

# Status Check

Seattle Citizens Assess Their Communities and Neighborhood Plans

*Summary of the Wallingford 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.

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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?

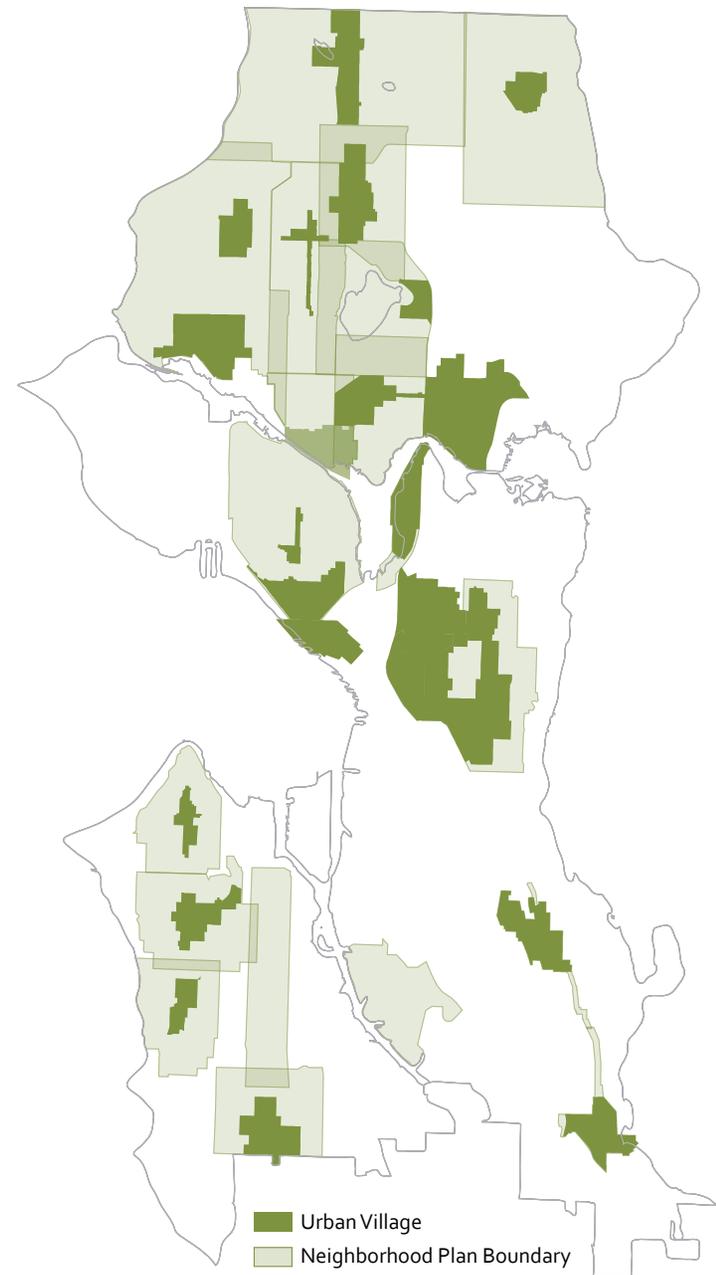
*Summary of one of 24 neighborhood discussions held in June and July 2009*

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	<b>Wallingford</b>
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*



# WALLINGFORD

## General Summary

Excluding the Commission and NPAC hosts, there were five people participating in the neighborhood discussion. Two identified themselves as business owners, one as a member of Sustainable Wallingford, and two neighbors did not note any particular affiliation.

## Highlights

- Participants felt that the vision and strategies were still a priority.
- Sustainability metrics have not been included in the plan but are being compiled and gathered by Sustainable Wallingford.
- A group has formed to develop plans for a Wallingford Community/Senior Center.
- Generally traffic is slower but there are more cars especially in the neighborhood business district that affects transit, pedestrians, and bicyclists.
- Strong small business community with a variety of services offered.
- A variety of housing types has allowed for a wide range of demographics.
- Proud of social services offered throughout the neighborhood.



## 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)?

- South Wallingford has changed. There are more condos and townhomes.
- Stone Way Safeway is gone. There is currently a hole in the ground.
- New demographics. 2000 Census is not representative of the current neighborhood make up.
- Wallingford was one of the first plans created. More kids (could be result of the popularity of John Stanford School). Good supply rental properties, especially of group homes, business community seems to be more diverse.
- Businesses have changes. There are a lot of tiny businesses.
- Corner of 45th/Stone Way very different – no McDonalds.
- 45th/Burke was originally thought to be an area for redevelopment but current businesses are thriving. There are currently no plans to redevelop.
- Stone Way changing character following the road diet. Mix of businesses. Less industrial. Increased residential.
- Not as much development on residential streets – specifically housing and infrastructure. Improvements were mostly traffic circles.
- Good preservation of historic buildings – especially Good Shepherd and Lincoln High school.
- Committee formed to work on developing a community/senior center.
- Lost bigger businesses – Office Max, Liquor Store, Starbucks and Jamba Juice (Stone)
- Chamber of Commerce Memberships have doubled the numbers from five years ago.
- Wallingford Center having trouble keeping tenants,
- New Senior Housing on Stone,
- Second year of Art Walk,
- Third year of Farmer's Market.
- 2000 trees planted on residential streets.
- Road improvements on Stone Way and 45th – Repaving, sidewalk repairs, and road diets.
- Parks Levy provided money for improvements in the neighborhood parks.
- Started Sustainable Wallingford.
- Good place to start a business.
- Improvements to Bridge Way.
- Good small restaurants – Art of the Table, Tilth, May Thai, Musashi's – good variety.
- Boys and Girls Club.

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

- 45th looks nicer.
- Nice parks and open space – especially improvements to Wallingford Playfield and Gas Works.
- Business atmosphere is nicer and funkier. Shops seem to be local. Lack of chains. Great stores and restaurants that serve neighborhood but also serve as magnet for visitors.
- Boys and Girls Club.
- Many services are available within walking distance.
- Traffic is slower on 45th.
- Crossing flags are good, but get stolen.
- More people are riding bikes – mostly commuters.
- Mixed use condos on Bagley.
- Townhouses set back from the street on Bagley – good design.
- Example of affordable housing on 45th/Stone.
- Acceptance of shared rental housing – preserves residential character and is affordable option for residents.
- Emergency planning is exemplary/good thing – But would like more City assistance.

## Most dissatisfied about?

- Business owners have concerns about the curb bulbs along 45th including loss of parking, increased traffic and maintenance of new vegetation.
- Lack of clothing stores (new store just opened on Bridge Way).
- Increased traffic on 45th.
- Cut through traffic between 45th and 40th on residential streets.
- High volumes of traffic on 40th – throughway from U District to Fremont/Ballard.
- Crosswalks are not observed along 45th and Stone - especially by distracted drivers on cell phones and drivers rushing to get through the lights [Would like cross walk sting on 45th). People are not stopping for elderly people
- Intersection on 40th and Stone.
- That you have to use crossing flags to get across the street.
- Lack of comfort for cyclists on the streets.
- Sharrows – silly and waste of money.
- Townhouses are crummy and not very imaginative (exception Bagley see above).
- Loss of historical buildings just to gain mixed use.
- Cost of housing (both owned and rented) has gone up.
- Mega homes especially when they take away “affordable” housing.
- Lack of community center.
- Hole in the ground at Stone Way and 40th – Lack of City involvement to disguise. Why not require that a fence be put up that the community could paint?
- Wish the library was bigger.
- Discussions about parking meters. Most businesses do not want them unless the money goes back into the business district.
- Woodlawn Park is a very wide street – look at options to narrow the roadway – maybe install swales.

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

- Please see attached matrix summarizing the participant's responses to each goal.
- Comp Plan Urban Village Goal has been met somewhat well and is still a priority.
- Policies
  - Single family areas have been protected somewhat well. Some priority – but change is ok.
  - Wallingford (people participating at the table) like the transfer station.
  - P-Overlay on 45th supports the Pedestrian strategy.
- Housing Goal – some affordable housing has been built (45th/Stone) but need more. Still a priority.
- Transportation Goal – being met somewhat well.
- Business Health Goal – being met somewhat well.
- Community Building Goal – very well, priority. Like one story buildings.
- Human Services Goal – being met very well, well integrated, still a priority.
- South Wallingford Goal – Connections to water are somewhat poorly being achieved (group acknowledged the Wallingford Steps), still a 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?

- There is no delta between the Plan and where we are today. Present data for City side by side with the data from Wallingford.
- Keep existing focal areas in the Plan.
- Missing sustainability goals and within existing focus areas.
  - Carbon footprint.
  - Transportation mode.
  - Food production and food system security.
  - Production of local businesses including ownership and employees and customer commuting information.
  - Neighborhood energy use.
  - Arable land.
- 
- Need to measure (Many of these items are being tracked by Sustainable Wallingford).
  - Rates of volunteerism.
  - Number of people that don't drive.
  - Number and availability of community meeting spaces/facilities (hours/fees/capacity).
  - Community use of social services.
  - Maintenance.
- Streets.
- Business districts.
- Parks.
- Waste and Recycling.

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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 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

Meeting July 23, 2009

PC/NPAC Open House - Wallingford table

Summary of answers to Q.3. How well are your neighborhood plan vision and key strategies being achieved?

The group focused discussion on the Goals in the Wallingford section of the Seattle Comprehensive Plan. To conserve time, the group mostly focused on discussion of the Goal statements, not all the detailed policy statements. Not ALL goal statements were covered.

The group arrived at a consensus when assigning a rating for each goal statement per the criteria. For each, we assigned a number and letter code as follows.

	<i>Performance (P)</i>		<i>Continued Relevance (R)</i>
1	Very well	A	Yes, very much so
2	Somewhat well	B	Some priorities have changed
3	Somewhat poorly	C	No,not at all
4	Very poorly	D	Don't know,/neutral
5	Don't know/neutral		

Summary

<b>Goal</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>Comment</b>
W-G1 Neighborhood with vital commercial district serving residential core	2	A	
W-G2 A community with housing and amenities that support a population of diverse incomes, ages and other social characteristics	3	A	
W-G3 A neighborhood of pleasant and exciting streets that promote walking, transit use and interactions between neighbors	2- 3	A+	Still too many unsafe ped crossings
W-G4 A neighborhood that maintains and promote a vital business community	2	A+	Good atmosphere for start up, small "mom and pop" businesses. Needs better communication/coordination with city on street maintenance.
W-G5 A neighborhood that feels like a small town in the big city	1	A+	

W-P25 Human service policy - encourage human services that are closely attuned to the n'hood...	1	A	Lots of human services offered in Wallingford is perception of group
W-G6 A neighborhood with public facilities that are assets to both n'hood and the service providers	-	-	No vote recorded but related discussion noted that neither Lincoln HS nor Good Shepherd Center are suitable for general community center use and this is still needed.
W-37 South Wallingford (keep ped friendly, connections to the UV and keep marine industrial uses...)	3	A	This might improve if and when Center for Wooden Boats moves into space west of GWP

# Status Check: How is Your Neighborhood Doing?

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

Which neighborhood are you commenting on?

Wallingford

For how long have you...

less than 5 years    5-10 years    more than 10 years    does not apply

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)

Name:

Jessica Vets

Email Address:

jvets15@Mac.com

## Question 1

Most of the neighborhood plans were adopted about 50 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)?

Have not really been here long enough. I see lack of change → the pit on Stone Way.

## 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?

Not enough transit service - No service to QA, Limited to Ballard. All Buses go downtown and not that frequently. Not enough ped amenities through the neighborhood. We need a community center and I would love a larger library. I also feel that there is a bit of wandering people looking for "opportunities" for theft a bike cop or two....

### 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

Don't really know since I am just starting to get involved w/ the process. But I would like the City to help focus development energy on Aurora also I would like to see definition in the Boundary between Fremont & Wallingford - this is not being resolved at Community level and I feel has been leading to resource issues.

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...

The Matrix - what % has been completed of the original list. How does this compare Citywide

There should be less focus on...

Are there any important gaps in the draft status reports?

- No
- Yes (please describe)

I want to see more focus across the city on studying walkable commercial. For instance I do not have a walkable grocery store - study how far people are willing to walk/bike for a given commercial business type and then study where these business are - little seems to be done to address commercial amenities increased to match residential density goals.

Please return this questionnaire by Thursday, August 6, 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)