

CITY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Draft Minutes for the April 27, 2009 meeting

District Council representatives in attendance: Chris Leman (Lake Union District Council); Laine Ross, (Downtown District Council and CNC Vice Chair); Kathy Nyland (Greater Duwamish District Council and CNC Chair); Ref Lindmark, (CNC Transportation Chair); Irene Wall (Northwest District Council); Mike Warren (Youth and Education Committee Chair); Chas Redmond (Southwest District Council); Tenaya Wright (Central District Council); Paul Stoms (East District Council); Janis Maloney (East District Council); Dick Burkhart (Southeast District Council); Nicole Franklin (Magnolia/Queen Anne District Council); Judith Edwards (Greater Duwamish District Council); Robert Drucker (Ballard District Council)

Guests in attendance: Dwight Dively, Director of Department of Finance; David Bloom, City Council candidate, Ted Divina, Department of Neighborhoods

Agenda and Minutes

Agenda approved. March minutes approved with minor revisions.

Dwight Dively/Budget Update

- General fund and Cumulative Subfund cuts in 2009 budget.
- Recession started December 2007.
- Region entered recession in fall 2008.
- Fourth quarter 2008 revenue substantially lower than expected
- \$13 million less than planned on
- \$19 million positive balance in General Fund at end of 2008 – lower than expected
- 2009- forecast \$30 million lower than expected
- 2010 – forecast \$42 million lower than expected – (preliminary figure; could be worse)
- 8% unemployment in King County
- 9% unemployment in State
- Five criteria for cuts: Preserve uniformed officers, direct human services programs, protect programs in lower-income communities; sustainable reductions, senior salaries cut; 3% cuts for most departments; 1% for police, fire and human services.
- Will be reduction in community center hours/library hours in 2010
- Libraries – one week furlough end of August in 2009
- Proposal to shorten branch hours in 2009 not accepted by Mayor
- SDOT will reduce chip/seal program and overtime
- Bridging the Gap projects not affected at this time
- Fifty-nine positions eliminated; 30 filled positions; will try to find other positions for those staff – 15-20 will lose jobs
- \$5 million from rainy day fund used
- \$39 million dollar deficit for 2010 – most optimistic outlook – could turn out to be \$50-55 million
- \$15 – 30 million in cuts, if deplete the rainy day fund to cover costs
- Will again try to protect police/fire/human services in 2010
- Cuts will be a lot more noticeable to public
- Mercer Street project up in the air at this time; dependent on stimulus funding
- Applying for transportation, public safety stimulus funding – most funding for capital projects and narrowly defined
- City in better shape than state or county and many other cities in the nation
- Analyzing level of management in departments; looking for savings
- 78% of City workforce is Union; not yet offering furloughs or concessions; City cannot make unilateral cuts

- Comment: County purchasing lighter busses, City should look into
- Departments being instructed to become more efficient
- Government can't be as efficient as the private sector; need to address community needs
- Does budget anticipate population increase?
- Seattle still seeing in-migration. Expect continued growth, but may slow. Increase in population does not necessarily result in increased revenue. Business generates more revenue. Loss of auto dealership revenue hurting some cities.
- Employees whose positions are being eliminated can register with Project Hire to potentially find new employment with the City. No severance packages. Training available. In 2002 recession, jobs could be found outside of Seattle; now unemployment is high everywhere.
- CNC should weigh in on 2010 cuts by August.
- Proposed budget available on-line

CNC Roundtable

- North District seeking representation from a number of neighborhoods in the District
- Working on walking trails map for Northeast section of the City
- Southeast getting ready for Light Rail opening this July
- Some areas lacking adequate bus service to Light Rail stations
- CRT – Large Project applications doubled this year; no increase in funding
- CNC needs to counter City viewpoint mentioned by Mary Denzel at last meeting; need to promote CNC purpose/value
- District and community councils are very diverse, operate differently
- Roundtable on purpose of District Councils in Greater Duwamish was very helpful
- Would appreciate DON locating groups it would like to attend District Council meetings, rather than lecture and to-do lists to District Councils
- Need to have issues that interest groups in order to have them want to attend
- SW/Delridge Gathering of Neighbors great event. Should be duplicated and DON should support in more districts.

CNC Committee Reports

Budget- Ron Boddie

Ron Boddie absent; Chris Leman reported. Jean Godden's assistant attended committee meeting. Looking at letter re budget in July.

NMF Committee – Laine Ross

CRT Tour of projects was Saturday.

Neighborhood Plan Implementation Committee – Irene Wall

Neighborhood Plan Committee members serving on NPAC, which also meets on same date. Reported on NPAC work. Some committee members frustrated feeling that they are not leading, but following process. Concern over rush to get items into comp plan by deadline.

Transportation Committee – Ref Lindmark

Met April 17. Focused on impact of budget cuts on transportation projects. Bridging the Gap projects not affected. Discussed Metro service cut scenarios and service changes in SE related to Light Rail. Employees in Light Rail Station areas requesting RPZs.

Youth, Schools and Education Committee – Mike Warren

Mike Warren gave the report. He emphasized that we need to communicate with our District Council about the committee: we need more members and need to identify the issues and priorities for this committee.

Mike discussed the possibility about a Youth focused conference. There is interest but it is still in the initial stages: a conference may be likely in 2010.

Mike has begun talks with the Alliance for Education and Jenni Frankle from the Mayor's Office to see if there are cross promotion possibilities.

CNC Executive Committee: Conference Call: is open to all. Phone number included on agenda. Working on City Council Candidates' Forum. Will not be doing a postcard to publicize. Need to distribute flyer widely via e-mail, etc. when ready. Draft for event distributed for comment.