

Comments received via <http://www.seattle.gov/municipal/jail/questions.htm>
on May 26, 2008

Name: Tom Davis

Neighborhood: Haller Lake

I hope the city will site the new jail in an industrial area of the city rather than adjacent to residential areas. It will affect residents' feelings of security as well as their property values.

Name: Sylvia de Desrochers

Neighborhood: Haller Lake

I think the site on Aurora is a poor choice for the new jail for 3 reasons. It will be located directly adjacent to a large residential neighborhood, it will be within 15 blocks of Ingraham High School and Aurora has a very high crime rate (dispite what the newspapers say). I caught the bus in front of the downtown King County Jail for many years after work. There was a lot of people leaving the facilities and on the streets at the same time. If inmates were released on Aurora, they will be exposed the existing criminal elements before they are picked up or board a bus to leave the area. This exposes the neighborhood business and residents to higher rate of crime. We have already seen this in the last few years with the increase of homeless people living on the streets here. I think the new jail should go into a low residential area.

Name: George Schaffner Jr

Neighborhood: Highland Park

My question for the longest time is why dont we send our hardcore offenders out to third world countries for incarceration. It would be far more economical and then it would free up space for your lesser degree offenders without building more jails and prisons. Another benefit might be that when people see that we are serious about upholding laws and punishing wrong doers some folks just might see that if this works and the bureaucracy of our state sees the savings (ergo money in state pockets) and possibly lesser criminals getting shipped to outer Mongolia as there are fewer hardcore to ship out, some people just might think twice.

Name: Joe Maxwell

Neighborhood: Green Lake

I am concerned with the Aurora site that is being considered. It is not far from a large residential area that is being improved. Gradually, it seems that the sketchiness of Aurora may be getting replaced by many new townhomes and nice families in this area, and I would hate to see a nearby jail impact the safety, property value, interest, and improvements in this general area.

Name: Martha Wilson

Neighborhood: Northgate/Maple Leaf

I am very much opposed to the idea of putting a jail in the middle of a highly populated area in Northgate. If the City of Seattle must have a jail then of the 4 potential sites Northgate is not the best choice. There are a number of schools in walking distance and I believe this would endanger the lives of many innocent residents. Jails in general should not be situated in any residential neighbor. Of the 4 purposed sites the only one even remotely adequate would site C - West Marginal Way Site. Thank you.

Name: Mary Pat Hoffman

Neighborhood: Broadview/Bitter Lake

I am very concerned about the selection of the North Seattle site; it is in close proximity to neighborhoods and a medical center. North Seattle has been unfairly been targeted; it already has more than its share of low income housing (most recently by Bitter Lake). It is time for the rest of the city to step up.

Name: Ryan Alexander

Neighborhood: Green Lake

Based upon the 4 potential sites locations and as to what is around them, it seems obvious that either C or D are the best options available as they are farther away from concentrated mid-high value residential areas. I appreciate the early notice during the planning phase and the allow of our input. Please keep up the great work on the updates!