

Status Check

Seattle Citizens Assess Their Communities and Neighborhood Plans

Summary of the Delridge 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 2009.¹ The Commission and NPAC co-hosted five open house workshops that included 24 neighborhood specific breakout sessions.² 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.

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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?

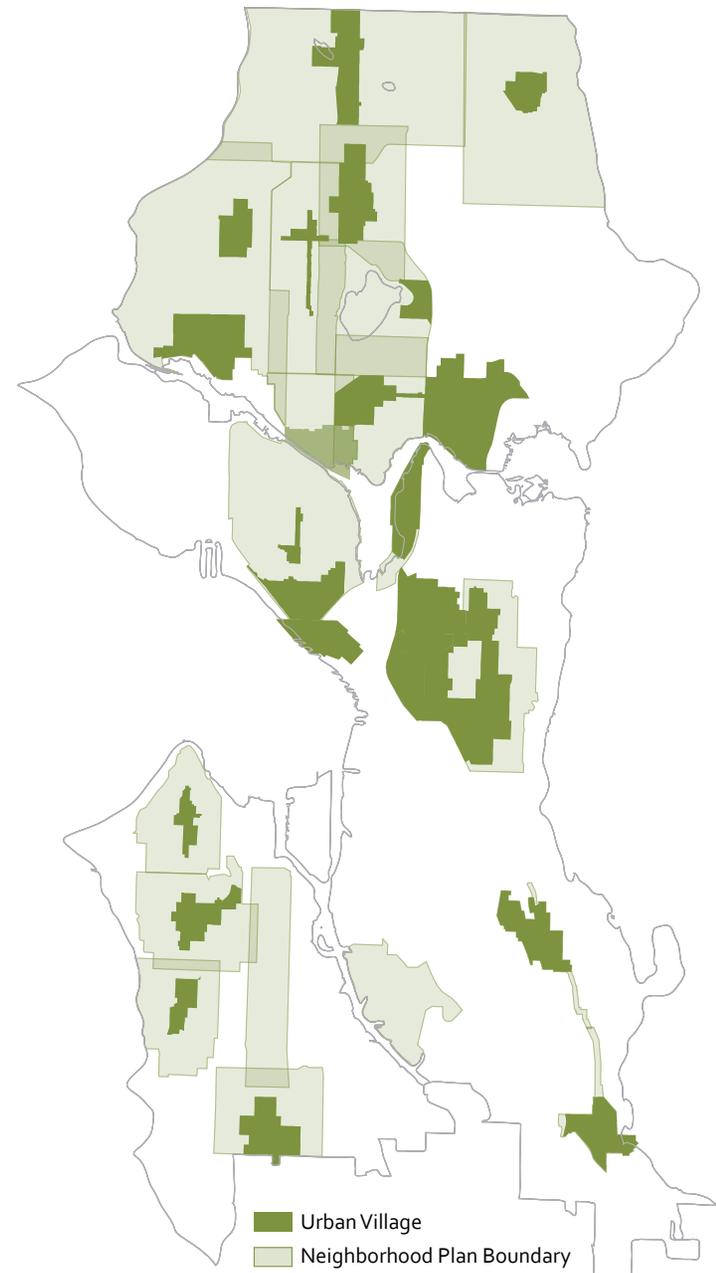
Summary of one of 24 neighborhood discussions held in June and July 2009

Admiral	Georgetown
Aurora/Licton Springs	Green Lake
Belltown	Greenwood/Phinney Ridge
Broadview/Bitter Lake/Haller Lake	Lake City
Capitol Hill	Morgan Junction
Central Area	Pike/Pine
Columbia City /Hillman City/Genesee	Queen Anne
Crown Hill & Ballard	Rainier Beach
Delridge	University Community
Eastlake	Wallingford
First Hill	West Seattle Junction
Fremont	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



DELRIDGE

General Summary

There were 10-15 people at the neighborhood discussion, including several from the Delridge Neighborhood Development Association (DNDA), most appeared to be long-time residents of the area. Several were very concerned with the loss of the elementary school. Everyone seemed pleased by the conversation but perplexed that there wasn't—or at least there seemed not to be—a regular outlet for these kinds of conversations.

Highlights

East-west transportation is a very big issue and there was a lot of discussion about this. Nodal development also came up at every turn. People are very pleased with the development of open space although there is still work to be done especially with the east-west climbs. People do not want Delridge nodes to become home to big box stores.



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)?

- It feels like a neighborhood that's about to happen. And the people are wonderful.
- Lost neighborhood elementary school with the loss of Cooper. Kids have to be bussed out of the neighborhood now: "I moved here to send my kids to the neighborhood school, now I can't."
- Delridge has lost poor people and people of color and different cultures. People of color do not participate in parks, comp planning, community meetings—how do we get others involved in ways that are meaningful to them?
- Massive increase in townhouse buildings (some good, some not) and projects that do not fit the character of the neighborhood.
- Have done a lot in open space use.
- Campus node development at Cooper and skate park but not elsewhere so increase in density has been along thje corridor not at nodes.
- Transportation is good north to south but not east to west.

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

- Tons of kids. More kids in the parks.
- We welcomed the skate park.
- Open space: Many accomplishments but we need to maintain. East – West climbs are poorly maintained (we could work with school groups to keep them in good shape).
- Playground across from Cooper School is amazing; redoing basketball court; cottage grove and Pea Patch and the Youngstown Center all are great additions.

Most dissatisfied about?

- Need grocery store.
- And sidewalks.
- Transportation access needs to be improved throughout but especially east-west transportation to help with the nodal development. Genesee is the only way up. Need a bus/van circulator going around Delridge. No Bus Rapid Transit leg to Delridge.
- Poorly maintained sidewalks on West Seattle Bridge; bike safety; No good crosswalks along Delridge; and how do we get good groceries here?
- Need more open space.
- The plan called for bike lanes and street drawings are done: how can we get lanes like on California south of Morgan?
- Need more green streets and low-impact development.
- The permitting process needs to connect with the plan.
- Redevelopment of High Point has had an impact on housing prices and diversity.
- Potential annexation of White Center needs to be addressed.

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

- **Complete and improve the open space network in Delridge:**
 - Pleased with open space especially Longfellow Creek Legacy Trail; the beaver ponds—2-3 miles of open space trail is great in urban setting. But is it completed and connected and what about the culvert replacement?
- **Develop neighborhood nodes of concentrated activity:**
 - Business development is lacking. We need urban core business. The South node is one project (Home Despot). The Center Node has potential and the trail network is set to intersect here.

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?

- Health issues like high rates of diabetes in low income populations is a factor of community amenities such as access to good food. Statistical analysis should connect to these. Other health statistics ought to be addressed too.
- Gross rent chart is misleading.
- What sort of businesses do we have? What is the built environment? (UW did a review in 2006, Delridge should be added to it.)
- The data presented is very dated. A very large percentage of people are not in the same living space since the information was published, this needs to be updated somehow. The housing price data is very old and mapping of data would be useful.
- Clarifying ethnic demographics eg. African Americans versus Somalia's or other immigrant Africans.
- Demographics on children are needed.

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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

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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 Ciello	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 Houpton	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

Delridge

July 28 2009

A)

1) How has your neighborhood changed in 10 years?

City & Council
Delridge in Birmingham Alabama of 50's
Cooper Law ^{school} ~~school~~ suit
Developing exit into something visually appealing

• Bldg @ corner of DelR & Indor. Permit approve / old zoning. - Does not go w/ character of neighborhood SE corner. C1 → NC but was permitted as C1

• DelR has lost poor people / color?
cultures: hoping we are coop w/ other neighborhoods (eg S-DelR - N. DelR)
communicate with ea other w people.

• 8yrs massive increase in town home bldg

• DelR strat. live Ed zoning some f-home good some not. Housing prizes; economic downturn → cannot control. Have done all

in open space. Worry about participation of people of color. Not participation / parks, complex, community mtgs. How do we get others involved in a way that's meaningful to

them.
• N.P. called out Nodes campus node has been accomplished → cooper, skate park, etc
Not so much other nodes so increase in density along corridor but not @ Nodes
①

Delridge (cont)

- Hope for Grocery & sidewalks
- Transportation good N-S but not E-W.
- Neigh. about to happen.
- Diversity has changed since 98 (?) people are wonderful. Cooper school loss - lost our neigh. el school. Kids have to be bussed. Moved here to find child to neighborhood school now OK.

2) What changes most pleased, least pleased.

- People who are buying homes are committed to hood. Committed to ea. other. Rental is harder / commitment.
- Tenants union supports renters. Can city find a way to help support renters so they can become more committed to local hood.
- Felt welcome when moved in. Tens of kids : is Δ more kids in park.
- Only neigh. who has welcomed skate park. Problem landlord w/ bad tenants. Woman & husband own a # of bldgs that are problems.
- Transport access needs to be improved thru out.

②

Delridge

- More E-W transportation will help w/ nodal dev etc.
- Open space many accomplishments. How to maintain? Need to be upkeep E-W climbs are poorly maintained. work w/ schools (?) and together to keep hill climbs in good shape.
- Bike safety along DelR way.
- Poorly maintained sidewalks on W. 5th bridge - no good crosswalks along DelR
- How do we get more groceries here.
- Man called for bike lanes + complete streets - drawings are done (Blding DelR way none of this is visible).
- DelR way major commuter how can we get lanes like in Calif s. of Morgan.
- Play ground across street is amazing. Rejoice B-Ball ct is huge! Cottage Grove Park + pea patch (TMDA) Youngstown center.
- Glad that DMDA came in to bld good apts. Must try to influence developer to bring in good development.

~~1401~~
S Jackson

(3)

DelRidge cont.

3. How is plan vision/strategies being achieved?

Are these still the priorities.

- Pleased w/ open space h.f. Creek legacy trail; Beaver ponds 2-3 miles open space trail. Is it complete and connected? Seems to be. What about culvert replacement (removal in golf course)? LF creek concentrating on overflow issues. What about green streets. Swails in Piper street are great. Puget Creek alliance and other groups.
- Business Dev. is lacking esp S. Node is one project (Home Depot) Center Node has potential. Trail network set up to interconnect there.
- Need urban core businesses.
- Need a negotiating group. To pressure national type chains or fire companies.
- Should not evict business → e.g. no Walmart @ Brandon node how do we pressure business
- W marginal to Puget Ridge cleaned up but raccoons here moved in to garden.
- Many tasks: Plan + organizing.

(4)

Delridge (cont)

- ?
 - Nodes need to dev. // Open space good but needs more.
 - Apts went right up to creek (what area?)
 - How does permitting process connect w/ plan.
 - SPU should put in zone per high flash - flooding has increase.
 - more green streets and low impact development.

H. Plan focus on what? Where are gaps.

- High diabetes rate is a factor of community amenities of access to good food so state should connect to these needs.
- Gross rent chart is misleading / improper.
- What sort of businesses do we have. UW college of built environment did a review in 2006 / Delridge should be addressed.
- Since last census 60% of people are not in same living space → this info is dated can sampling be done to test these items.
- Health stats eg. asthma. Grocery problem is N v. S Seattle (Even N. W. Seattle)
- Poor neighs. has less access to affordable food.
- Demographics / Health stats
- Clarify racial demographics: Plus a cultural demo (eg. Somalis & Af Am)
- Demographics of children to support ~~some~~ schools.

20 people

Delridge (cont)

- Maps that show demographics (GIS online)
- Housing prices → old data.

5) Other Issues

- How do we get everyone in a spot to discuss issues.
- Need of HLP has had huge impact diversity & housing cost
- Potential annexation of W.C. affects investors
(Weed & Seed) pushed some crime north • Some initiatives have pushed issues toward other areas.
- People should use telephone. New ways to contact people — which can cause lack of diversity in community meetings
- For ~~past~~ the meetings there was not much ~~door~~ street level outreach like posting on flyers all email/web.
- Thankful to see new people in the NTG.

What is not in plan?

#120 is always late.

• No BRT leg to Delridge

• General only way up

⑥

Del Ridge (cont)

- Having ^{the} bus/circulator going around DelR

ways to get info to people

{ Phone trees	people need to
{ Ethno news	know whats @ stake
{ Posters	Neighborhood coal concils
{ Flyers	Post cards