

Comments received via <http://www.seattle.gov/municipal/jail/questions.htm>
on May 22, 2008

Name: Debra Willendorf

Neighborhood: Licton Springs

Although I am sounding like a NIMBY, I am opposed to the new jail citing on Aurora Ave N. This spot is the only one selected that is directly adjacent to a residential community. There are several schools nearby as well. Releasing 10-30 (at least) folks from the jail on daily basis will not be safe for the adjacent residents.

Name: Joan Gardner

Neighborhood: Licton Springs

No jail on Aurora. It is right next to people's homes, near many schools. This is not a place to be releasing criminals from jail into our neighborhood. We are working to make Aurora more neighborhood-friendly.

Name: Kristin Walters

Neighborhood: Green Lake

We have worked so hard to keep this area up and improve what we can and this would just make it even harder. This is still residential and there is residential area all around this spot.

Name: Julie Reid

Neighborhood: Greenwood/Phinney Ridge

We have been alerted that there is a proposal on the table to site a jail on Aurora and 117th. We are very opposed to this siting as Aurora is at a turning point of being a much safer place to live and needs additional support, not new risks. While we recognize the need for a city jail, placing one so close to residential areas, schools and parks will only serve to hurt the community. Please reconsider your site selection.

Name: Rene Murry

Neighborhood: Greenwood/Phinney Ridge

I am writing as one of the co-coordinators for the GAIN NORTH group. We have been working on neighborhood issues from 95th to 105th, Greenwood to Aurora...an extension of the 1st "GAIN". Our concerns are that the Aurora jail site is not appropriate for many reasons, it has the largest number of schools and senior housing in the vicinity compared to the other choices, this site is the furthest from the King County court house, bus transportation would be extremely over taxed on a heavily used route and finally, we in this area have been working hard to change the nature of Aurora. This plan seems to fly in the face of our efforts. We appreciate your serious consideration of our concerns. Thank you.

Name: Leah Eister-Hargrave

Neighborhood: Fremont

Hello, I just received information that Seattle has tentative plans to build a jail on Aurora Avenue. I strongly oppose this proposal. Neighborhoods surrounding Aurora have such an issue currently with crime. We need to keep criminal activity away from Aurora, not have a jail located here.

Name: Tyler Young

Neighborhood: Green Lake

This email is in regards to the proposed jail site on Aurora Avenue and 117th. I strongly believe that it would be a mistake to choose this location. In the past few years, there have been significant strides in cleaning up Aurora, not only physically, but also in removing the negative connotations that people have associated with that area. It would be really nice to see the Seattle government recognize these efforts, and help in continuing to move forward in a positive way and not take two steps back with the addition of a jail site. Thank you very much for your consideration

Name: Susan Moore

Neighborhood: Greenwood/Phinney Ridge

I am writing in opposition to the siting of a jail at Aurora Avenue N and N 117th Street. I live near Aurora in an area supported by Greenwood Aurora Involved Neighbors (GAIN). I am new to the neighborhood and just moved here with my 9 yr old son. I was very careful about where I looked for purchasing a home. I am disturbed at the news of the jail site being so close to my home. I believe that any work has been done will be severely damaged by the addition of a jail near our area. Approximately 20-40 inmates could be released daily. - It is the only one with immediately adjacent residences. - It is the site with the greatest number of K-12 schools within one mile. - There are 3 Seattle Parks facilities within one mile. Please choose a site that is further from residential areas and schools, closer to the downtown courthouse and less vulnerable to crime.

Name: Linda Couser

Neighborhood: Licton Springs

What? Are you kidding? Are you all nuts? Plopping a jail in the midst of the most residential area you have listed as a potential site for a new jail? Isn't north Aurora disgusting enough that you have to make it more so? Shoreline has poured in money and beautified it's share of North Aurora and all Seattle can think to do is dump it's worst population up next to what they've done? What can you be thinking? Don't do it!

Name: Sarah Vagt

Neighborhood: Northgate/Maple Leaf

Please do not place a jail in the Northgate area at 117th and Aurora. It would devastate the real estate market in the area and the neighborhood is just starting to become more attractive to Seattle residents. It would basically counteract all of the neighborhood improvement projects that have been happening in the last few years. NO to the aurora/northgate area jail site. Thank you for your time.

Name: Frank Schuck

Neighborhood: Green Lake

As a resident of the Aurora community (my wife, 2 children and I live on 75th & Aurora) I am outraged that the city would even consider a jail at this location. It is too close to parks, schools and the community at large. Since we are a non-car family we rely on the 358 bus. It is already overcrowded and often dangerously seedy. The impact of inmates getting on this bus, after a

period of incarceration, is very disturbing. I will be asking my friends, coworkers and extensive vendor network to voice their distain for this possible site.

Name: Kelly Lichtenwaldt

Neighborhood: Licton Springs

I am very opposed to the proposed jail site located at 117th street and Aurora Ave. N. It's simply ridiculous to locate a jail so close to what is in that area. Schools, low income housing, condos and senior housing. We've got enough problems on Aurora without you adding a jail to the mix. Neighborhood meetings, aurora ave. action committee items - why do we even try to give you input on that stuff knowing you'll come up with ideas like this that just make what we're doing all that harder. You couldn't get it done with patrols and all the fancy anti-crime initiatives. It took GAIN walking the street to get it done. Your thanks for that? A new Jail? It's an insult, and as a property owner think it stinks. The city should spend less time regulating strip clubs, dance clubs and music venues, and spend more time regulating where you plan on putting buildings full of criminals!

Name: Norma Kageyama

Neighborhood: Haller Lake

The Northgate/Haller Lake area is already crowded and congested and slated for yet more development to add to the congestion. Now we are to accept having a jail dropped into our backyard - NO WAY. Put it in Mayor Nickles backyard.

Name: Russell Shrewsbury

Neighborhood: Green Lake

please don't put the jail off aurora, I believe this is a terrible site due to the fact of many families and residents are in such close proximity to the site proposed.

Name: Raimund Herberg

Neighborhood: Greenwood/Phinney Ridge

I am writing in opposition to the siting of a jail at Aurora Avenue N and N 117th Street. This site: - It is the only one with immediately adjacent residences - single family homes, senior housing, condos and multi-family housing - including the low-income housing of Aki Kurose. These homes would have no buffer between themselves and a jail. - It is the furthest site from the downtown courthouse. - It is the site with the greatest number of K-12 schools within one mile.

Name: Mike Whaley

Neighborhood: Queen Anne

I would not like to see a new jail go up from me on Armory way. I am very worried about my property value, lights created by the facility, the businesses that would possibly grow around the jail like bail bond businesses. I am worried about the safety of the residents in the area and also the traffic that the facility will create.

Name: Sean Gibson

Neighborhood: Haller Lake

I strongly urge you not to build the new jail on 117th and Aurora. If this site is chosen, the jail would be 2 blocks, as the crow flies, from our house. We have 3 young children ages 1, 8, and 13. We do not want them growing up close to this type of facility. We chose the Haller Lake neighborhood because it was quiet and safe. This proposed site puts that in jeopardy. Having worked downtown in the Columbia Center for 8 years directly across from a jail I have seen the types of people it brings into the area. If this site is chosen we will surely be looking to move. I believe a more industrial/commercial site would be more appropriate and have less negative impact on neighborhoods and families.

Name: Linda Clifton

Neighborhood: Fremont

We have been battling crime here for four years, with some success. The Aurora site will make our efforts even more difficult, as prisoners are released back into this neighborhood where they've been breaking into and stealing cars, engaging in prostitution and selling drugs. Aurora does not need to be a locus of crime in this city, We in the neighborhood are doing our part to try to quell it, with the support of the police and the city attorney's office, and some city officials. We are very very grateful for their help and have seen some tentative improvement. Siting a jail at Aurora and 117th will undermine our efforts. As many as 40 inmates a day could be released here and onto the 358 bus, one of the higher crime routes, through our neighborhood. Released inmates on the 358 will only make it more problematic. The Aurora site is too close to homes and schools, too far from the downtown courthouse, and too vulnerable to crime. Please reject it as a jail site.