

The Keller Group  
City of Seattle  
Municipal Jail Project  
June 17, 2008

## **Notes from Magnolia Community Club Meeting June 17, 2008**

Following are notes taken from the discussion at the Magnolia Community Club meeting held in the Magnolia Community Center on June 17, 2008. Nine Magnolia club members attended the meeting. Catherine Cornwall from the City and Wiley Brooks from The Keller Group attended for the City; Ms. Cornwall gave a brief overview then opened the floor for questions and comments. This report presents those questions and comments in the order they were raised.

Questions and points raised by meeting participants at the Magnolia Community Club meeting:

- What does “fatally flawed” mean on the handout that shows why sites were eliminated from consideration?
- It sounds like your environmental impact statement (EIS) will focus on the four options. You eliminated sites because they had significant economic activity, but you are ignoring the potential economic activity. The Interbay site has a lot of potential economic activity.
- Is there any consideration being given to building a new jail downtown near the existing jail?
- Why would you even consider building it between two high-density residential neighborhoods (Queen Anne and Magnolia)? That seems to me to be a “fatal flaw.” What about escapes? An industrial area (like Sodo) would be better.
- Is the Interbay site also being considered for a fire station?
- I saw that one site (among the original 35) was rejected because of geo-technical issues. Aren't there big geo-technical issues with the Interbay site, too? You can't build a fire station there but you can build a jail?
- Did the City give any consideration to the planned development of the Interbay site?
- Will the EIS have a preferred alternative? Can we add a high-rise alternative to the EIS?
- You say the City believes that a low-rise jail will be less costly to build and operate, but did you consider all of the other costs, such traffic congestion, moving prisoners back and forth to the courthouse, bail bonds outlets, etc.?
- You could build it on the block for the old Public Safety Building downtown. It's just a big hole in the ground.
- The King County prosecutor is considering raising the threshold of property crimes becoming misdemeanors from \$500 to \$10,000. Wouldn't that increase the number of misdemeanor inmates the City would have to house?
- What is the best time to offer more questions? Where can we do that? We don't want to miss a chance to make our points.