



July 30, 2008 – Municipal Jail Public Forum Comments Recorded on Flip Charts

*Note: Flip charts were used at each table;
comments are grouped by the table on which they appeared.*

Table #1

- No community members at table

Table #2

- Jobs
- Let misdemeanants sleep at home
- Taxes spent for treatment not for jails
- No War
- Jobs
- Homeless beds
- Not for jails
- Jobs
- Taxes spent for community, service programs not for jails
- No war!
- Taxes spent on mental health
- 2 mil. in our country are in jail
- Big bucks get made building jails
- No more jails
- Jobs
- No more unequal treatment
- Why presented as the only possibility – where are community service plans and maps siting for...

Table #3

- Is the jail really inevitable?
 - Due to diversion programs, both K.C. jail and KRJC under capacity compared to projections for 2008
 - K.C. to consider cutting highly effective diversion programs (budget shortfalls)
 - A county spokesperson has questioned the inevitability of and necessity for a new jail (The Stranger, 07/02/08)
 - The county is under capacity. With an expansion of the KRJC, there would be room for around 1500 more inmates. No one from the county or city has made a convincing case that current numbers indicate a future need.
- How could the money be better spent?
 - Support financially the highly effective diversion programs
 - Provide adequate housing and human services for Seattle residents in order to prevent misdemeanor arrests and recidivism
 - NB: It's projected to cost at least \$150 per night per misdemeanor inmate

Table #4

- No community members at table

Table #5

- No community members at table

Table #6

- Lack of easy public transportation near the jail (cost)
- Why not a fire station on the site for the jail?
- Myers site is owned by the city, so why not there? (cost)
- With whole foods opening, economic activity is growing / traffic
- House / neighborhood proximity. Activity carries from Interbay businesses trains
- Interbay site most expensive to develop
- 15th is already a congested arterial that will only grow over time
- Concern over the person that gets on the bus when released
- What happens with the jail inmates when they are released?
- What is the mentally disabled person on the community when they get out?
- We only have 1 patrol car for all of Queen Anne and Magnolia; will we have more law enforcement?
- With a courthouse added what is the spill over with jail related businesses?
- Why is a city council member promoting in Interbay site?
- What are the other eastside cities under consideration?

Table #7

- Factors
 - Cost of each site (land, environmental, and building)
 - Chose a site that has the least options for other uses
 - Industrial land is scarce, and difficult to change back later
 - Choose site with least impact to communities within close range
 - Opportunity cost – too high – great potential now that whole foods
- Biggest concern
 - Does it change the safety of neighborhood?
 - Inmates with mental problems
 - Too close to sporting event facilities that are close by
 - Why aren't you choosing the site that's least dense, i.e. – Marginal Way
 - Build a nice looking facility – not warehouse style building
 - Image and property value declines
- Top 3 things the city can do
 - Rezone nearby areas to allow for good commercial businesses
 - City to provide transportation for discharged inmates or discharge offsite – i.e. downtown where there is good public transit options
 - Figure out how to resolve traffic congestion
 - Try and procure port property
 - Push harder for regional solution

Table #8

- No community members at table

Table #9

- No community members at table

Table #10

- Expand Regional Justice Center in Kent
- We need an independent analysis of high and low-rise study
- What about mid-rise?
- Current land-use code only allows a jail to be sited downtown
- Site jail downtown
- High-rise / low-rise study does not deal with issues it was purported to address
- Tax dollars should be spent on neighborhoods and infrastructure rather than jails
- High-rise study math needs to be checked
- Keep released inmates away from parks and residential areas
- Invest in alternatives to incarceration and ways to address social problems
- Jail should go in an eastside city since Seattle has one jail already and the level III sex offender facility
- Why were there only low-rise sites selected even before the study was started?
- Displacement of current uses

Table #11

- Top 5 factors
 - Incompatibility with nearby usages
 - Negative impact to nearby community
 - Bail bondsmen
 - Pawnshops
 - Inmate release
 - Would discourage urban density in a neighborhood close to downtown that is targeted to help Seattle meet its growth goals
 - One mile distance to places where children congregate and public parks is insufficient
 - 9 parks within 1 mile of Interbay (used for soccer, playfields, little league, golf, putting)
 - 4 schools within 1.5 miles
 - Jail should not go in a location where there is a lot of tourist activity
 - Street car
 - Cruise ship terminal
 - Cost to out in liquefaction zone is higher
- Biggest concerns
 - Discourage community development to 2 major residential neighborhoods
 - Incompatible to Interbay growth development
 - Retail
 - Service
 - Safety
 - Queen Anne and Magnolia – big family neighborhoods

- Inmates released – linger in the area
- Parks – 9 within 1 mile
- Visitors to inmates – transportation issue
- Residential area closer to this site than other sites
- Evaluate impact of adoption rates of Sea animal shelter
- Address concerns
 - Increase buffer zones between residential areas and jail
 - Increase police presence in Queen Anne and Magnolia
 - Consider former consolidated freight way site
 - Consider joint sites!

Table #12

- No community members at table

Table #13

- No community members at table

Table #14

- No community members at table

Table #15

- Safety – residents and neighborhood
- Zoning – protect industrial lands
- Ease of access to trains and boats for escape
- Economic development
- Congestion issues
- Safety
 - Building site
 - Tsunami inundation area – liquefaction
 - Community safety
 - Ease of escape
 - Boats – 1500 a day
 - Puts tourists at risk – 800,000 going through a year
 - Trains – 100 a day
 - Inmate release to neighborhood, no available services
 - Incompatibility with cruise ships
 - Too many problems in a crisis (emergency evacuation)
- Reduce size and provide mini jails instead of one large jail
- Diversion programs for lesser charges will reduce beds needed and reduce need for a new jail
- By accepting as fact that a new jail is necessary city is marginalize other more creative solutions
- How many will be released each day?
- If necessary we support a downtown site