

City Neighborhood Council Minutes
For meeting of March 26, 2007
Location: West Precinct, 810 Virginia

Attendees: Irene Wall (Northwest); Robin Sizemore (Northeast); Katie Comer (Downtown); Judith Edwards (Greater Duwamish and CNC Secretary); Ron Boddie (Central); George W Counts and Bob Frasier (Magnolia/Queen Anne); Suzie Burke (Lake Union); Cheryl Klinker (North); Andrew Taylor and Janice Maloney (East); Pat Murakami (Southeast, and CNC Vice Chair); Chris Leman (CNC Chair and Lake Union).
Guests: Barbara Graff and JoAnn Jordan (Police Department's Director of Emergency Management); Anne Fiske-Zuniga and Andrew Glass Hastings (SDOT); and Scott Minnix (DON).

Emergency Preparedness

Barb Graff, the Police Department's Director of Emergency Management, (barb.graff@seattle.gov) and JoAnn Jordan (Public Education Coordinator, joann.jordan@seattle.gov) spoke and entertained questions on neighborhood preparedness. They introduced SNAP (Seattle Neighborhoods Actively Prepare), a program designed to help neighbors learn about and organize their preparedness efforts. For more information: (206) 233-7123,

Neighborhood Street Fund

Anne Fiske-Zuniga, deputy director of the Seattle Department of Transportation, presented the Department's proposed process for allocating the \$1.5 million/year that the nine-year "Bridging the Gap" transportation levy ordinance designates for the Neighborhood Street Fund, and the additional \$1.2 million in Cumulative Reserve Funds and gas tax funds that will also be allocated this year. There was a lively discussion regarding SDOT's intention to restrict the levy funds to large projects and not to include the district councils in the levy funds ratings process.

Councilmember Richard Conlin

(1) Emergency preparedness has been identified by the City Council as a priority for the year. Conlin's is the first Council committee which includes Emergency Management in its title. He urges proactive efforts at prevention, such as fixing the vulnerable sea wall in West Seattle; a "resilient city strategy" that identifies and works to protect the most vulnerable; and a recovery strategy, so Seattle can respond more quickly than happened in New Orleans. (2) Zero waste strategy. A City Council budget proviso prohibited the Seattle Public Utilities Department from expanding transfer station capacity until it has studied and expanded its recycling efforts; a planning and outreach effort is now in progress. (3) Sustainable single-family zoning. Conlin urges a change in the Land Use Code that would prohibit so-called "monster houses," which sometimes consolidate separate lots that could have supported separate residences. (4) Neighborhood Street Fund. Conlin was praised for his role in including \$13.5 million (\$1.5 million/year) for the Neighborhood Street Fund in the 2006 transportation levy ordinance. He encouraged the City Neighborhood Council to stand up for a district council role in the program.

Nightlife Premises Ordinance.

There was active discussion of the Downtown District Council's proposed letter supporting a proposed nightlife premises ordinance, which would apply to businesses with density of one person for each seven square feet, and alcohol sales between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. CNC chair Chris Leman stated that, in accordance with by-laws section 6.1 encouraging consensus, it did not appear to him that there was sufficient consensus to bring the matter to a vote. There was discussion of possibly amending the letter to call for a pilot ordinance that would apply only in the downtown area.

Budget Committee Report

Committee Chair Ron Boddie reported that the City has still not published the City budget that was adopted on November 20. CNC's budget committee is continuing its focus on Seattle Police Department issues. The committee urges the district councils to provide input into the Mayor's decisions this summer on what he will propose to the City Council this fall.

Neighborhood Matching Fund Committee

Robin Sizemore reminded districts to nominate a representative to serve on the Citywide Review Team. The committees work plan will include evaluation of this year's cycle of the Neighborhood Matching Fund, as well as of the Small and Simple program.

Neighborhood Planning Committee

Chair Irene Wall discussed plans for a possible May 19 workshop on neighborhood planning to bring together representatives of the 38 neighborhood planning areas to discuss next steps with the City.

Transportation Committee

The transportation committee had recommended Suzanne Anderson for an appointment to the Pedestrian Master Plan's advisory group. CNC member Suzie Burke also recommended Preston Tinsley. CNC unanimously voted to recommend Anderson and Tinsley for the advisory group.

Neighborhood Street Fund

Following up on the earlier discussion on the Neighborhood Street Fund, it was moved, seconded, and passed that the City Neighborhood adopt the letter to the Mayor and City Council that the CNC officers had circulated in draft to the district councils on March 21. There were nine district council representatives present. Of these, five (Greater Duwamish, East, Lake Union, and Southeast) voted yes, none voted no, and five (Central, Downtown, Magnolia/Queen Anne, Northeast, and Northwest) abstained.

[Notes made subsequent to the March 26 CNC meeting: Pat Murakami (Southeast District) asked that her "yes" vote be changed to "abstain." Of the district councils that either were absent or abstained from the March 26 CNC vote on the letter, the Ballard District had already sent a March 26 e-mail endorsing the letter, and subsequent to March 26 the North, Northeast, and Southwest districts voted to endorse the letter. The

Lake Union district, whose representative had voted for the letter, also later voted as a body to endorse the letter. No district council has voted to oppose the letter.]