

# Status Check

Seattle Citizens Assess Their Communities and Neighborhood Plans

*Summary of the Aurora/Licton Springs Neighborhood Discussion*



**Status Check: How is Your Neighborhood Doing?**

Prepared by  
**Seattle Planning Commission**  
October 2009

## What is this report?

This report contains summaries prepared by members of the Seattle Planning Commission. These summaries document discussions co-facilitated by members of the Planning Commission and the Neighborhood Plan Advisory Committee (NPAC) at a series of neighborhood meetings held in June and July of 2009.<sup>1</sup> The Commission and NPAC co-hosted five open house workshops that included 24 neighborhood specific breakout sessions.<sup>2</sup> In all, about 350 people participated in the five open house meetings.

The Commission was asked to provide a summary for each of the 24 neighborhood specific breakout sessions. The summaries will help City staff to complete the Status Reports and will be a part of the "State of the Neighborhood Report" that goes to the Mayor and Council at the end of the year.

The Commission and NPAC developed four questions so that we could gather information from the people who live, work, attend school and have businesses in the neighborhood to better understand perceptions about the neighborhoods and how well the neighborhood plan is doing. Participants at the meetings were grouped by neighborhood and asked these four questions by the NPAC co-host while the Commission co-host worked to capture the sentiments of the participants. Participants were also provided questionnaires that contained the same four questions and were encouraged to fill them out and return them to be included in the record. All of the original questionnaires returned from the open house workshops are contained in the appendix of this report.

## Outreach and Interpretation

The City of Seattle's neighborhood planning team arranged for interpretation services to the communities often under-represented because of language barriers. Spanish interpretation was available at 14, Chinese interpretation was available at 4; Vietnamese interpretation was available at 6; and Tagalog interpretation was available at 3 of the neighborhood community discussions. Interpretation services were used at 4 of the neighborhood community discussions: Columbia City, Georgetown, Rainier Beach, and the West Seattle Junction.

## Virtual Meeting

In an attempt to broaden participation, the Planning Commission also created and hosted a virtual on-line meeting from June through August. The virtual on-line meeting included a questionnaire that asked the same four questions that participants at the open houses were asked. The on-line questionnaire had a total of 4,576 participants. The Commission has provided a companion piece to this report that includes the responses to the on-line questionnaires for each of the 24 neighborhoods.

- 
1. The Seattle Planning Commission (SPC) was adopted into the City Charter in 1946. The Commission is an independent and objective group that advises the Mayor and City Council on Urban Planning issues such as land use, zoning, transportation and housing issues.
  2. The Neighborhood Plan Advisory Committee (NPAC) was formed in 2008. NPAC is a committee of Seattle residents and business-people that advises the Department of Neighborhoods and the Department of Planning and Development on conducting the neighborhood updates and neighborhood status reports.

## What is included in this report?

*Summary of one of the 24 neighborhood discussions held in June and July 2009*

Admiral

**Aurora/Licton Springs**

Belltown

Broadview/Bitter Lake/Haller Lake

Capitol Hill

Central Area

Columbia City /Hillman City/Genesee

Crown Hill & Ballard

Delridge

Eastlake

First Hill

Fremont

Georgetown

Green Lake

Greenwood/Phinney Ridge

Lake City

Morgan Junction

Pike/Pine

Queen Anne

Rainier Beach

University Community

Wallingford

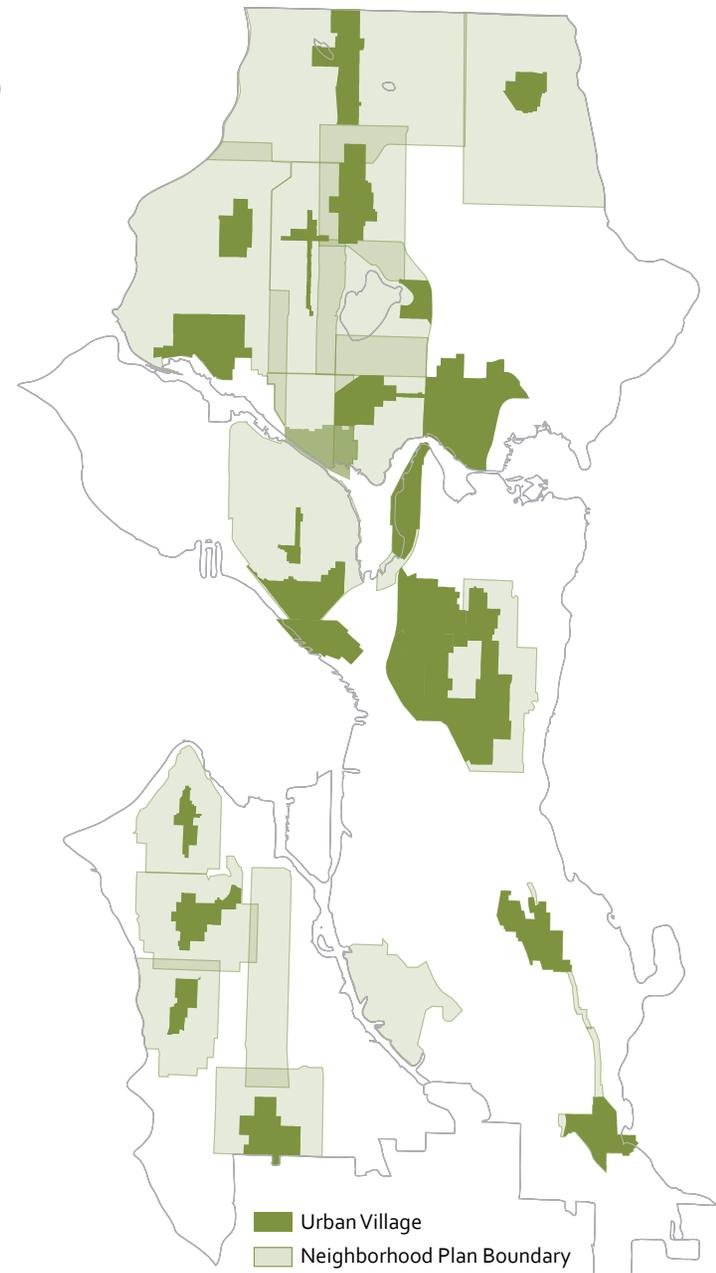
West Seattle Junction

Westwood/Highland Park

*Appendix A – Sample agenda*

*Appendix B – List of attendees from five open house meetings*

*Appendix C – Notes and questionnaires submitted at meetings*



# AURORA-LICTON SPRINGS

## General Summary

Attendance varied from eight to about a dozen participants at the neighborhood discussion, excluding the facilitator and note-taker. Participants ranged from single people in their twenties and thirties to middle-aged adults and seniors, and included both people who had lived in the neighborhood for decades and those who moved to the area a few years ago. Two of the participants helped draft the original neighborhood plan and are involved with the Licton Springs Community Council; another participant is very active with the Aurora Merchants Association. A couple of the participants were renters; most owned the homes they live in both single-family residences and townhomes. One participant lived outside the neighborhood boundary, but frequented the business area and expressed a sense of affiliation with the neighborhood.

## Highlights

- Density would be acceptable if the neighborhood saw benefits, such as community center, parks, additional City investments.
- The Wilson-Pacific School is still under utilized and the neighborhood's vision for its conversion to a community center should be moved forward.
- Pedestrian connectivity is a problem.
- Various concerns about the spreading and continuing permitting of townhouses.



## 1. Most of the neighborhood plans were adopted about 10 years ago and are in their mid-life. How has your neighborhood changed in the last decade since the plan was adopted, (or since you've been there)?

- The neighborhood has absorbed a lot of density, but has yet to see the benefits that were expected to accompany the density (such as a more thriving retail district, improved transit service, additional park space, etc.).
- Curbside parking is in high demand and less easy to find in areas where lots of townhouses have been constructed; with curbsides full of cars, the streets are narrower and there are more collisions.
- Top priority in the Neighborhood Plan is a community center, but it has not materialized even though Wilson-Pacific site is under utilized (and even has woodshop and metal shop facilities the neighborhood could enjoy).
- Public safety remains a sporadic, outstanding issue; particularly auto-related crimes, drug sales and the pedestrian environment on Aurora.

## 2. What changes or aspects of your neighborhood are you most pleased about?

- Parks: the athletic fields at Wilson-Pacific school were renovated and many people are now using it; also there is plenty of parking around the field.
- Density and Public Safety: Increased housing density has increased "eyes on the street" and the neighborhood generally feels more safe, with Aurora at goth is a notable exception (many people agreed with this).
- Pedestrian Safety: Pleased that new crosswalks have been provided.

## Most dissatisfied about?

- Townhouses: concerned about their impact on parking; believe they are poorly constructed; dislike the way they look; afraid they will "spread to other areas of the neighborhood."
- Pedestrian Connections: Wilson-Pacific fields are a barrier to North-South travel in the neighborhood because the fence around the field is often locked with only one open entrance (on the north side)—please provide better access through the Wilson School fields.
- Public Safety:
  - Deterioration of little motels along Aurora makes the adjacent area feel unsafe.
  - Concerned about 6' fences around townhouses limiting "eyes on the street" (although many residents spend most of their time on the 2nd and 3rd floors of their homes where they can see over the fences); prefer fences with open slats or greenery, which also minimize graffiti.
- Community Center: Wilson-Pacific School and the neighborhood's vision for it have not been realized even though it was a top priority for the neighborhood; believe that the primary use is currently industrial and want existing zoning to be enforced. Also, tennis courts behind the school have been lost. Could be a good location for a vocational training center because it still has a full woodshop and metal shop which are not being used. Could also be developed as an emergency response center for the North end, and the police station could expand into that mixed-use facility. Also would like to see a pool added there, since Greenlake Pool is overcrowded and there is plenty of space at the school.
- Concerned about affordability of housing; townhouses help but other less expensive options are needed.

### 3. How well are your Neighborhood Plan vision and key strategies being achieved? Are they still the priority?

- **Aurora-Licton met Growth Management goals** but nothing else happens. The City needs to provide benefits to the neighborhood in recognition of its expanding population, such as additional park space and a community center.
- Key Strategy A: **Designate the Aurora-Licton Residential Urban Village** – achieved.
- Key Strategy B: **Develop a community center at the Wilson-Pacific site** – has not happened much to the frustration of neighborhood residents; this is still a priority.
- Key Strategy C: **Aurora-Licton Neighborhood Commercial Centers**
  - A mixed-use neighborhood-serving commercial center is still lacking, but they believe it will never happen.
  - Instead think that neighborhood-serving commercial shops should be located in the alleys adjacent to Aurora or convert City Light's north service center, providing a vertical parking garage for SCL's material storage and parking needs (supported by Merchants Association).
  - Commercial zone should be expanded on the west side (currently only ½ block deep)—perhaps use multiple layers of zoning to step down from commercial to single-family (recognition that rezoning single-family housing will not be popular).
  - Commercial space on Aurora only “pencils” for big box stores.
  - Some concerned that there already are many businesses on Aurora and many empty storefronts.
  - Would like greater diversity of shopping options.
  - Need a broader and clearer vision for improving Aurora, recognizing that it touches a lot of neighborhoods (instead of dealing with it piece meal).
  - Hwy 99 in Vancouver, WA could serve as an example of what Aurora could be – brick plazas, bus corridor, vibrant businesses, retained auto-oriented businesses too.
- Key Strategy D: **Aurora Avenue North** – highway is not “pleasant” and does not serve as a gateway to the neighborhood.
  - Aurora Corridor Safety team has been working with WSDOT to reduce speed limit to 35 mph – neighbors support this.
  - Also suggested setting signal timing on Aurora to match 35 mph speed preference.
- Key Strategy E: **Neighborhood Connections** – these are “totally missing” and a top priority.
  - Need pedestrian connections between 85th and PCC, and 85th and Licton-Springs Park, and to Northgate.
  - Use texturing and/or painting of crosswalks to signal to drivers that this is a pedestrian area (e.g., Bellingham).
- Additional Strategy: **Make sustainability a focus** – this builds on existing strategies, could also add more greenery, waterways, opportunities for solar demonstration project on large buildings, etc.

4. The city is completing neighborhood plan status reports focusing on demographics, development patterns, housing affordability, public amenities and transportation networks. What should there be more focus on (or less focus on) as the neighborhood status reports are completed in the coming months? Are there any important gaps in the draft status report?

**Focus more on:**

- **Housing:** development patterns, housing affordability, types of housing options, “please no more townhouses” (not in agreement about this), improve townhouse design; consider “skinny” townhouses like those across from the College.
- **Businesses:** how can residents support existing businesses? Let’s create “vital” thriving businesses districts, even outside Aurora
- **Sustainability:** let’s measure p-patch/garden features, tree coverage, open space, etc.
- **Pedestrian Connections:** make it easier to walk through the neighborhood and get to all its amenities (parks, shopping, etc.); reclaim easement on east-west street on the northern edge of Wilson-Pacific School.
- **North Seattle Community College:** incorporate it into the neighborhood. What is their vision for the neighborhood? Historically the College was interested in building an Arts Center—neighbors support this.
- **East-West Connections:** address transportation needs between neighborhoods, including connection from Ballard to I-5 via Aurora-Licton Springs
- **Schools:** please include in neighborhood plan.

**Don’t need to focus on:**

- Auto and transit transportation (with parking along Aurora as an exception).

i

Five Open Houses, 24 neighborhood discussions

1. June 22 at the South lake Union Armory; Uptown/ Queen Anne; Belltown; Eastlake; Capitol Hill; First Hill; Pike/Pine
2. July 8 Northgate Community Center Lake City, Aurora/Licton Springs, Broadview - Bitter Lake - Haller Lake, University Community (University District NW, Ravenna)
3. July 23 Phinney Neighborhood Center Greenwood/Phinney Ridge, Crown Hill & Ballard, Fremont, Wallingford, Green Lake
4. July 27 Rainier Community Center Central Area (Madison-Miller, 23rd & Union - Jackson and 12th Avenue), Columbia City - Hillman City - Genesee, Rainier Beach
5. July 28 Delridge Community Center Admiral, West Seattle Junction, Morgan Junction, Delridge, Westwood/Highland Park, Georgetown

ii

Neighborhood	Planning Commission Host	NPAC Member Host
Admiral	Catherine Benotto	Mark Wainwright
Aurora/Licton Springs	Michelle Zeidman	Sharonn Meeks (Mark Wainwright unable to attend)
Belltown	Kay Knapton	Catherine Stanford
Broadview/Bitter Lake/Haller Lake	Linda Amato	Craig Benjamin
Capitol Hill	David Cutler	Heidi Oien
Central Area	Mark Johnson	Kate Stineback (Adrienne Bailey did not attend)
Crown Hill & Ballard	Leslie Miller	Ashley Harris
Columbia City/Hillman City/Genesee	Leslie Miller	Linda Amato of the SPC (Eddie Hill unable to attend)
Delridge	Chris Persons	Boaz Ashkenazy
Eastlake	Martin Kaplan	Brian Ramey
First Hill	Kevin McDonald	Sharonn Meeks
Fremont	Chris Fiori	Toby Thaler
Georgetown	Amalia Leighton	Judith Edwards
Green Lake	Jerry Finrow	Kate Joncas
Greenwood/Phinney Ridge	Linda Amato	Kate Stineback
Lake City	Colie Hough-Beck	Renee Staton
Morgan Junction	Jerry Finrow	Cindi Barker
Pike/Pine	Josh Brower	Dennis Saxman
Queen Anne	Matt Roewe	John Coney
Rainier Beach	Chris Persons	Christie Coxley
University Community	Mark Johnson	Jeannie Hale
Wallingford	Amalia Leighton	Irene Wall
West Seattle Junction	Kay Knapton	Sharon Meeks
Westwood/Highland Park	Kevin McDonald	Christie Coxley

## Neighborhood Open House

*June 22, 2009 - 6:00 – 8:00 pm*

*South Lake Union Armory – 860 Terry Ave. N.*

### Hosted by the Seattle Planning Commission & Neighborhood Planning Advisory Committee Agenda

#### 1. Opening Session – 20 minutes

Introduction & Welcome – Josh Brower, NPAC Co-Chair

Opening Remarks – Councilmember Sally Clark

Orientation Video

#### 2. Six (6) Neighborhood Breakout Sessions – 75 minutes

Breakout sessions for Queen Anne, Belltown, Eastlake, Capitol Hill, First Hill, Pike/Pine

##### Presentation by SPC table host (5-7 minutes)

- Goals of the breakout session
- Presentation of background information on neighborhood plan and status update
- How to provide input (discussion, written questionnaire, easel pad, on-line questionnaire)
- Additional resources available

##### Facilitated discussion of question led by NPAC table host

1. Most of the neighborhood plans were adopted about 10 years ago and are in their mid-life. How has your neighborhood changed in the last decade since the plan was adopted, (or since you've been there)?
2. What changes or aspects of your neighborhood are you most pleased about? Most dissatisfied about?
3. How well are your Neighborhood Plan vision and key strategies being achieved? Are they still the priority?
4. The city is completing neighborhood plan status reports focusing on demographics, development patterns, housing affordability, public amenities and transportation networks. What should there be more focus on (or less focus on) as the neighborhood status reports are completed in the coming months? Are there any important gaps in the draft status report?

#### 3. Closing Remarks and Next Steps – 5 minutes

Closing Remarks & Next Steps – Josh Brower, NPAC Co-Chair

## Appendix B – List of attendees from five open house meetings

Tim Ahlers	Kara Ceriello	Patty Foley	Jim Jensen	Phil Mocek
Joy Anderson	Jose Cervantes	Nancy Folsom	Dale Johnson	Rob Mohn
Jennifer Anderson	Gordon Clowers	Becca Fona	Blair Johnson	Dave Montoure
Aurora Anunicacion	Clarice Coker	Tony Fragada	Matt Johnston	Jesse Moore
Katheryn Armstrong	Rene Commons	Eric Friedli	Giff Jones	Patti Muller
Jill Arnow	John Coney	Bill Fuzekas	Mary Jones	Lisa Muller
Boaz Ashkenazy	Colleen Cooke	Dennis Galvin	Roger Jones	Dan Mullins
Joanne Auterjung	Dorene Cornel	Herbert Getchell	Alan Justad	Mars Mure
Maris Avots	Michael Cornell	Lucille Getchell	Laura Kalleb	Jessica Nguyen
Emi Baldwin	George Counts	Joseph Gockowski	Erica Karlovits	Tri Nguyen
John Barbee	Stuart Crandall	Daniel Goddard	Elias Kass	Hong Nguyen
Scott Barkan	Sally Crone	John Golobiec	Narom Khath	Dan Nolte
Tod Barker	Web Crowell	Kirsten Graham	Phoeun Khim	Richard Nordstrom
Deb Barker	Michael Cuadra	Lynn Graves	Melanee King	John Nuler
Catherine Barker	Mike Dady	Matt Gray	Wesley Kirkman	Karen O'Brien
Rick Barrett	MJ Davidson	Elizabeth Guenara	Cheryl Klinker	Jeannie O'Brien
Zander Batchelder	Susan Davis	Justina Guyott	Chris Knapp	Dara O'Bryne
Vicki Baucom	DeEtte Day	Julia Hadley	Kay Knapton	Susan O'Connell
Ellen Beck	Christo de Klerk	Jeannie Hale	Amber Knox	Kristy O'Donnell
Craig Benjamin	William Decherd	Craig Hanway	Sam Knoz	Pennie O'Grady
Cory Bergman	Jim Del Cielo	Susan Harmon	Sybil Knudson	Sokunthea OK
Jane Bigby	Jon deLeeves	Kathy Harper	Karen Ko	Kenneth Olsen
Derek Birnie	Rory Denovan	Michael harthorne	Diane Kremingk	Vlad Oustimoritch
John Bito	Donn Devore	Ralph Heitt	Tom Lee	Chris Pasco
Allina Black	Brian Dougherty	Tom Henry	Dorothy Lengye	Betty Pata
Neel Blair	Lloyd Douglas	Eva Hermesmyer	Jeff Libby	Nina Pata
Mark Bloudek	Nancy Driver	Hai Hoffman	Ref Lindmark	Bert Patrick
Anna Bowers	Chanta Dumas	Dick Hogan	Peter Locke	Jeffrey Pelletier
Dave Boyd	Christa Dumpys	Charles Hogg	Julie Lubre	Andrea Petzel
Sheila Brown	Shannon Dunn	K Beth Hollingsworth	Wendy Luker	Beth Pflug
Jan Brucker	Tim Durkan	Raft Hollingsworth	Andrew M	Boyd Pickerell
Susie Burke	Ruth Dyksterhais	John Hoole	Matt Ma	Erik Pihl
Janice Burnell	Sherell Ehlers	Bert Hopkins	Glenn MacGilvra	Jeff Pittman
Gloria Butts	David Ellinger	Ron Hornuns	John Magnenat	Ed Pottharst
Priscilla Call	Julie Enevoldsen	Megan Horst	Mike Mariano	Jen Power
Pablo Cambinico	John Enger	Serin Houghton	Velma Maye	Tim Pretare
Leon Capelo	Alicia Fadul	Ryan Hughes	Vivian McLean	Susie Prets
Kevin Carrabine	David Fansler	Wendy Jans	Douglas McNutt	Mary Quackenbush
Eudora Lowery Carter	Abdy Farid	Joan Jeffery	Sandra Melo	Brian Ramey
Susan Casey	Bill Farmer	Sarah Jenkes	Susan Melrose	Craig Rankin
Chris Caster	Andrea Faste	Susan Jensen	Richard Min	Jordan Rash

## Appendix B – List of attendees from five open house meetings

Matt Rehder  
Mike Reinhardt  
Diane & Bob Rhea  
Marjorie Rhodes  
Scott Ringgold  
Amelia River  
Kirk Robbins  
Joan Robbins  
Delight Roberts  
Lee Roberts  
Ray Robinson  
Donna Roseveark  
Dennis Ross  
Jon Rudical  
Dennis Saxman  
Sue Scharff  
Dena Schule  
Shirley Schurman  
Deanise Schwarz  
Sharon Scully  
Rita Selin  
Dic Selin  
Philip Shach  
Sarah Shoup  
Sam Simone  
Steve Sindiong  
Susan Sisson  
Cindy Small  
Tamra Smilanich  
Marty Spiegel  
Catherine Stanford  
Catherine Stengord  
Kate Stineburk  
Ruth Stinton  
Conan Storlie  
Mike Stringer  
Adam Strutynski  
Christine Stuffels  
Jean Sundrorg  
Jeff Taylor  
Nicole Taylor

Tony To  
Viet Tran  
Alexandra Tu  
Ron Turner  
Cathy Tuttle  
Sarah Valenta  
Diana Vergis Vinh  
Jessica Vets  
Roger Wagoner  
Forrest Wald  
Irene Wall  
William Walsh  
Ed Wecloires  
Stuart Weiss  
Catherine Wentbrook  
Al Werner  
Julien Wheeler  
Patty Whisler  
Scott White  
Mary Whitmore  
Stephen Whitmore  
Thomas Whittemore  
Adrienne Wicks  
Kraig Wilhelmsin  
Adrian Wilkenson  
Vivian Williams  
Terry Williams  
Betty Williams  
Laura Wing-Whitebear  
Greg Winterstea  
Laura Wong-Whitebear  
Mikala Woodward  
Jason Woycke  
Sara Wysocki

7/8/09 AURORA-LICTON NEIGHBORHOOD -

①

taken on alot of density, developed a park - mineral springs, bike lanes, traffic improvements (stop @ 9th + College Way)

↳ Ellen ↳ building is not very well built or designed

came to this b/c live in townhouse row + deep concerns developing in neighborhood with concerns about quality of construction and also access to parking, & also crime increases along Aurora: 85th to 90th. Nobody parks in their garage, park up to 4 blocks away. Parking overflow along 90th adjacent to school - concerned about

Cannot physically park in townhouse garage - Jan

parking there (crime). Streets too narrow - one car wide. - Mark (85th + Stone)

Lee - lives in townhouse on Nesbit. Feels differently. Buses + bikes. One car. No issue. would drive less if there were more shops, bike lanes along 85th and connecting to Burke Gilman.

No problem with parking - just traffic on 85th. Nght in transition from SF to higher density - problems associated w/ density are growing but benefits haven't arrived.

Chose to live here b/c easy access to everything I-5, 99, transit - access to great transportation. - Mark

Jan - lost 3 bus routes - #6

Mark - people he knows have good service

358 great

light rail will divert people from  
bus to Northgate

⊗ Keep the #35R, comes often enough  
but more would be welcomed.  
Many neighbors said this.

There is a lot of density, townhomes -  
parking is an issue. Chamber is  
concerned that BRT will divert traffic  
to neighborhood. Street closures at  
Aurora will divert traffic. Wants ~~all~~  
all traffic to stay on Aurora - Richard

There are proposed car plazas to improve  
ped env. near transit stops - Megan

Dealt with ~~these~~ this during night  
planning. Street closures (deadends)  
were problematic + traffic was  
particularly bad on Wallingford - Jan

Supports ped plaza b/c improvements  
to Aurora haven't happened along  
w/ growth in density. Concerned  
about biz closing on Aurora - Megan

Aurora is a regional draw - cannot be  
supported by locals. Near 72<sup>nd</sup> might be  
Richard - possible to have local-supported biz.

Safety planning, walking tours associated  
w/ original night planning -

outcome: walking on Aurora is not  
safe. Considered not focusing parking  
on Aurora - but rather "parking  
pods" on side streets for Aurora biz.

City should take a role in developing  
the alleys parallel to Aurora -  
wants them developed as ped  
walkways w/ city seed money  
to make this possible + provide  
safe access to biz for bikes + ped.

desired model: Action Auto parts off-Aurora parking lot. To avoid Δs in # of lanes on Aurora (two to three, depending on parking) - only if parking pods can replace existing. - Jan

2

wants to know if city will keep letting more townhouses be built - concerned about this

Concerned that townhouses will spread into other areas of neighborhood & impact parking

Neighbors are really concerned about this.

City failed to recognize the value of a planned unit devt model. Because of small lot devts, nothing has been done.

Renovated Wilson school field - great - bright - lots of people used it - people were very happy. Also there are a lot of parking options to safely get to park fields  
↳ many said this.

Wilson park is still a barrier to get N-S thru the school b/c fence is often/always locked

↳ that's recent, used to be open  
Ask: provide better access thru park

Dislike access thru 85th. Lives in townhouse but wish there was more visual differentiation.

Concerns about 6' fences not providing enough eye on the street - also provide great place for tagging  
↳ unless fence has open slats or greenery

Density did help area b/c move eyes on the street - feels safer now  
↳ many agreed

↳ exception Aurora & 90<sup>th</sup> at night - very unsafe. A few blocks away, it feels much safer. Not sure why?

Hope the little motels are re-developed well. Their degradation ⇒ less safe environment

Wilson school & vision for it has been ignored. It is essentially being used as an industrial site. Zoning needs to be enforced. No school programs currently, people tried but couldn't get City support. New fences (problematic). Lost the tennis courts behind school - could be renewed. Originally a Jr high w/ full wood shop, metal shop - great site for vocational training & all the equipment is still there

~~What~~ What is the plan for Wilson school?  
~~was~~ holding in reserve, one of largest in school system

Emergency response center should be built at Wilson as a triage station for the northend. North precinct police station could be located there, they need more space. - Richard

↳ likes awareness of ped issues - new crosswalks have been provided. More trees have been planted (good for sustainability) - the more the better. Concerned about affordability of housing - townhouses

helps but things are still too expensive. Houses are still \$500k. Only options are a large SF or a townhouse - need other options. - Megan

wouldn't buy a townhouse b/c they think they will de-value over time. Townhouse renters would <sup>not</sup> buy one even if they can - need to get away from townhouse row. People prefer the SF-home ideal.

Wilson site should be a cmty center. Can't walk to Northgate cmty center, no good way. Thinks Wilson school should become a cmty center funded by the city, a stand-alone cmty center. No reason not to; could be a long lease/use agreement between school district + city.

Add a pool + cmty center there, adding to existing assets ~~assets~~ (athletic fields) Greenlake pool is overused and not serving the neighborhood.

3

A lot of the key strategies were already discussed.

Mixed use on Aurora will never happen. Trucks will shake windows, regardless. Adjacent to Aurora, yes.

That's why parallel alley idea was proposed.

Concerned about commercial zone - needs to be deepened on the west side. Only 1/2 block. Issue is they are SF homes.

What about transition from commercial to townhouses + apartments + then into SF?

The block from Aurora to Linden is really deep. May need multiple layers of zoning to steep down from Aurora.

Issue is that no-one wants SF re-zoned. These homeowners are well organized.

New biz coming into Aurora - nothing will pencil except a big box store. There are tons of jobs in this area. Old, but still valuable. Need more improvements on Aurora.

Key Strategy C - City Light N. Service Ctr - surrounding property is up for lease by university - envisioned as place for night commercial shopping - maybe they can be redeveloped. And City Light parking ~~could~~ & materials storage could be integrated as a parking garage - go vertical.

Others concerned that there is a lot of biz on Aurora & many empty storefronts. Wants more diversity of shopping options.

Key Strategy E - totally missing. No walkable connections from 85<sup>th</sup> to PCC or Licton Springs Park & C so difficult to get there. So close to Northgate & Cmty College b/c it's a pain to get there w/o a car. No pleasant walking opportunity - more enticing to walk to Wallingford than Northgate.

I-5 divided neighborhood. Suggested that the earth ~~berm~~ berm under I-5 be converted to an elevated structure & provide a connection to Northgate. Man-made berm needs

to be changed into parking, bike pathways, Thornton Creek corridor. Also could widen I-5. Would need to be big & broad like at Ravenna.

Aurora touches a lot of neighborhoods - Key Strategy C - need a broader vision for improving Aurora.

Need a clear vision - not just a hodge-podge of biz.

Vancouver, WA - redid Hwy 99, brick plazas, bus corridor, lots of biz, still has auto-related biz. Really great! - worth a visit - Jan

Even Δs to Lake City way have been great - more pet friendly, biz seem to thrive... - Megan

Bellingham - texturing, painting of crosswalks provide good signal to drivers + looks cool - makes people know someone cares.

~~Safety~~

Jan

Aurora Corridor Safety team has been working w/ WSDOT to reduce speed limit to 35 mph. Great! - Richard

Most effective traffic mgmt strategy: set signals to green lights at 35 mph - that will make people drive 35 mph - Mark

At that speed, you can see all the shops too. - Jan

Add'l strategy: sustainability as a focus - existing strategies speak to it add ~~the~~ more greenery, waterways, etc. - Megan

4

4

Already a diverse + dense cmtty - Seattle PI map showed how dense we are - same as downtown. - Jan

Focus on:  
Development patterns + housing affordability  
- Mark: its the density issue

Transportation is great in this area - no need to focus. Developers dislike the permitting process - so difficult. ~~Developers~~ Doesn't think there are too many cars per household - just too many people. + townhouse people can't park in their garage. - Mark

3rd lane on Aurora open to parking only sometimes - inconsistency is a safety ~~issue~~ issue - Mark

Desired Focus:

~~Mark~~ Parked cars are good for biz + also increases safety for peds. This was a deal worked out to benefit all. - Megan + Richard

Housing - types of housing options + also more info about biz + how we can help them + also sustainability factors: garden features, tree coverage, etc. - Megan

Neighborhood biz districts - want to create vital districts, even outside Aurora - Richard (Aurora Chamber)

More ped connections - make it easier to walk through the neighborhood + get to all the amenities - then people wouldn't have to rely on their cars.

Neighborhood Festival for 5 days - on east-west alley between Aurora + Stone on City Light property / alley w/ booths for biz etc. to let people see if neighborhood biz district would work. (on the alley that deadends into City Light property or behind Dancing Bear Burlesque) - Jan

Oak Tree Village is declining + movie theater is closing (b/c of Thornton Place)  
(Lamy's left...)  
Could Oak Tree be better supported w/ more biz.

North Seattle Cmty College - how do they see the nght vision - originally wanted ~~to~~ to build an Arts Center using \$ from sale of east lots adjacent to I-5. This would be a nght draw if could go see plays, etc.  
If we add more shopping to Aurora, it would

Don't want to see more townhomes zoned. - Mark + Ellen

SF is not a viable alternative - too expensive. Townhomes could be designed better. ~~Need~~ Need more diversity.

How about skinny townhomes like across from North Cmty College.

Despite density, Aurora biz struggle - perhaps we aren't at the critical density to make biz viable - or maybe there's another reason

Stairs to walk to

Need to keep Aurora traffic out of the neighbors

Not cut-through traffic in residential areas - except walking ford.

Nght planning needs to work across nghts to address transportation, ex. 85<sup>th</sup> as east-west connection to Ballard from I-5. - this was missed in last round of nght plng

Oak Tree Village property is owned by School District - 99 yr. lease...

Does it make sense to talk about schools in nght plan? - Megan

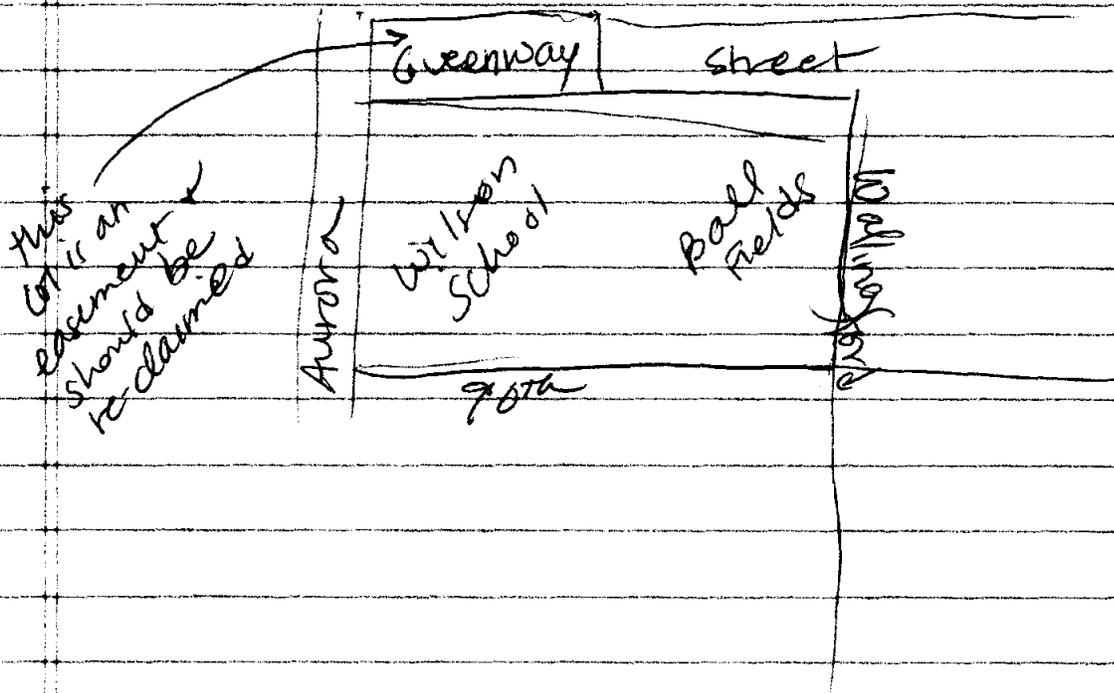
Yes, ~~school~~<sup>city</sup> has bully putput + zoning control over schools...

City hasn't put together stimulus package based on nght needs. ~~the~~ - Jan

No record storage for nght plng. - Jan

Large buildings in Licton Springs - could be home of solar demonstration  
Jan - project - lots ~~are~~ of large <sup>flat</sup> roofs - could help with our security. Should be "solar farming".

~~could~~ Reconnect east-west street North of Wilson School



# Status Check: How is Your Neighborhood Doing?

Please provide the following information and attach additional sheets if necessary.

Which neighborhood are you commenting on? Litchon Springs - Aurora

For how long have you...	less than 5 years	5-10 years	more than 10 years	does not apply
lived in this neighborhood?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
owned a business in this neighborhood?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
regularly visited this neighborhood?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
worked in this neighborhood?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
attended school in this neighborhood?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
other (please describe)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Name:

Email Address:

J yahoo.com @

## Question 1

Most of the neighborhood plans were adopted about 10 years ago and are in their mid-life. How has your neighborhood changed in the last decade since the plan was adopted (or since you've been there)?

Huge density increase.

## Question 2

What changes or aspects of your neighborhood are you...

most pleased about?

- transportation
- housing
- safety
- parks and open space
- public facilities (e.g. libraries, community centers)
- business district (e.g. stores, restaurants)
- buildings - new and existing
- other (please specify)

most dissatisfied about?

- transportation
- housing
- safety
- parks and open space
- public facilities (e.g. libraries, community centers)
- business district (e.g. stores, restaurants)
- buildings - new and existing
- other (please specify)

Do you have any comments related to what you are pleased or dissatisfied about?

transportation is great and accessible,  
Housing density and parking is a major problem,

### Question 3

How well are your Neighborhood Plan vision and key strategies being achieved?

- very well
- somewhat well
- somewhat poorly
- very poorly
- don't know/neutral

*please describe*

Are they still the priority?

- yes, very much so
- some priorities have changed, some haven't
- no, not at all
- don't know/neutral

*please describe*

### Question 4

The City is completing neighborhood plan status reports focusing on demographics, development patterns, housing affordability, public amenities and transportation networks.

What should there be more focus on (or less focus on) as the neighborhood status reports are completed in the coming months?

There should be more focus on...

development patterns and housing affordability, no more townhouses please. Affordability a problem.

There should be less focus on...

transportation networks are sufficient.

Are there any important gaps in the draft status reports?

- No
- Yes (*please describe*)

Please return this questionnaire by **Wednesday, July 22, 2009** to:

The Seattle Planning Commission  
700 5th Avenue, Suite 2000  
PO Box 34019  
Seattle, WA 98124

You can also fill out the questionnaire on-line at:  
[http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/Planning/Neighborhood\\_Planning/StatusReports/default.asp](http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/Planning/Neighborhood_Planning/StatusReports/default.asp)

# Status Check: How is Your Neighborhood Doing?

Please provide the following information and attach additional sheets if necessary.

Which neighborhood are you commenting on? AURORA-LITTON

For how long have you...

lived in this neighborhood?

owned a business in this neighborhood?

regularly visited this neighborhood?

worked in this neighborhood?

attended school in this neighborhood?

other (please describe)

less than  
5 years

5-10  
years

more than  
10 years

does not  
apply



Name:

Email Address:

@GMAIL.COM

## Question 1

Most of the neighborhood plans were adopted about 10 years ago and are in their mid-life. How has your neighborhood changed in the last decade since the plan was adopted (or since you've been there)?

TRAFFIC + PARKING HAVE GOTTEN WORSE. I NOTICE TRAFFIC ESPECIALLY ON 85TH, BUT THE STREETS WITH TOWNHOUSES ARE QUITE CONGESTED. I LOOK FORWARD TO THE URBAN BENEFITS (CLOSE SHOPPING, INCREASED TRANSIT, ETC.) BUT I DON'T SEE THIS HAPPENING YET. OVERALL, HOWEVER, I LIKE THE CHANGES THAT HAVE HAPPENED IN THE 9 YEARS I'VE LIVED HERE.

## Question 2

What changes or aspects of your neighborhood are you...

most pleased about?

- transportation
- housing
- safety
- parks and open space
- public facilities (e.g. libraries, community centers)
- business district (e.g. stores, restaurants)
- buildings - new and existing
- other (please specify)

most dissatisfied about?

- transportation
- housing
- safety
- parks and open space
- public facilities (e.g. libraries, community centers)
- business district (e.g. stores, restaurants)
- buildings - new and existing
- other (please specify) CONNECTIONS

Do you have any comments related to what you are pleased or dissatisfied about?

I LOVE OUR BUS SERVICE. I APPRECIATE THE NECESSITY + BENEFITS OF INCREASED DENSITY + MULTI-FAM HOUSING. I FEEL LIKE PUBLIC SAFETY IN MY N'HOOD HAS IMPROVED. I DON'T THINK THE BUSINESS DISTRICT HAS IMPROVED TO KEEP PACE. WE ALSO STILL LACK A 'CENTER'. AND ITS HARD TO MOVE THROUGH THE N'HOOD BY BICYCLE.

### Question 3

How well are your Neighborhood Plan vision and key strategies being achieved?

- very well  
 somewhat well  
 somewhat poorly  
 very poorly  
 don't know/neutral

please describe

THERE'S A LOT STILL LEFT TO DO!

Are they still the priority?

- yes, very much so  
 some priorities have changed, some haven't  
 no, not at all  
 don't know/neutral

please describe

THE GENERAL STRATEGIES ARE GOOD.

### Question 4

The City is completing neighborhood plan status reports focusing on demographics, development patterns, housing affordability, public amenities and transportation networks.

What should there be more focus on (or less focus on) as the neighborhood status reports are completed in the coming months?

There should be more focus on...

- N'HOOD CONNECTIONS - ESP. OPEN SPACE
- COMMERCIAL VIABILITY OF N'HOOD-ORIENTED BUSINESSES ON AURORA
- PEO/BIKE ROUTES

There should be less focus on...

Are there any important gaps in the draft status reports?

- No  
 Yes (please describe)

Please return this questionnaire by **Wednesday, July 22, 2009** to:

The Seattle Planning Commission  
700 5th Avenue, Suite 2000  
PO Box 34019  
Seattle, WA 98124

You can also fill out the questionnaire on-line at:  
[http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/Planning/Neighborhood\\_Planning/StatusReports/default.asp](http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/Planning/Neighborhood_Planning/StatusReports/default.asp)

# Status Check: How is Your Neighborhood Doing?

Please provide the following information and attach additional sheets if necessary.

Which neighborhood are you commenting on? AURORA - LITTON SPRINGS -

For how long have you...	less than 5 years	5-10 years	more than 10 years	does not apply
lived in this neighborhood?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
owned a business in this neighborhood?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
regularly visited this neighborhood?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
worked in this neighborhood?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
attended school in this neighborhood?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
other (please describe)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Name:

Email Address:

BMSN.COM

## Question 1

Most of the neighborhood plans were adopted about 10 years ago and are in their mid-life. How has your neighborhood changed in the last decade since the plan was adopted (or since you've been there)?

WILSON SCHOOL FIELD RENOVATED  
 NEW STOP LIGHT @ 92nd  
 MINERAL SPRINGS PARK RENOVATED  
 NEW NORTHGATE LIBRARY/COMMUNITY CENTER  
 AURORA CORRIDOR STILL IN PLANNING  
 AURORA HAS BEEN IMPROVED SLIGHTLY

## Question 2

What changes or aspects of your neighborhood are you

most pleased about?

- transportation
- housing
- safety
- parks and open space
- public facilities (e.g. libraries, community centers)
- business district (e.g. stores, restaurants)
- buildings - new and existing
- other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

most dissatisfied about?

- transportation
- housing
- safety
- parks and open space
- public facilities (e.g. libraries, community centers)
- business district (e.g. stores, restaurants)
- buildings - new and existing
- other (please specify) NEW TOWNHOMES

Do you have any comments related to what you are pleased or dissatisfied about?

### Question 3

How well are your Neighborhood Plan vision and key strategies being achieved?

- very well
- somewhat well
- somewhat poorly
- very poorly
- don't know/neutral

*please describe*

Are they still the priority?

- yes, very much so
- some priorities have changed, some haven't
- no, not at all
- don't know/neutral

*please describe*

- Wilson School Community Center still undeveloped
- Poor Neighborhood Parking Plans
- Need to make Aurora safer more attractive

### Question 4

The City is completing neighborhood plan status reports focusing on demographics, development patterns, housing affordability, public amenities and transportation networks.

What should there be more focus on (or less focus on) as the neighborhood status reports are completed in the coming months?

There should be more focus on...

- Plan for Wilson School
- New Business District
- More/Wider Walkways
- Third Joint Neighborhood

There should be less focus on...

Are there any important gaps in the draft status reports?

- No
- Yes (please describe)

Please return this questionnaire by **Wednesday, July 22, 2009** to:

The Seattle Planning Commission  
700 5th Avenue, Suite 2000  
PO Box 34019  
Seattle, WA 98124

You can also fill out the questionnaire on-line at:  
[http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/Planning/Neighborhood\\_Planning/StatusReports/default.asp](http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/Planning/Neighborhood_Planning/StatusReports/default.asp)

# Status Check: How is Your Neighborhood Doing?

Please provide the following information and attach additional sheets if necessary.

Which neighborhood are you commenting on? Aurora / Greenlake

For how long have you...	less than 5 years	5-10 years	more than 10 years	does not apply
lived in this neighborhood?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
owned a business in this neighborhood?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
regularly visited this neighborhood?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
worked in this neighborhood?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
attended school in this neighborhood?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
other (please describe)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Name:

U

Email Address:

U@hotmail.com

## Question 1

Most of the neighborhood plans were adopted about 10 years ago and are in their mid-life. How has your neighborhood changed in the last decade since the plan was adopted (or since you've been there)?

- More townhomes
- some improvement to Aurora Ave
- some ped / bike issues
- more trees on West side
- more homeless at Green Lake

## Question 2

What changes or aspects of your neighborhood are you...

most pleased about?

- transportation Some improvements
- housing
- safety some
- parks and open space - some improvement
- public facilities (e.g. libraries, community centers)
- business district (e.g. stores, restaurants)
- buildings - new and existing
- other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

most dissatisfied about?

- transportation
- housing - not diverse
- safety
- parks and open space
- public facilities (e.g. libraries, community centers)
- business district (e.g. stores, restaurants)
- buildings - new and existing
- other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any comments related to what you are pleased or dissatisfied about?

- need more diverse housing options
- improve Aurora - Keep small businesses
- connectivity is important

**Question 3**

How well are your Neighborhood Plan vision and key strategies being achieved?

- very well
- somewhat well
- somewhat poorly
- very poorly
- don't know/neutral

please describe

Are they still the priority?

- yes, very much so
- some priorities have changed, some haven't
- no, not at all
- don't know/neutral

please describe

Add sustainability issues  
like  
tree coverage, energy use  
Plus - what about homeless?  
poverty? crime?  
How to address those

**Question 4**

The City is completing neighborhood plan status reports focusing on demographics, development patterns, housing affordability, public amenities and transportation networks.

What should there be more focus on (or less focus on) as the neighborhood status reports are completed in the coming months?

There should be more focus on...

Sustainability  
Basic needs  
hearing more from renters  
more public arts etc

There should be less focus on... x

OTHER COMMENTS:  
\* Connect this to the Aurora Ave design study  
Steering Committee  
many same topics  
Reach out to existing groups for their participation  
like sustainable business groups  
Bethany Church

Are there any important gaps in the draft status reports?

- No
- Yes (please describe)

Sustainability !; free coverage energy use

Business Patterns

~~Access~~

Please return this questionnaire by **Wednesday, July 22, 2009** to:

The Seattle Planning Commission  
700 5th Avenue, Suite 2000  
PO Box 34019  
Seattle, WA 98124

You can also fill out the questionnaire on-line at:  
[http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/Planning/Neighborhood\\_Planning/StatusReports/default.asp](http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/Planning/Neighborhood_Planning/StatusReports/default.asp)