount of homeless people have been an increasing concern of mine. On the same note smaller community groups and neighborhood groups and starting to organize.

But I think they are getting near being completed. I'd like a bit more focus on pedestrian experience.

Managing growth / population density doesn't seem to be in the plan. A neighborhood services center sounds like a great idea - but what functions will it serve? Is there more info available?

Question 4: The Status Reports should focus more on...

Crown Hill Park development. Increasing efforts to establish 15th NW as pedestrian-friendly street and neighborhood gateway. Increase efforts to establish consistent Crown Hill neighborhood identity and look/feel/presence that integrates with Ballard look/feel/presence - create a "flow" between neighborhoods. Improve pedestrian usability and safety on 15th NW. Establish improved transit access and service on east-west routes to and from Crown Hill.

public transportation

Design review boards for new structures being built. We need to hold onto our Scandinavian and artistic heritage.

Moving the homeless out of city parks
Additional very low income housing (Compass Center planned facility)
Sidewalks in Crown Hill
More bus capacity

Transportation for those of us without cars. Such as bus routes during snow storms and safer trails for bike riding. My route from home to Fred Meyer on my bike is quite dangerous.

A more comprehensive bicycle network

Safety and transportation issues.

Completing the BGT.

Sustainable transportation. More bicycling, more bus, more sidewalks.

Slowing down if not halting the increased densities

keeping parks clean (more police presence)

Smoother transitions between high density housing areas and traditional single family housing.

transportation, getting a light rail station

Transportation, schools and safety

housing and transportation

affordable housing projects and the return of things to do (a la Sunset Bowl).

Development

Retaining the "culture" that makes Ballard a fun place to be.

Transportation

Complete the 'missing link' on the Burke Gilman Trail. Continue to work on safety in Ballard. With all of this growth there has been a huge growth in the transient population and open use of drugs and alcohol in public areas throughout the Ballard/Crown Hill area. Also focus on construction restrictions, I like the idea of smaller condo buildings and cottage housing, but the huge condo complexes are becoming too large and cause Ballard to lose the quaint neighborhood feeling.

stopping future residential development as we are overbuilt

Transportation. All of Seattle needs better transportation. And tree care. Let's keep those young trees alive and well.

Infrastructure & transit, pedestrian & cyclist safety & amenities, open spaces & affordable housing

Homeless Outreach: I spend a lot of time in our parks with my baby, and it makes me sad to say that sometimes it just doesn't feel safe. I don't want to run out the homeless, who may have nowhere else to go, but it's uncomfortable to take my child to a park where clearly mentally unbalanced men are sprawled out on the lawn and benches. We definitely need better homeless outreach and resources. Why do I see the same 4 to 8 homeless people in Ballard Commons Park every time I'm there?

Home ownership: I was a little surprised by the low home ownership rate in Ballard reflected in the demographics, given that there are about a zillion townhomes which are supposed to represent affordable housing. I realize that apartments and rental condos also make up a lot of the housing, but I wish that were more of a reflection of the young age of residents rather than an affordability gap.

impression of a lack of safety, new structures that encourage neighborhood participation

Crown Hill

Developing areas that fit in to the feeling of the existing neighborhood. Affordable housing for those who work in the area but may not make the money needed to support the cost of living in Ballard.

Q4: Status reports should focus more on...

Public safety.

Transportation - at the moment it takes me almost an hour to get from 62nd and 15th NW to 85th and Greenwood by bus. This is a ten minute drive by car. Light rail is all well and good but I don't see any bus improvements here that have ever been an issue for anyone I know.

neighborhood crime watch

Transportation

Actually building public transit.

bringing in new businesses, affordable housing, better transportation options

Dealing with Ballard (and Crown Hill) as they really are-- more crowded, more dense.

Community policing, adding light rail to downtown and the eastside. All transportation plans seem to leave Ballard in a black hole of getting to the east side.

Density, housing affordability, mixed-mode transit use and ubiquity.

Keeping affordable housing available in the neighborhood, adjusting transportation to meet the surge in people - including realistic parking options.

Public transit options in the East-West corridor; light rail station

Housing affordability

Transportation networks

Housing affordability, design for development, trees/ open space and transportation networks.

more pedestrian friendly construction between Ballard and Crown Hill.

A moratorium on building townhomes.
Traffic - private vehicle access around the community and to town.

Affordable housing, less density unless there's also more public transportation and more businesses.

Transportation

transportation, housing

controlling the number of condos developed and basically more thought needs to be put into urban planning in the neighborhood of Ballard.

More affordable housing and business that offer daily needs as opposed to just bars.

transportation. esp. E-W corridor. it takes FOREVER to take a bus (or drive) to UW, or even Wallingford. Bus 17 is pretty good to get downtown, but more 17 express buses would be good, especially now that that route is necessary to get to the light rail network. (I know this isn't in the City's control, but gov's need to coordinate on this stuff.) Once the RapidRide bus route starts in 2012, there should be shuttle buses from outside walking distance to the RapidRide stations (e.g. from 32nd ave nw). The City can prioritize bike lanes or sharrows and sidewalks to get people to the RapidRide.

Transportation and our retail core, including bars and restaurants.

rapid transit, increased bus and commuter rail options

Retaining Ballard's historic appeal. Don't let greed change Ballard forever.

Exactly what the demographics of this neighborhood is today, with as much detail as possible (income, ethnicity, age, etc.). Having this information, especially about how much more income lives in Ballard now, might open some people's eyes. This isn't a "sleepy fishing village" anymore, nor should it be.

safety and transportation

Keeping local businesses alive

affordable housing. alternative transportation (and not just on 15th ave either).

Traffic and Ballard High school

Less narratives and paragraphs

Transportation! So many commuters head into Seattle from these neighborhoods.

Q4: Status reports should focus more on...

Keeping a sense of community. The community that Ballard is, not the perceived 'desirable' community some wish it to be.

maintaining back streets

Encouraging single family home ownership

Alternate means of transportation. More creative building on town homes, so they aren't cookie-cutter. Making garages more accessible in town homes to reduce the number of cars parked on the street, so it is safer for bikers. More p-patches.

impact to the community.

Road safety.

Schools; how people make trips

Transportation & parks.

Parking for electric or alternative fuel vehicles

Transportation - light rail especially
Development of 15th Ave into a pedestrian-friendly thoroughfare without strip clubs, run down businesses, etc.

Sustainability of a neighborhood's culture and history, encouraging businesses that reflect this.

transportation (bus, light rail, Burke-Gilman for bicycling)
Keeping businesses

Open spaces and retaining a neighborhoods character.
Preserving the existing buildings.

More focus on east ballard. More focus on LONG TERM community planning.

what has been screwed up and how to fix it Fast.

Transportation

affordable housing and crime

Quality of Life, slow the density and growth. Support more small business.

affordable housing and family friendly business.

affordable housing, ensuring that Ballard does not turn into more of a retirement community for 30+, \$40k+ white folks.

Refining what is in the neighborhood currently.

changes on zoning

Involvement with the city at higher levels of decision making - like zoning and development.

Keeping businesses alive. Cleaning up the graffiti (though I know they try) maybe I should say catching those that do it night after night. Cleaning up what we already have

Improving non-motor vehicle transportation (bus, rail, bike, walk). Planning for impacts of the downtown tunnel. Focus on affordable housing. Community art.

transportation issues and ideas to resolve congestion

Sustainable development, public life, transportation funding.

1. Alternative forms of transportation - cycling, walking
2. Mass transit options OTHER than buses
3. Proper location and harmonic designs of new buildings

More homeless in Ballard, they need help in this area.
More parks/fields for kids to play in.

affordability, parking and development that complements historical culture in the neighborhood.

Retaining the best of what we have. Recalling why Ballard is Ballard. Rejecting new large developments in any planning phase. Finding a way to deal with the burgeoning problems of homeless on the streets, taking over the parks, too many people trying to use too few buses, too many closing shops and understanding how decisions made by planners can have a serious detrimental effect of the quality of lives of the residents, their clients.

affordable housing and eaterys

Transportation.

Immediate public transportation changes.

Easing congestion on roads and busses.

Q4: Status reports should focus more on...

Public transportation, public safety

Better public transportation. The loss of the Monorail was a huge blow to us, since we voted for it three times.

Transportation. Green Space. Connections to the rest of Seattle and especially adjoining neighborhoods. Building a plan which is flexible and does not require a complete plan rethink to update. Creating a community which has jobs filled by people who are able to live in the neighborhood. Creating a sustainable infrastructure which can serve the needs of the increased density in the neighborhood. More public transit, less cars. Let's increase the density in the Crown Hill Urban Village as well. Let's also create a vibrant community with connectors (not just transportation) to other areas of the city

Transit!

retaining the existing blue collar jobs and culture of the area

Community - consider family focused free events. making good use of attractive space - the entire waterfront area by the old Yankees Dinner is completely underused. There could be a great community gathering area there. Keeping some nod to original roots - scandinavian heritage and fishing community while development continues.

increasing transportation options

Non-car transportation options: light rail, BG Trail extension, rapid bus service

The first page is good with bullet points and brief descriptions of accomplishments. The other pages should be similar rather than the demographic and rent and job pie charts which do not show either goals or accomplishments as far as I can tell.

Pedestrian friendly areas and appropriate parking for housing density.

Transportation, safety, and non-service job opportunities

Crown Hill

Providing adequate transportation options to support the increased housing density. Programs to support local and historic businesses would be nice.

safety, growing incidence of property being prowled, street people camping near the Locks.

keeping sound view park and enhancing the connection between ballard/crown hill and olympic manor

Providing the community with an understandable narrative of how growth in the Crown Hill-Ballard Neighborhood fits into Seattle's overall household and jobs targets - particularly since new targets are being decided for 2031. I would be interested in knowing how much of that growth Crown Hill-Ballard neighborhood is expected to take in comparison with other areas. Then, the community would be able to make more informed choices as to where to focus additional growth.

public safety

Sensible transportation solutions.

Transportation and helping small businesses that are having a hard time in this economy.

amenities, safety, and transportation including walking.

transportation
safety

Transportation networks; maintaining a rich diversity of housing types, businesses and income levels.

the borders of the urban village/center. several key shopping/business' are falling outside of these lines; when they appear to be continuous and lasting occupants of these neighborhood locations (i.e. dicks and the building containing burrito loco). the borders do not appear to be including these two major business blocks.

Pedestrian friendly streets, ie curbs and sidewalks. Better traffic control along 15th and Holman Road. Stormwater control needs to be reviewed.

Education

public transit and the Burke Gilman Trail completion!!!

affordable housing, more thoughtful housing codes, better bus service

pedestrian safety

Q4: Status reports should focus more on...

Development of open spaces, sounds like that is happening at Little Faces on 95th St.

Consistently on time and capacity serving transit

Pedestrian safety, walkable urban village, establishing infrastructure outside of the downtown Ballard core, more green space and parks. Sidewalks and transit/light rail

Transportation

CROWN HILL!

Families with young children, improving or attracting school options

Design guidelines for residential projects
Bicycle lanes
Racial and income diversity (affordable housing)
Jobs creation

Bus service

Connecting neighborhoods using transportation, not just connecting neighborhoods to downtown.
Making sure new buildings have a look and quality that reflects the neighborhood.

Sidewalks (walkability)

Safety and getting the bums off our streets.

Finishing Burke Gilman trail missing link.
Improving bus routes from Ballard to Fremont.

Transportation. Public Space for foul weather.

Getting sidewalks to increase walkability

Transportation, crime, safety.

Crime/homeless

Affordable housing, homeless services, transportation alternatives, e.g. bicycle and walking.

reducing crime and vandalism - make our neighborhoods feel safer

x

SIDEWALKS IN CROWN HILL!

Affordable housing, public transportation and public places. We need to preserve the Nordic roots and not let the recent rush of condos take over.

housing affordability and transportation

Affordable housing

SAFE bike trails. Some sort of light rail or other (NON-BUS) transportation options for Ballard!

safety and cleaning up the vacate properties.

crime prevention
buses that get me safely home when it's dark out
general safety

transportation

Community center and urban village development in the crown hill area

Safety
Community Center - ie. Parks, Library

-Making sure Ballard/Loyal Heights keeps its quaintness and family neighborhoods. That we don't just cater to the 30-40 age group and their transient lifestyle.
-Public Transportation

Light rail, alternative transit options. More buses and / or more cement is not the answer.

Make Ballard more pedestrian friendly. Love the 24th Ave road diet, more projects like that.

Public safety

transit updates. safety issues.

growth control - making sure that the infrastructure can support the growth

Reducing automobile dependence. Shrink the size of all arterials as was done on 24th ave.

keeping Ballard liveable.

housing affordability and transportation access

Q4: Status reports should focus more on...

Open areas, schools, usability, pedestrian safety, traffic reduction.

mass transit and safety (need more police officers throughout Seattle, but especially now in Ballard)

affordability, development patterns and transportation

Transportation

Crosswalks lights time should be changed so the elderly can cross the street before the light turns red (specifically corner of NW Market & 15th). I see elderly all the time not able to make it and cars are driving around them very closely as they struggle with their groceries. Noise reduction by apts/condos that are near commercial/business areas. More trees should be planted to help with the noise reduction and provide shade.

Sustaining the effort to create parks and open space. The amount of open space in Ballard has NOT kept pace with the density growth Ballard has experienced. Seattle as a whole has consistently supported a vibrant parks program as one of the key aspects of our city, and the Ballard neighborhood plan needs to continue to emphasize this - not just in achievement of the Ballard Municipal Center, but in ongoing efforts to identify, acquire, and maintain open space.

crime. drugs. trash. homeless. meth. drug deals. panhandling. smoking in front of public places (library). rats in shopping carts at Ballard Commons.

replacing sidewalks, obviously. Safety issues. Open spaces and parks.

Revitalizing the Scandanavian culture and the history of an independent Ballard.

Getting the RV-homeless out of Ballard. They take over and ruin the parks we have. They are not safe places to enjoy.

Letting neighborhoods secede from the city so that they can run themselves.

Implementing the urban village concept so we can support increased density.

combatting crime

Transportation. Infrastructure.

Improving public trans. Expanding open spaces. Stop the building of too tall buildings.

Transportation. I used to live in Lynnwood and it took 45 minutes to get to my job downtown. Now I live in Ballard (much closer to downtown!) and it still takes me 45 minutes to get to work.

Managing the increasing density - designing for it - so that the density ultimately augments community rather augments violent crime.

Reducing growth. Preserving historic sites/buildings and neighborhood amenities. Limiting the number of franchise/chain businesses.

Traffic & transportation, public safety, urban canopy

Commuter resources that aren't bus. Rail rail rail rail!

Safety, parking/transportation

the homeless issue

public transportation, getting a light rail station. Filling up store fronts with local store owners, keep the BIG chain stores out.

Keeping Crown Hill a quiet and quaint residential neighborhood. Also, promoting safety by adding sidewalks throughout the neighborhood.

Neighborhood safety; continuing to make Ballard an excellent example of a pedestrian and bicyclist friendly neighborhood.

safety= public parks that are useful
homeless issue = libraries that people will use
parking = don't built more housing without a proportionate amount of parking (pay or otherwise)

Transit, helping native local businesses to stay in business

Safety

transportation and safety. I see that the Commuter Rail is listed as a priority, but I haven't heard anything about this. Likewise with the Municipal Center between 22nd, 24th and 57th, 58th. Would that be where the Commons park is located? and the new QFC?

Affordability

Q4: Status reports should focus more on...

Preserving neighborhood character, landmarks, institutions.

Transit capacity.

Infrastructure

transportation

safety/crime

Safety, reducing homeless population and trash associated with. Fixing the Burke Gilman bike trail linkage

safety and cleaning up the area

Public safety (aggressive panhandling and illegal homeless camps).
Promoting attractive density (not the Lego-block buildings that sprouted up before the housing market crash).

Public transit and how best to connect neighborhoods to other neighborhoods (as opposed to just connecting them all through one or more downtown hubs).

Better transportation options linking Ballard to the downtown core, security concerns in the parks and the Burke-Gilman "missing link" completion.

Safety, transportation

Crime, homeless

transportation issues

Pedestrian issues

dog parks, allowing dogs off leash in certain areas at certain times

Stop wasting money

What people are interested in today versus what they were interested in 10 years ago!

"Greenifying" Ballard & I want to see the city keep the historical integrity of Ballard!

Affordable housing and food.
Connected and active citizens.
Schools as "third places."

crime statistics

--park spaces: type, area, playground, etc?
--the demographics of the entire plan area?

Improved safety, housing affordability, less development

Security.

Bike access to/from Leary/Shilshole - right now the only access points are at 8th and 24th which are not useful for most of Ballard/Crown Hill. Need better access points at 20th and 17th.

Less expensive housing options. More apartments, fewer condos. Light Rail Connections >

Transit, improvements to Crown Hill neighborhood

Development patterns - meaning too much dev. is going on changing the existing landscape.
- Improved roads and more commuter esp bicycle friendly lanes.

affordable housing that is not a 15 story condo eyesore with useless unaffordable retail space what does our community need to support itself?!!
a police presence to protect the integrity of our neighborhood and schools

Police walking on the streets or bicycling.
Transportation.
Finish Burke-Gilman bike path.

The demographic and other information is very dated . . . I'm assuming we will have a better handle on that after the 2010 census. It is hard to evaluate that stuff when the data is so old. More focus on housing affordability and demographics and how development is happening. It would be great to see more jobs in the Ballard area . . . particularly since we are lucky to have our little industrial area . . . makes for a much more diversified job/employment opportunity base for working close to home. Need more focus on the green aspects of adding density and transportation, etc.

Q4: Status reports should focus more on...

Education about benefits of density (condos, small lots, etc.) as they apply to increased pedestrian traffic. Increased bus routes to downtown.

Number of homeless shelters and services compared to other neighborhoods.

Transportation, getting rid of all the drunks and bums hanging or living in their cars around Ballard.

Keeping the few remaining trees, green spaces, etc.

Keeping a lid on the pace of development; realistic provisions for the poor and homeless.

Transportation

affordability, transportation, safety, jobs.

Condo/housing development.

transportation in and out of Ballard, livability issues, support of business.

crime and community involvement

transportation, housing affordability, small business environment

schools

crime, zoning for lot use re: house building (INCLUDE ENOUGH PARKING OFF-STREET! No more zero lot line houses!).

Public safety. The drug use in the parks is getting out of hand. The graffiti is slowly becoming more problematic and as I understand, budget cuts within the Seattle PD have eliminated our anti-graffiti task force. This is a dangerous. Graffiti has a psychological effect on neighborhoods and can lend to further crime if unchecked. A graffiti ridden neighborhood sets context that crime is acceptable and will not go punished, thus leading to crime escalation. Read Gladwell's Tipping Point for an interesting study on how eliminating graffiti in the NY subway system was a critical tactic in fighting crime within that city.

Public transportation, bike commuting, improvement in auto congestion.

Allowing big businesses and developers to put stores and unwanted housing/apartments in poor locations where traffic is already a problem. For example, the condo project at 15th and 58th St. The traffic on 15th can already be rough especially if the bridge is up or during rush hour as this is one of the only ways into the neighborhood from the South.

Transportation

Quality-of-life issues, transportation

Keeping neighborhood character.

More transportation options, affordable housing for people making less than \$100/year

Safety, transportation, open spaces/parks.

reducing crime, graffiti and drugs
improving public transportation and biking options

Homelessness and parks. While being addressed it is still a problem. Also...parking and moving forward w/light rail aggressively.

Safety & fewer spaces turned over to Condo/multi-living structures.

Transportation, homeless relocation, safety, Burke-Gilman Trail

Sustainable moderate growth and livability.

transportation

Green spaces, parks, etc.

transportation--we need plenty of ways to get people around. Bus service should be increased.

Crime statistics

Focus on more business development, there is an empty lot and several apparently boarded up businesses. There should be a focus on putting businesses on this empty areas.

protecting the integrity of single-family zoned neighborhoods, crime prevention, noise problems

Q4: Status reports should focus more on...

What is being done to get Ballard a seat at the transportation planning table for this region.

retaining local business, pressuring metro to keep Ballard in its rapidride program, building the missing link on the b-g trail

Quality, affordable housing and transportation.

Providing parking when new construction is approved.

transportation, sufficient parking, and affordable housing.

Develop Crown Hill Small Faces building and park to be community gathering place. Improve pedestrian walkways along busy corridor of Holman/15th Avenue N.W. Find ways to slow down traffic (regularly goes 50 instead of 35 up the hill from QFC to Dicks). Install light at Dicks (12th Avenue N.W. and Holman) to slow traffic.

Public transit on 15th.

Parking...making the mandatory 1 car parking for residences actually usable or making parking permits for the street to encourage people to park in their garages.

Transportation

Safety.

Public and alternative (to car) transportation - in particular bike safety and services along major bike routes, especially the Ballard Bridge.

transportation within Ballard and linking us more easily with other neighborhoods (Fremont, downtown, etc.). Slowing development of new buildings/housing until current developments have finalized and settled in -- too much too fast!

Public Transportation cross town (toward university)

safety, transportation and congestion

development for the local business

Stop the development

safety, transportation

How quality of life for Ballard neighbors has improved.

Aging in place in private homes - services to seniors - not catering to the yuppies with condos and expensive eateries

Green space, community spaces which are safe at all hours

transportation, walkability and other sustainable growth

safety and crime prevention

More focus on businesses staying power.

Development patterns: especially density and transportation options.

maintaining single family residences

improving transit and road access.

Public transportation and security/safety -- address the graffiti problem, the drug problem etc.

transportation besides bus service!

transportation
traffic management
bicycle boulevards

1) long term transportation changes.

2) Readability of the Community Investment section

transportation, bicycling, traffic circles, bike blvd.s

Housing affordability

Increasing urban density and linking that to fixed guideway transit.

Retention and expansion of a manufacturing base in the key waterway area (marine focused)

transportation networks
development patterns
public amenities
affordability

Bike commuter safety, closing businesses.

Excellent public transportation, safety.

Mass transit, Ballard's role in the Viaduct replacement project, affordable housing

Q4: Status reports should focus more on...

preserving existing single family housing, increasing affordable/subsidized housing, existence and accessibility of local service providers (DSHS, food bank, etc)

There should be more focus on safety. Ballard and Crown Hill has major safety issues: drug/homeless issues in downtown Ballard, at the food bank on 25th and along 15th Avenue.

I also think that there should be an increased focus on developing 15th Ave before it becomes another Aurora Ave.

new sidewalks

Stability and sustainability in every category. Also, creating more diversity in this predominantly white neighborhood may be good for the whole city. This could chip away at the polar image of the white north end of Seattle and the Black south end.

Traffic control, condo height regulations, parking enforcement, transient control.

Economic improvement for local businesses, affordable housing options.

Transportation

transportation, and mixing commercial, light industrial, retail, and residential in close proximity

Infrastructure to support the growth - however it is already probably too late

Safety, ending the homeless influx

reducing crime

Repairs to streets and curbs. Striping of corners for the 30' restriction.

The trail system, transportation, connectivity between development and street

attracting businesses, public transportation, traffic flow, late nighttime police patrols on 15th Ave NW.

Transportation.

Elimination of drug dealing and public drunkenness around Ballard.

development patterns and control of over growth/building

neighborhood child safety

Transportation, Parks

Housing affordability and Transportation.

Transportation, cleaning up Ballard, keeping its originality and roots

Improving parks and recreation. Most recreational activities in Ballard/Crown Hill are not city developed. City related recreation spots are too crime ridden (graffiti at Ballard Bowl, hooliganism at Golden Gardens, drug trafficking at the Commons and Marvin Gardens) to be of good use for family-oriented individuals.

east-west transportation connections

transportation

SAFETY AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND MAINTAINING OR PARK AND GREEN AREAS (we have so few of both for so many people!) More 'ON DEMAND' cross walks! Bike Boulevards, a perfect idea for Ballard!

Communication in a timely manner and through more channels with neighborhood inhabitants. By the time I saw this survey ALL of the meeting dates were over a week past.

Continue making it attractive to developers.

Safety and the ability for police to respond to calls in parks and at the library.

Public safety and keeping the neighborhood clean.

Cleaning up the 15th Ave corridor

Affordable housing.

crime, neighborhood safety, parks, public transportation.

Green spaces, transportation in and out of the neighborhood, and public safety.

Crime prevention, litter control, transient assistance

Q4: Status reports should focus more on...

development patterns (no more oversized houses!),
transportation networks.

transportation networks, housing affordability,
development patterns.

Diversity of housing types. Encouraging artists to stay/
return to the neighborhood.

public Safety
reduction in loitering
reduction in homeless people laying on streets and public
harrasement
reduction in graffiti
police presence
transportation improvement, start to street car from
Ballard and connect to the current street car
public safety on the metro

better non-motorized transportion options. It is still not a
great place to walk or bike.
Building height restrictions could be relaxed for large
projects. Why are our condos or aprtments not 15 to 20
stories? Major cities manage that just fine.

Walkability. Tell us - specifically - what's being done.

Urban Planning for traffic, support for staying in our
neighborhood schools.

Walkability, green space, community gathering places

Public transportation, bike routes.

parks and green spaces. extending the Burke-Gilman
trail.

safety

No comment

mass transit
limiting cars

Transportation options or incentives to cut down on
traffic. Non-automobile related traffic safety. Too many
bike/pedestrian accidents.

Services that allow seniors to remain in their homes and
to maintain single family housing that is affordable

crime, housing affordability.

Public Transportation and biking

Public Relations - let's get some volunteers to go door to
door and talk with people so they know what's going on.
As long as they aren't selling anything I think they would
be well received.

There should be more focus public amenities.

making small businesses more profitable, and helping the
small business man make it.

A strong focus on keeping the industrial base of Ballard
has been lacking.

Safety, better balance between multi-unit housing and
single family homes.

Building real parking and reducing congestion in the
neighborhoods. Continue to improve buses to reduce cars
and other mass transit options.

Include some crime stats both in terms of actual numbers
and per resident. Has transit ridership gone up or down?
Better presentation of status. Business turnover has there
been a net gain, which sectors have had losses (such as
industrial and manufacturing)? How close are we to goals
for housing units and jobs as a percent of target...

more green space
more age diversity
more affordable housing

Encouraging density in this neighborhood is a good thing,
but the needs of that density need to be addressed.
Transit and police presence are two things that would
definitely help.

Sidewalks, quality of environment, vandalism

affordable housing, job development

Public amenities and transportation.

It's too late....too many people who are only living or
passing through; many don't appear to be attached.

Parks/Green Space, Safety, Quality of Development

Homeless counts, crime counts, school availability per
capita, green space

Q4: Status reports should focus more on...

long term transportation plan

small business growth, police presence (on foot or bikes), community building, crime prevention, empty lot usage - incentives for these are critically needed

It would be nice if there was more green space in downtown Ballard. An actual playground would be nice.

Traffic and pedestrian/cyclist safety

Light rail

Urban Planning

Bike lane safety, transportation, slowing density to match the rest of the city

traffic, safety, reasonable solution to the final chapter of the burke gilman

the ""business sector"" to accommodate new businesses. Parking, growth at a reasonable pace.

Retaining the maritime and traditional northwestern character of the neighborhood. More focus on safety and policing.

Finish the Burke Gilman Trail. Improve transportation options. Don't leave lots vacant (e.g., the Denny's property).

traffic flow, transportation, safety. (our neighborhood has been hit repeatedly by crime in the last year)

transportation, demographics

Transportation and safety issues

property crime prevention
stopping malicious malingering
services for the mentally ill
preventing , street side living in campers, RVs

limiting future housing development in ballard

sidewalks north of 85th; bicycle boulevards; more police presence

Safety.

transportation options

Addressing the homeless population and drug activity. Crime.

rail system connection the city, to my neighborhood. Maintaining current longtime business residents. Keep things simple.

Affordable housing complexes; services for the poor and homeless (Note this does not mean passing laws so we can arrest them). It should work to increase diversity in the neighborhood.

Slowing growth, adding parking for structures that are already built, increasing police presence.

Safety, and progress on development

Support to neighborhood businesses - not BIG business. Putting Neighbor back into the HOOD. Establishing green spaces: parks and neighbor gathering places.

Walkability for Crown Hill area, safety for kids walking to school and families who want to shop at local businesses.

Traffic and open spaces

alternative transportation networks (public/mass/rapid transit, bicycling, etc.)

Connectivity with regard to public transportation -- not just buses, but trains and/or LRT.

Transportation, schools

safety

Safety and transportaion

Housing affordability and sustainability.

transportation and public safety

dealing with traffic, encouraging walking/biking

light rail and beautification of major thoroughfares.

public transportation and development patterns

Slowing down the rentals

Q4: Status reports should focus more on...

In general, all data provided must tell a story. Trend data would be more helpful - from say 1980, 1990 and 2000, if using census data. More recent data would also be more helpful. If showing trends, seeing at least 3 data points is a more accurate account than showing only 2 data points. Other sources beyond Census data should be utilized. Look at King County Board of Realtors, Seattle School District, State workforce, Dept of Labor, etc. Some these groups do analysis, too, that should be included. There is nothing in the template that indicates surrounding neighborhood planning areas and any overlaps in plans between the surrounding areas. There is no information on cross-community issues/projects, e.g. transportation between neighborhoods. Maps need to show surrounding neighborhood planning areas.

Transportation. We have two bus lines downtown that are always full and slow as heck coming home. With the loss of the monorail, there seems to be no plan. Also, more needs to be done to calm traffic on non-arteries and create more bike lanes.

the people. who's here and what's their quality of life?

Transportation.

What's more to come regarding changes in Ballard.

Maintaining neighborhood character (where appropriate).

development patterns, transportation networks

Not allowing anymore multi family dwellings

Housing Affordability, Development Patterns

Safe Missing Link completion.
Stepping up Police Patrol

Transportation

Land use - create pleasing space and buildings, do not allow ugliness and non-conforming structures. Need more PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION options (why not have a Ballard shuttle, for example??) I won't shop anywhere unless I can easily get there!!

Getting Metro to provide better bus service to downtown; encouraging more owner-occupied housing

transportation, parking, safety, historical preservation, preservation of manufacturing jobs, public art, p-patches

1. A measure of progress towards completing the neighborhood plans.

- What has been accomplished.

- what is in progress (and how far along)

- What parts of the plan have not been met, and what the barriers are to moving forward.

- Deviations from the neighborhood plans (explanations of why they were allowed and what was done to mitigate the negative impact)

2. Demographics that are meaningful.

- change over the last 10 years

- something to compare the numbers too. For example what percent of people living/working in an area constitutes an 'urban village'

- Demographic statistics that can be used to measure progress.

- measurement standards goals to which we can work towards, so that

- Dealing with our homeless situation. In the parks and in the neighborhoods. food bank attracts a lot of disrespectful people. They throw garbage and pee in our yards!

Development patterns

Sidewalks!

reducing crime. increasing community.

Transit and creating walkable/bike-able communities

community-building, community empowerment

Development Patterns

Safety; Ballard has had some issues lately.

Monorail - we expected to have this

Families, safety

Transportation.

transportation, parking

preserving small business, safety and the culture that is Ballard

Housing affordability is a big problem now.

Clean up empty holes (Dennys and Sunset Bowl) at the 15th and Market Ave NW intersection.

Q4: Status reports should focus more on...

Housing affordability and transportation.

Transportation

more police presence, stopping any more condos from being built

Transportation

transportation networks

Neighborhood design guidelines, setbacks so we don't have to live in bread box canyons

Would like to see more police presents driving or riding through neighborhoods and not just when there's been a recent crime as the murder at the gas station on 15th. That morning was the 1st time since the last locatl crime, that I'dseen a police car drive by.

vibrant community, green/open spaces, business district, housing, transportation (a street card to U district would be fantastic!!)

the allocation of condos and townhouses. These ""cookie-cutter"" homes are ruining our city. There is no sense of style or individuality anymore.

Parking. With all the new condo and apartment buildings coming in parking is going to get more difficult.

addressing issues of safety (drug activity - both use and sale), petty crime. Better responsiveness from SPolice Dept on this issue (it's improving but needs to continue to do so)

preserving old homes

public transportation and affordable housing.

homelessness, public drug use and increasing public transportation options

crime, making our neighborhood safe

finishing the Burke-Gilman trail. This project has been in the works for a while. It would seem to make economic sense to quit dragging it out.

There should also be more focus on developing vacant lots, such as the old Denny's lot on Market & 15th Ave NW.

Transportation, parking, managing growth

moving loitering people in public spaces/parks/libraries, moving RV's off of 14th Ave/Market St./8th Ave, mayor-led anti-graffiti campaign, crack down on aggressive pan-handling and drug dealing in Ballard

Transportation!!!!

community, maintaining the ballard feel, traffic

Mass public transportation (light rail, bus lanes etc).

Bring in more business offices and make Ballard a business center, not only retail and restaurants.

Safety for kids, bikes, pedestrians.

Design and planning guidelines for development. Crime and public safety.

traffic

Making the neighborhood safe

safety, public transportation

family-wage jobs, not just service/barista/fred-meyers jobs. I think the city has to address homelessness in a more realistic way for todays homelsss person-- not just routing out the RVs & talking up future plans --

Transportation

Homelessness, drug problems in parks

walkability and safety of walkers to school and shops. Crown Hill should not be lumped in with neighbor Ballard- the problems are different up here.

Housing affordability and transportation are key - although I'm not sure how this affects families like mine - who paid more than we could afford to live here so we didn't have to commute, and now our home value has plummeted, and we are left with an oppressive mortgage. Many families are in the same situation. The homeless situation appears to have gotten out of hand. There are numerous people living in RVs and cars. There are often homeless in the parks, openly drunk and drinking, although I do think the city is trying to take care of that.

Safety and low to middle class housing and retail.

Q4: Status reports should focus more on...

Keeping each neighborhood unique.

Developing green spaces and public areas.

Transportation, business districts, housing affordability.

Safety of the population and the preservation of the Ballard history, character, and feel of the neighborhood.

Development patterns. Enough with the high rise condos and apartments. If you are going to continue to let builders construct mass buildings, the parking and traffic flow must be addressed.

Safety and renovation of existings parks and on doing something with dead lots, such as Sunset Bowl and the former location of Denny's.

Keeping public spaces and the library comfortable and safe places for people to enjoy.

transportation, homeless

affordable housing

Improving the Burke-Gilman trail and increasing public transportation options, especially planning on fixed rail.

Safety and cleanliness

Bike Lanes!!

Removing homeless, increasing safety / reducing crime, police presence.

Open spaces/parks; 1 parking space for each unit of housing.

Public safety.

(a little more focus, but not drastic attention to) maintenance of land and buildings

Better transportation-I don't think Ballard should be a transportation HUB but it would be nice if residents could more easily get around w/o car or bike.

safety, community events/awareness, upkeep on parks, policing of public spaces for loitering/crime

housing regulations

housing affordability, transportation networks

public safety and transportation. Maintaining industrial base.

Marked, safe, neighborhood, non-arterial bike routes.

Job development

Biking, community meeting areas and events, close Ballard Ave al weekend as an entertainment area, bring in hotels

completing the park at the Small Faces area

I feel unqualified to answer this

there needs to be a solution to keeping bikers safe and cars moving. Currently bikes are all over the place and don't follow consistent rules. It makes it very challenging for drivers to anticipate what they will do. Needs to be a consistent plan for bike safety
Needs to be goals for the future set. It should be a goal of community to make better use of our waterfront areas. Safety at Golden Gardens is also very concerning.

we need less new development.

crime

community spaces and history.. I can't believe the bowling alley was closed down and has now beennothing but a shadow shelter for homeless....they coul;d at least turn that space into a resourcfe for the homeless instead of abandoned lots

I would like to see more focus on public safety and affordable housing.

community services and safety

Public transportation; family oriented activities. Decreasing building development.

finishing the Burke Gilman trail and more affordable housing.

Parks

Transportation and making the area pedestrian friendly.

complete Burke-Gilman trail!

Q4: Status reports should focus more on...

transportation and parking

More focus on trying to reduce the opportunities to force drivers to parade around in their cars. You thought condos would reduce dependency on driving downtown to work, didn't you? They merely drive their cars around evenings and weekends and clog the streets, built 100 years ago for a much smaller residential density. Ok, that last statement was obvious, but also it is obviously disobeyed today.

Density and rapid transit to both the downtown area and east-west routes. Still too difficult to access U-Dist (given the short distance) and Capital Hill.

transportation, and development

safety regarding car prowls and graffiti and people speeding through Ballard sidestreets.

road capacity, parking, transit plan, fewer tattoo shops, fewer bars

Transportation between east and west neighborhoods- I can walk home faster from Wallingford where I work 4 miles away. Why would I ever take the bus?! It is extremely frustrating. Not everyone works downtown. Also--I would like to see existing old tree canopy protected. I have seen 6, 50 foot trees taken out due to development in the neighborhood. Planting a small tree will never replace that.

Transportation

Safety, providing better lighting/sidewalks

Affordable housing.

More parking downtown; biking included

Transportation networks; transient removal

liveaboard on wheels
drug traffic

Transportation networks and affordable housing

Finding ways to divert run off and clean the water before it enters Puget Sound. I'm not sure who run off is supposed to hop the curb on 14th to get to the plants, but I like the sentiment of it.

Extending the Burke Gillman. Please! I crashed on those darn tracks too! Months later my knee still hurts.

social services

traffic on 15th
urban development

Positive free community events.

TRANSPORTATION (Light rail)

pedestrian access, crossings, safety.

Getting the bums out

Management of urban growth. Public transportation.

transportation

Housing affordability and transportation networks.

development patterns and impact of high density housing on existing neighborhoods

single family living - less density

Ballard needs more green spaces and trees! Also, better transportation.

Biking routes & signage, traffic safety, sustainable development.

development patterns, transportation networks, safety

Question 4: The Status Reports should focus less on...

more growth

Changing zoning laws to build taller structures in Ballard.

Density. We overdeveloped too quickly and have excess capacity for a while.

bikes are not going to handle increased traffic. I say this and I am a bike commuter.

density, density, density

Packing people into cheap boxy buildings.

Creating more housing

luxury housing units.

Demographics

Large corporate housing projects

Building condos. The construction needs to be slowed down and re-evaluated. Like I mentioned before: focus on quality construction and smaller condo complexes, townhomes, cottage houses etc. but the huge condo buildings need to be more restricted.

public art-waste of money

Parking and congestion.

Tearing down old to build new. Building huge condo/apartment buildings.

Development. Can we slow that down just a bit?

Having endless votes/debates about public transit!

sidewalks, housing density

Light rail. Much as I love the idea, we need to fix public transportation as it is and make it better, more accessible, more efficient.

Encouraging new building development when filling existing new buildings is difficult

Public amenities
Demographics

Not sure

Building more condos

Additional construction, eg condos.

bars and high end condos

n/a

Affordability. Frankly I dont think we need any more density in population.

NEW APARTMENT and CONDO buildings...enough!

Parks

Data - more comparative, more relevant, more analysis.

housing

Giving property developers incentives

Development

Business.

saving crown hill school - we already have beautiful parks, and although I think it's great to save this school, the surrounding neighborhood (Greenwood) is not ready for more people-traffic - they are already starting to have more problems with crime and drug use near 85th and Holman/15th.

Expansion.

Crown Hill School

Density and development

Changes that have little impact on community life - public art does not impact anyone's quality of life.

Housing

Condos. Stop the condos that people cannot afford. They are ugly and ruining the look and feel of the neighborhood.

Condos and corporations.

the construction of poorly built overpriced housing.

Development

Q4: Status reports should focus less on...

New construction.

Building new stuff.

Over-priced condos.

encouraging more building (higher occupancy)

1. Anti-development
2. Preserving industrial parks (Change is happening, whether you like it or not. That's the way the market is demanding.)

growth management
plastic bags!

density

condo development

Parks. They just get filled with homeless, are unsafe for children.

Roads.

Static pie charts. They don't tell a story or indicate any progression. The progression is critical for determining the order of neighborhood plan updates.

urban density

Housing development & density promotion

Down town ballard condo community

Further housing development and less business sprawl.

The pie graphs and charts are nice visuals. But, there are too many of them with very little supporting documentation. Please see comment on ""there should be more focus on...""

Public art

More condos, and less parking.
It would be great to see affordability and mixed income housing so as to create 'culture' and remain a neighborhood for families.

Bergen Place, fountains, etc.

infrastructure to autos

keep the rest

Density

BALLARD!

New, fast, cheap construction.

Housing affordability is a factor of markets and beyond the control of the city unless subsidized.

Parks, bicycle lanes.

Increased housing density especially market rate housing.

Packing as many condos as possible - you've effectively turned ballard into Fremont with all the condo projects, which are unsightly, cause congestion and now will remain vacant in a slumping economy

x

Bus routes

Condos

getting rid of condos

Allowing greedy families or developers to influencing a restaurant to close, then take their time in tearing it down, then finally tearing it down, and leaving a big old nasty deserted lot at the most visible intersection in Ballard.

-Building up the urban village.

Libraries, bus structures,

High density housing

art. This should not be a priority.

completing the Burke Gilman trail and other bike paths.

condos

housing, housing, housing... please let the building stop.

demographics

building new condo style housing that only the rich can afford. Less focus on greed would be a start.

Q4: Status reports should focus less on...

Saving farmland at the expense of these small neighborhoods. Building the infrastructure for increased density that we already have. We don't have adequate police and social services to go along with our urban village/city.

New development.

Housing affordability

Private development.

demographics

urban density

urban density

On demolishing old buildings to build condos.

Animal control in city parks

Burke Gilman Trail, shopping centers

Cosmetic fixes. The sidewalks along Ballard Avenue were fine. Fix transit!

Building Condos

Increasing density in a careless fashion.

More housing.

new construction

Density at all costs -- Ballard/Crown Hill have already exceeded their density mandates.

new business

Condo's

housing

Rail and bike transport. Rail can't be cost-effective relative to buses, and bikes aren't a meaningful transportation alternative for most of the neighborhood's residents.

Zoning changes to support development

Stuff to waste money on

Housing affordability...Please, no more huge condo developments.. they are an eyesore and take up valuable public space. There are a lot of old neighborhoods, I want to see the city keep the historical integrity of Ballard.!

--The "'urban village'" area boundaries seem arbitrary to me, but then I may be uninformed.

DEVELOPMENT!!!!

Population density.

filling these retail spaces below condos with more dry cleaners, nail salons, and to-go food.

Building up density.

Bicycle trails.

si

increasing density

Development of large multi-use complexes.

developer incentives

Safety

Building codes for future development of condos.

public art

Accommodating high density housing. As mentioned previously, we are at a point where we have exhausted the benefits of high density housing in the Ballard urban area. The "'urban cottage'" idea introduced earlier this year is a bad one and will only exacerbate an already overcrowded situation.

Building expensive condo developments that don't promote a diverse population. People like to live where they work which means we need to have affordable housing.

Density (We've achieved it!)

Increasing density.

more and more condos when occupancy is very low

Development of multi-story housing.

Q4: Status reports should focus less on...

-building more residential units in Ballard

- eliminating bus routes due to poor budget and political leadership, both in Seattle and King County.

- bowing down to businesses that can't change, all for a lousy bike lane.

Maximizing growth and property value.

Burke-Gillman. That seems to be a waste of resources during these economic times.

Housing (condos, apartments, multi-units, etc.)

transportation networks, housing affordability, public amenities

Everything else.

Building condominiums in Ballard.

Commuter rail from Crown Hill. Instead focus on better bus service and extend light rail to Northgate with direct bus service from Crown Hill.

Additional high density housing projects..>Ballard is full and many of these new buildings are empty.

density

Building condos. Yeesh.

providing homeless services unless they are intended only for people from the area. Why encourage people from other areas to come here if there is no work for them and they have nothing to give back to the community.

Development of housing.

like the demise of our great bowling alley - we don't want to lose things like that in Ballard for more condos!!

Numbers of new homes/units added.

Growth

Doors closing.

Demographics

trying to do away with cars

I want FEWER new residential units until there is a plan for parking, transit, and street improvements.

Building more (empty) condos, tearing down old buildings, adding more residents

I'm not sure how directly the demographics support many of the goals. While interesting they seem of less value.

Packing more people in w/o addressing transportation issues.

Development

The Burke Gilman trail --- needs to be rethought away from rail road and industrial operations (and I'm a bike rider)!

demographics

rebuilding old sidewalks

??? I can't think of anything that should be of less focus.

NIMBY-ism, caving for every little neighborhood dictate

Community events, open houses for people to voice their obvious concerns.

Cramming more people into small spaces

Safety in parks. Urban families setting too much of an emphasis on it.

growth via condos

high density housing, which is stealing away the family quality of our neighborhoods.

dogs in parks, appeasing whiny citizens who think they should have been the last person allowed to move into a neighborhood

demographics, housing affordability,

Burke-Gilman Trail expansion.

Housing

Public amenities.

Q4: Status reports should focus less on...

Burke-Gilman trail...while I'm an avid cyclist, I can't understand the big push to connect the trail to Golden Gardens...besides going up the hill and riding blue ridge (which isn't very bike friendly), ITS A DEAD END! If I want a good ride, I go the other direction. Stop wasting the time and effort of lawyers fighting with the waterfront businesses. Lawyers have more important things to do, like following ambulances.

Improving rent opportunities. Too much proposed housing density and not enough transportation, parks, and other facilities.

BUILDING AND ROADS

density increasing

No more building permits for more condos!

The option to build more condos.

condos.

The continued Bastardization of Ballard by the developers who build the buildings, and run away despite considerable defects.

Crown Hill Elementary

Supporting the homeless and forgetting those of us trying to raise a family and a safe place for our children and ourselves consider what is best for the community vs. The transient population that has recently exploded

densification without going up.

Public Art - Look, you're required by law to include it in every major project... so what? The sculptures on the Ballard bridge don't make a damn bit of difference to those poor bicyclists dodging cars and now darts! It's nice that you're ""fixing up the face"" of Ballard, but let's keep our eye on what matters most - people's LIVES!

No comment

Building more housing that will never get filled (nor do we have enough transportation options or police to monitor this huge influx of people, if they did get filled)

i can't think of anything.

Cars

There should be less focus on transportation networks.

THE BURKE GILMAN TRAIL. - Everything can't be perfect; there needs to be respect for the livelihood of a region.!

Limit high density. Not only do we have congested neighborhoods, but it also concentrates environmental impacts. We can't afford High Point everywhere. Nor will it work every where (not all streets have geologic conditions that have made HP such a success). And remember, just because the stormwater is disappearing below the surface doesn't mean its not causing groundwater contamination. I know that being skeptical about green infrastructure is like kicking puppies, but it's not a fix all.

condos with retail space

more condos

Bringing more people in.

new housing - there seems to be too much supply

housing, there is too much of it already by far, the last thing we need is another huge condo development that will sit empty and be a magnet for crime

Building high rise condos and apartments. Don't think Ballard needs all that density.

Affordable housing

High density housing

Density

more 4 plexes!

Painting bicycle sharrows on the roads -- this is totally stupid.

Nothing

enabling the homeless

unchecked housing construction

Housing development. Just work with what we have for now, don't want to overbuild more than we have.

Q4: Status reports should focus less on...

public spaces

Buses, high density housing, Red light cameras should go away. They will eventually cause a class action law suit against the city.

Growth without space to support it.

Attracting BIG business.

NO MORE CONDOS!!!

Building, public art, bike lane painting. You don't need to look at paint lines on the street to see a cyclist. You see a bike you watch out for it.

Rapid growth.

just providing data. The data needs to be provided along with an analysis and story.

3 story condos outside the "urban villages". Keep the single family homes.

Government sponsored community. Community will and does happen on its own.

Demographics

demographics

art

Demographics

QUIT ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENT.

Static Demographic statistics and pie charts with nothing to compare them too.

Public art pieces - we need more trees planted.

density, attracting high-end retail, building expensive condos that sit vacant, turning Edith Macefield's house into a freakshow

Not sure

cramming people into condos

condos

High rise, high density, expensive condos

Stop trying to Make Ballard a congested 'village center' for all the cool people to gather at. It's a neighborhood. Leave it that way.

Making this the new Belltown. Regulation on the townhouses and condominiums should be more strict.

Growth and retail.

demographics

Demographics

demographics

Building at all costs over positive, attractive and sustainable growth.

Increased density

parking, car transportation

gettin more people to move to ballard.

No more condos. No national brand stores

increasing density in Ballard

building condos or approving the building of them.

Condo construction. While I own one, I think we are saturated, and I see a lot of condos turning into apartments because they aren't selling.

residential density (no more condos or backyard dwelling spaces)

quick growth

Building condo building with no or little office space.

Adding more condominiums

Making sure there is low income housing

bicycle paths -- too expensive and just a pork-project.

Ballard in the Crown Hill report. Our neighborhood plan is being hidden and walkability is non-existent.

Q4: Status reports should focus less on...

High-end retail and housing	Less focus on condos and multi-family housing, and tearing down low-rise buildings in favor of high-rise buildings. Ballard is NOT downtown!
Building new developments.	
Safety	growth
Development.	skate parks and bicycle lanes
Demographics.	public amenities
Building condominiums, which largely remain vacant. With that, there needs to be less focus on attracting more people to Ballard and more focus on servicing us who already live here.	450,000 dollar 'apartments'....
parks	bike lanes on car lanes, where car tab holders pay for streets, but bikers have no financial or liability responsibility. Bikers on city streets should be licensed and insured!
Huge, high complexes.	NA
Housing.	Allowing condos to buy up land and sit empty or closing businesses.
Building condos/apartments/townhouses to increase the population.	building developments
creating more housing, building of more condos or high rise buildings	demographics
taxes	packing more people in -- the area just can't handle it.
demographics	building in the downtown area.
further development of density	
building more luxury apartments and condos that are no longer affordable	
I don't feel confident answering this question.	
keeping the character of the neighborhood	
Erecting new buildings; particularly without community participation (say)	
dense living and renovating historic Ballard.	
Ballard municipal center looks great, and attention can be focused on other parts now	
increasing density unless you have more rapid transit of some kind	

Question 4: Are there important gaps in the Status Reports?

Updated demographics showing ages in neighborhoods and housing costs. It looks like the data in the draft is from the 2000 census.

There is not enough emphasis on transportation alternatives.

There seems to be a direct conflict between the Ballard Neighborhood Plan on the Missing Link and the BINMIC Neighborhood Plan which (after the Ballard Plan was initially adopted) set a priority to keep trails away from BINMIC. Bicycles and industry can work very safely together. I'd rather bicycle around CDL truck drivers than around soccer moms.

Traffic and mobility. The city seems to naively think people will get out of cars and respond to their mobility plans. But people do not live 9-5 jobs downtown. People drive. And the changes (such as lane reductions on 28th) don't help. The City needs to stop this "drive" to eliminate car traffic and figure out ways to accommodate it.

Providing for the schools.

There are more and more children moving into Ballard, what are we going to do about school overcrowding?

We really need a focused community initiative on things to do in Ballard, i.e. bowling, mini-golf, swimming pools etc. Right now, our Boys and Girls Club has to drive to Magnolia for an affordable and kid-friendly pool, to Shoreline for bowling, to Queen Anne for mini-golf. We have very little local business that focuses on anything but food and shopping.

People here should have more say.

it does not address being overbuilt

Pedestrian safety & amenities (street calming, bicycle boulevards, road diets)

Why isn't public safety included??

See above.

preventing graffiti, safety at Golden Gardens

I don't see anything that would encourage connectivity. This plan is very much a my-neighborhood, screw-the-others report. Where does this neighborhood fit into its larger landscape? How are we encouraging connections to other neighborhoods? Seattle is one city and it has plans too that overlay Ballard's, how can we bring our neighborhood into alignment with that and build on them for our identity?

Traffic, vacant lots (crime), lack of Ballard jobs... etc.



The plan mainly focuses on the business district and development around this area. This area has certainly benefitted from this focus, but there is a much larger neighborhood that surrounds it- west of the business district and east of 15th that needs more focus. Also, there is no real "gateway" entrance to the neighborhood- that could be a great way to refocus attention on the larger neighborhood.

a lot of the data is out of date. rental prices and employment data have changed a lot since 2007.

I think the data needs to be described better. So for example, is the 62.8% Owner Occupied statistic for Crown Hill the 2024 Goal? or is that what it was in 2000? or is that what it is right now in 2009? I'd like to see that data at the time this was initiated, compared to the 2024 goal and where are we at time of progress report - so there should be 3 numbers for the same measure to compare over time. We need to see what the effect of these changes are to the data we are trying to measure otherwise we will not know the impact. So, the Crown Hill School was just purchased and there will be renovations - so what? Were there changes in property value? Did it affect rent in the area? How have all the Market Street changes affected the demographic TO THIS POINT? etc

Q4: What are the important gaps in the status reports?

Seems like there is less conversation between the neighborhoods and the city, especially with the missing link on the Burke-Gilman trail. The solution in the industrial area does not seem safe for bicycles between railroad tracks that cause accidents and possible accidents with trucks and bikers if bike traffic is increased. It will also eliminate much needed parking for retail businesses. Much parking has been eliminated in Ballard and alternate means of transportation have not been implemented to replace it.

Commute trips, shopping trips and school trips: walking in the neighborhood for amenities versus going outside of it. PSRC has some data on this better than last census I believe. Composition of families in the neighborhood.

The sidewalks on east half of the south side of Market Street and on 22nd Ave between Market and Shilshole need redone. I have a first aid kit available because people trip on the uneven street about once a week. Someone is going to break a hip or crack their head open one of these days.

Better parking enforcement of the non time limited parking on 22nd Ave between Ballard Ave. & Shilshole. I am continually calling on vehicles that have been parked for over 3 days in one spot or just completely abandoned. It sometimes takes another 3 before anything is done. If parking enforcement could log or mark the vehicles so that they would know when vehicles have exceeded the 72 hours this could help with the parking problem as well as raise money from tickets.

comparison of population density increases and housing availability, also comparison of population density increase and available transportation capacity (NOT including automobiles, since most new housing/density is condominiums).

Keeping local businesses alive

nothing reflects the impact the changes have made on Ballard - changing it from a pleasant place to live to hell on earth.

the draft status reports only had information from the 2000 census - the information has changed tremendously and we need updated information that cannot wait for the 2010 census to be complete

Preservation of single family zones, and residential neighborhood scale and character.

doesn't address homeless that have migrated from downtown

I'm curious where the 50% of homes are that are worth less than \$300K. We've been looking to buy for the last year and barely see anything listed for under \$400K (single family). I cannot believe those stats are accurate.

* Qualitative description of growth - location in relationship to and availability of services, types of projects (e.g., mixed-use v. townhouses), etc., and quality-of-life issues, such as walkability, crime, open space, noise, and transit service;
* +Zoning+ and development capacity;
* Relationship to adjacent neighborhoods with regard to transportation, open space, environment, etc. and to transportation corridors connecting many neighborhoods.

Community center at Library has caused more problems than it has solved.

The pie charts don't really tell the story. How have these figures changed in the interim between the last plan and now? Do the people work in the neighborhood live in the neighborhood? Is the neighborhood population getting younger or older. Narrative illustrated with graphs (comparing 10 years ago to now) would do a far better job of communicating the relative need for updating the neighborhood plans.

The four pages with charts did not seem to illustrate ""before"" and ""after"" on population, demographics, jobs, housing prices. Maybe it is there but these pages seemed like a lot of data without any context or commentary on how they met goals or affect goals, etc.

please address the RAMPANT uptick of tagging. teenagers seem to be running rampant with their spray paint and it's a real distraction to the beauty of our community. the 15th commercial corridor could also use some attention... perhaps some tax incentives for businesses who build on the empty lots. i'd also love to see the plasma donation center be located somewhere else.

see my answer to the more focus section.

Burke Gilman! Get it finished please :)

Q4: What are the important gaps in the status reports?

See my comment under ""There should be more focus on..." This seems to me to be a gap. Also, the draft status report really just lists the community investments that have been made or are in progress as well as including a bunch of graphs. I would like to see more on zoning, as well as current plans that are underway that have occurred outside the neighborhood plan process (i.e., new parks levy priorities, Ballard RapidRide, what does Sound Transit have in store for Ballard, etc.)

Transportation linkages

There is a brief mention about establishing a commuter rail station, but there seems to be little explanation. Clearly, a street car (which I hear rumors of) or some light rail into Ballard would be an incredible improvement.

Clear statement of transportation alternatives that will fulfill and support more efficient and timely access to and from Ballard to elsewhere

There is no mention of transportation issues.

As I have already stated, there is a huge gap in the amount of support Ballard and Crown Hill are receiving.

Diversity

Would like to see numbers on transportation capacity and those commuters using various forms of transportation.

Didn't read it.

Services for the poor and homeless.

x

would like to see crime statistics / safety grades for each neighborhood.

infrastructure (roads, etc) support

Noise reduction, parking, apt/condos owners more responsible for planting trees to reduce noise, cleaning the sidewalks/streets surrounding their buildings (cleaning the water runoff drains, trash out of the streets) and reevaluating the cross walk time (at NW Market & 15th) for the elderly.

Transportation...need light rail...Finish the Burke Gilman Trail.

the status reports don't include homelessness solutions or data just rentals and owners. There is an unaddressed population.

details on the original plan (highlights helpful, but surely there was more), plus context to help understand and judge the numbers and charts and how they compare to expectations/plans.

Transportation

The status report talks about what has been achieved, but is silent on what hasn't been achieved. There should be some discussion about the status of the rail link - is this plan defunct? If so, what alternative improvements to transportation must replace it?

The homeless issue needs to be addressed. Either give the homeless and the homeless-RVers a place to camp or move them out of Ballard. They are not native to Ballard, they come here because we haven't figured out what to do with them and we ignore them.

See above.

education, traffic, urban canopy

I don't know but the pie charts just don't make much sense to me. I don't believe that most people in Ballard's homes cost less than \$299,999. I don't know anyone who lives in Ballard with a house worth under \$300,000. That doesn't make any sense to me. I just don't see where those numbers could have come from.

the homeless

light rail station.

now that the Monorail is gone from Ballard, what's the new plan for non-bus public transportation? Is the light rail really going to connect the airport to Ballard at some point?

There's no talk about the number of businesses that have been forced to close either due to rent hikes or the economy. There's also no talk of improved safety measures.

Density is not clearly reported or addressed (too little, just right, too much, etc...). There is nothing about preservation, about preserving existing character while allowing some growth.

Q4: What are the important gaps in the status reports?

Transit is barely mentioned.

see above

Crown Hill needs more focus.

Go suck on a lemon...

Attracting diversity, Ballard is still homogenous. Use public money to really get people involved, we need real people not more bureaucracy and bureaucrats and politicians!

There isn't any discussion of safety, and this has been an increasing concern as of late. The boundaries of the Ballard Municipal Center as written on page 1 don't seem accurate and perhaps should be expanded; for example, they don't include the current library.

Seems like they use very old data. Would be nice to see a lot less pie charts (they waste a lot of space) and more interesting types of graphs like where people who work in the neighborhood live, and where people who live in the neighborhood work. That would tell a story which none of the pie charts do.

The report is called the "Crown Hill & Ballard" report, yet virtually all of the improvements are focused on Ballard.

I guess I would like to see more info on families and where kids are going to school . . . are we getting a lot of the kids going to our neighborhood schools? Also would like to see more focus on the environmental aspects of the area . . . we are so close to the water that we need to have more consideration to the new housing adding permeable sidewalks and driveways, etc. They asphalt or cement in the entire open area between the rows of townhomes which makes for more water running into the sewer vs. percolating through the ground. They could use those pavers that have open spaces . . . put grass or groundcover or anything (gravel) in the open spots and the water would be able to drain through the ground before getting into the water, etc. We need to be looking more at the green aspects of the density we are adding.

Need a plan for taking care of the poor and homeless who are increasingly apparent in all parts of the neighborhood. Perhaps Plymouth Housing could put one of their apartments here?

Although commuter rail is one of the four key strategies of the neighborhood plan, the draft status report otherwise ignores this critical issue.

transportation and school details seem hard to pin down

house zoning and crime

See aforementioned commentary on the need for a more playful approach to high density housing going forward and the need to address rising crime, particularly graffiti

addressing issues such as public safety

- The largest gap I see are the people that are running this questionnaire not taking the answers on here seriously in order to incorporate them into an updated plan.

Preservation of neighborhood character (Denny's, Sunset Bowl).

no reference to protecting the integrity of single family neighborhoods

Family support - quality, affordable child care; early learning and school readiness programs; youth and out-of-school time programs (this is especially critical); other programs addressing family needs - recreation, parenting, places for generations to mix, promoting ethnic and racial diversity in neighborhoods.

Improving safety for bike commuters.

Yes, there should be better connections between Ballard and Boeing in Everett.

Safety -- better handling of transient populations, crime prevention

no comment except the overall vision for our livability seems to be missing more.

Burke Gilman missing link and light rail are missing!

Burke Gilman Trail is not really going to go through a good place for bicyclers.

see above

key strategy, D, commuter rail stop

Bike blvds, Traffic circles for speed control

Q4: What are the important gaps in the status reports?

Implementation of an East / West transit corridor with a Ballard Sounder stop on the west end and the UW Link stop on the other along with the more obvious Ballard to downtown link.

Preserving (and even expanding) the manufacturing base along with additional ""white collar jobs"" in the increasingly dense core.

transit planning needs to encompass far more than a commuter rail station. Bus/bike/pedestrian/alternative services and amenities need to be a much bigger priority.

Yes, please see comments above.

Maybe this should be in the ""more focus on"" box but if the mayor has declared the city to be devoted to supportive and invested in Seattle Public Schools, then shouldn't that extend to the neighborhood status plan??? Perhaps this would help those neighborhoods that are struggling to create stronger schools....

What about all the businesses that have closed??

there needs to be baseline measurements that assist neighborhoods understanding progress toward increasing sustainability and health.

Plans seem to be moving forward without any measures being taken for the problems they may be solving. Right now it's more plans = more problems = no solutions.

focus on street safety

Employment: include technology
Add a transportation chart, i.e. how many people use buses, bike, carpool, etc. Would also be interesting how many people work locally (in Ballard) or downtown, etc.

I don't think that the owner-occupied median home values are accurate. Where is the city obtaining this data? Not from the real estate market or county treasurer (even with the downturn).

TRANSPORTATION and of course the BG Trail

Draft seems to reflect status of a plan I have previously never seen. Odd for someone who has lived in Ballard area for over a decade.

The huge increase in density (population) in recently and needs of that population.

As listed in the previous questions

You don't talk about a glaring problem - the homeless. It's getting worse and worse. You have a REALLY aggressive group moving in here and they aren't going anywhere until you focus on the problem.

Not much mention about zoning - this could be pretty important for the future of Ballard/Crown Hill.

See comments above. Need to include more info on plan goals and comparisons of current (or near current) data to data used to determine goals.

not enough age diversity

small business growth, community building, crime prevention, empty lot usage - incentives for these are critically needed

crime stats

No mention of light rail

see previous comments

I am not sure at this point.

The demographic summaries that are shown only highlight the urban village areas. I believe much of the strength of the Ballard community (including commitment to schools, parks, community, volunteerism) comes from those living outside the (more transient) core. It would be good to highlight the demographics in those areas as well -- the value of collecting and publishing these demographics is so that we can understand who we are and our particular strengths and needs. Outside the core, I'm sure we have a higher proportion of families with children in owner-occupied homes (with higher home values than just 1.3-2.3% above \$400,000 -- not that this is something that is necessarily positive, but it certainly doesn't represent the neighborhood. Really, have you walked around the neighborhood and seen any houses for sale that cost less than \$400,000?!)

Safety issues and homeless issues not addressed well in the status report

make neighborhood north of 85th more walkable with sidewalks

Q4: What are the important gaps in the status reports?

There is a safety issue with the burke gilman trail and expanding it into the business area will only increase it. Parks should consider bike 'traffic lights' to assist with this. Bikers on the trail are inconsiderate and travel too fast to continue the expansion. Please note, this is not a request to penalize the businesses but put responsibility on the bikers.

While the report provided information about the poverty level of Ballard residents, I would like to see more attention paid to providing services to the homeless population in the community. Currently there are not any shelters or service centers for the impoverished and homeless that I am aware of, and I do notice a significant transient population around the Ballard urban village area.

The vision for the ballard and crown hill neighborhoods is not articulated as to density and zoning goals.

public transportation and/or roads/parking in Ballard.

Important items in the plan that were not achieved and why.

Again, transportation is given light treatment.

What's up with the missing link?

Homelessness and Poverty.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND SAFE CYCLING OPTIONS

SEe the above questions analysis of the progress measuring stick which can be used to quantify progress to completing the plan) Show the progress (or lack there of) for Crown Hill separate from Ballard when appropriate (ie, art parks, medians etc.)

To fully describe the status of the neighborhood, it seems important to describe how many vacant lots, vacant buildings, empty retail spaces, or otherwise underdeveloped properties there are. Vacant, abandoned buildings that could host industry or retail space decrease the pride and morale of the residents and business owners in the neighborhood. Urban growth is important to prevent outward sprawl into our natural areas, so filling in the vacancies should be a goal of our city and each neighborhood.

The 15th Ave NW and Market Street NW intersection needs serious work! Panhandling is out of control. It's filthy. Safeway does nothing to maintain the area around their store, or so it seems. The new flashing lights on the camera are way too distracting. It's pedestrian unfriendly. I don't like pushing my stroller through garbage and vagrants and their vomit to walk to story time at the library. Not to mention the gaping hole where the Denny's once stood, which serves as a daily reminder of the greedy developers that are responsible for much of this mess. Let's fix that, let's clean it up, let's make it a more pleasant ""gateway to Ballard.""

The Burke Gilman trail needs to be completed and the recent lawsuit that was filed needs to be mentioned in the report. I am so tired of the people who are throwing roadblocks in the way of the effort to complete this trail. This back and forth has been going on FOREVER and is so typical of Seattle. The objections are supposedly about safety - although I really think they are about loss of parking along the rail corridor. Please find a way to get this trail completed along the rail corridor. If we lived in Chicago, this would have been completed 10 years ago by order of the Mayor. The people who live in Ballard want this trail completed before they are too old to ride bikes.

Did I read correctly that the date is from 2000 with some estimates? That would seem to me out of date with the big growth Ballard has had. Also, I did not see other Neighborhoods on Ballard represented? I would love to see some freshening up on neighborhood parks.

Yes, the status reports should include information about projects planned for Ballard (and other planning areas) in the next few years. This information would serve as a bridge between recent accomplishments and visioning for a status update/additional neighborhood planning. It could also help connect residents with City staff to enable collaboration on moving projects forward and establishing longer-term priorities.

Very poor traffic flow west to east - poorly timed lights, no commuter rail, no promised monorail (derailed by pork barrel politics of mayor). The mayor has incompetently planned traffic revisions, politically destroyed our monorail possibilities, and then gave free reign to developers to put in high rise, expensive, elite condos to overload street capacity and ruin the skyline and neighborhood.

Q4: What are the important gaps in the status reports?

Non-motor transportation safety and statistics for improvement (e.g. drop in pedestrian injuries and fatalities)

Addressing vacancy rates in the new buildings; design guidelines; repairs to roads and sidewalks by developers who benefit by destructive construction sites; how middle-class renters and home buyers have been forced out of a working class neighborhood.

More pocket parks with fewer homeless occupying them

“Crown Hill” and “Ballard” are dramatically different demographics with different needs. I don’t understand why they are lumped together.

don’t remember an update on the light rail station

homelessness, loitering, RV’s, crime, panhandling, graffiti, ugly empty lots/properties

Greater focus on better transportation options.

Mass public transportation.

Gang prevention units should be brought in

I’d add a graph showing trends for school populations -- grade, middle and high school -- to see if we are having family-flight or growth. Also show public vs private (and charter schools if we get them)

I’d show a graph showing how we commute to work. One, showing where Ballard’s employees are commuting from. And another showing where Ballard’s residents are commuting to. With a goal in mind of increasing some living-wage jobs closer to home. Not just college jobs, but keeping the industrial jobs here.

No focus on helping to make Crown Hill more safe for walkers. We need to control the speed of traffic on 15th, 80th, 85th. This neighborhood’s interest are ignored for groups like Safeway, and trucking associations.

Low income housing needs to be addressed. We can’t just have rich people in Ballard.

Putting a halt on new developments for multi-unit housing (specifically apartment buildings and condominiums), or at least a “slow down” on approving these plans.

They do not seem to be in sync with the area, and seem to be treated more like Seattle than the small city it actually is.

We need to decide where, and if, we want a light rail station here in Ballard. We also need to make the 46 Bus run more frequently. Most importantly, we need to work harder to preserve the historical buildings, spaces, and values of the Ballard community.

I would like to see a little more done for the Crown Hill area -- especially the sidewalk that I mentioned. I don’t see how the city can make housing more affordable. Especially when property taxes are thru the roof!!

14th ave between Market and 65th: total disaster area for traffic safety and aesthetics. It would be wonderful to have this street be completely redesigned.

You didn’t include the density projections vs. the actual as built that was recently published elsewhere.

who is making this plan? business? aliens?

Community gardening space so people who are living in the new high rises can have a chance to garden.

Public safety and dealing with the homeless/panhandlers

Many.

Did not see much about affordable housing and how that would work

I think the housing value data must be from assessed values rather than sale price. Even in 2009, there are not many homes for sale in Ballard under \$400K.

TRANSPORTATION (Light rail)

Ecologically sustainable development. The burke gillman trail is one way to encourage our neighborhood to reduce fuel consumption. What about other incentives to reduce our ecological footprint?

Our development policies aren’t working that well. We’re getting cookie-cutter density, rather than interesting and unique neighborhoods. I don’t have any sense that affordable housing is part of the puzzle. New developments rarely have any housing under \$350,000 available.