

CITY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

West Precinct Conference Room, 810 Virginia Street  
6:30 p.m., Monday, April 25, 2005

CHAIR - John Coney

VICE CHAIR - Pete Spalding

SECRETARY - Scott Meyer

REPRESENTATIVES AND ALTERNATIVES PRESENT:

Stephen Lundgren (Alternate, Ballard), Pete Spalding (Delridge), Andrew Taylor (EastA), Chris Leman (LUDC), John Coney (MQADC), Irene Wall (NWDC), Dennis Ross (SWDC), Bob Lucas (NMF Chair, NEDC Alternate), Ref Lindmark, (Transportation Chair)

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT:

Adrienne Bailey (CDC), Meg Olson (CDC), David Dillman (Downtown DC), Michael Richmond (Greater Duwamish), Matthew Fox (NEDC), Lynn Ferguson (NEDC), Scott Meyer (SEDC), Andy MacDonald (Ballard DC)

DON REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

John Leonard (DON), Scott Minnix (DON), Yvonne Sanchez (DON), Laurie Ames (DON), Ellen Judson (CIRP)

A quorum was present.

6:30 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

GUEST: COUNCILMEMBER PETER STEINBRUECK, Chair of the Urban Development and Planning Committee of the City Council

Steinbrueck reviewed the Executive's proposed changes in Building Codes and Zoning Designations that will reduce on-site parking requirements for new multifamily residential buildings in four inner-city urban centers: U-District NW, Capital Hill, Pike Pine, and Central District. He reminded CNC that City Council is not the source of this proposed legislation but will vote on it this summer. He pointed out that in future years these relaxations of parking requirements may be applied to other urban centers and commercial districts. The proposed changes are said to be based on 2000 U.S. Census data on the number of motor vehicles per household in the four urban centers. Goals include reductions of parking demand, reduction of cost per housing unit, increased use of transit and alternative modes of transportation. The proposals are tailored to each urban center neighborhood. These neighborhoods contain stations for funded mass transit. He noted that in Seattle's single family zoned neighborhoods, houses are required to provide one on-site parking space, yet multifamily structures are required to provide 1.4 parking spaces per housing unit. He suggested that parking for such alternative transportation modes as car-share vehicles (Flexcar), small electric cars (NVs), scooters, etc., could be added to this legislation. He spoke briefly about the other Comprehensive Plan Amendments now before the City Council, including the Port's North Bay Redevelopment and the Interbay Neighbors Association proposal for the Dravus Green Line station area. He also mentioned the Executive's Neighborhood Business District Strategy, the goals for which include attracting investment for neighborhood pedestrian overlay zones.

Most CNC Representatives commented on these items. Irene Wall, Chair CNC Neighborhood Planning Committee, reviewed the comments garnered from 40 neighborhood attendees at the April 23 Neighborhood Planning Forum. She noted that a June 15 Public Workshop, the Committee's second, is planned for the above topics, particularly the Executive's proposed Neighborhood Business Strategy. Wall is preparing a report reflecting neighborhood views on parking requirements for new multifamily buildings and other code changes. Wall noted that view corridors are not supported in the proposed code changes.

There was discussion about the way in which notice was given the public regarding the '05 Comprehensive Plan Amendments.

7:30 MINUTES

**ACTION ITEM:** Minutes were adopted with corrections by Spalding and Ross. Minutes are not up to date for '05 and will be posted with corrections. Coney will take Minutes for this April 25 meeting. The DON will take the May Minutes.

The Executive Committee met to address the lack of Minutes from the Secretary since January. Their recommendation to the Council is that other means of notating, writing, and distributing Minutes for the Council be approved by the CNC.

**ACTION ITEM:** The consensus of the CNC was to ask the DON to provide the service again since the Resolution establishing the CNC assigns such duties to DON. Yvonne Sanchez, Director of DON, assented, but commented that such service may require reduction of support to other functions the DON services. All agreed that it is essential to maintain Minutes and ensure they are posted by DON.

7:40 NEIGHBORHOOD MATCHING FUND BYLAWS REVISIONS

The first hearing and first approval was on March 28, 2005. Revisions within Paragraphs 4 and 5 of the CNC Bylaws were given their second and final hearing. The changes update the Paragraphs to reflect current practices of the NMF Committee and the Citywide Review Team. The Chair will send the changes to DON for entry into CNC Bylaws.

**ACTION ITEM:** The Bylaws change was unanimously adopted. (Spalding/Ross).

8:15 LETTER TO SDOT, ETC., RE: SR 520 AND I-5 FREEWAY LINK

The Montlake Neighbors Organization presented a concept for a four-lane freeway link through their neighborhood to the CNC Transportation Committee in February. A second draft of the letter was presented by Transportation Chair Ref Lindmark. A major feature of this concept is an access ramp connecting the freeway link to the south side of Husky Stadium adjacent to the planned Link Light Rail Station.

8:30 RECONFIRM CIRP CNC REPRESENTATIONS

**ACTION ITEM:** CNC's CIRP (Library Bond Issue Citizens Oversight Committee) Representatives, Ellen Judson and Monica Moravec were endorsed for re-appointment. (Spalding/Ross).

Judson reported on current and future challenges CIRP faces. Some inflation of construction costs has taken place.

8:40 REPORT OF NEIGHBORHOOD MATCHING FUND GUIDELINES COMMITTEE

CNC heard the report from Bob Lucas. This Committee is not a part of CNC, but was established by the City Council. The Report recommends establishment of Race and Social (RSJ) Programs as eligible for a separate category of grants under the Neighborhood Matching Fund. Under the Provisional Grant Program for RSJ over the last year, it became clear that most applications were not focused on one neighborhood, but were of broader geographic impact. The Major Projects Funding for NMF was not reduced to make way for the RSJ component.

Several Representatives voiced concerns over the inclusion of RSJ application in the NMF on a variety of grounds:

- They are not neighborhood oriented.
- Inclusion of RSJ will produce "scope creep" in the NMF Grant Program.
- RSJ projects don't necessarily stop at the city limits.
- RSC grants would be better placed in Seattle Human Services, not DON.
- Eventually, RSJ grants will eat into Small and Simple and Major Projects NMF grant dollars.

- The grant applications come from citywide organizations that employ Professionals to write the applications, putting neighborhood applicants at a disadvantage.
- Race relations and social justice issues are best addressed at the grassroots and neighborhood levels.

DON Director Yvonne Sanchez countered that:

- RSJ grants do support neighborhoods.
- The Report does not dilute the commitment of the NMF process to neighborhood-centered grants.
- The record shows that RSJ grants have not been limited to ethnic concerns.
- Our city needs to create a model whereby people diverse in gender, race, gender orientation, economic status, etc., can be brothers in a common cause.
- NMF guidelines should be based on community-building criteria.

Other DON staff present defended the Report.

**ACTION ITEM:** A letter from CNC to the Mayor and DON indicating that CNC notes the Report and thanks the Mayor for retaining the Major Projects Grant funding at the present level was approved. (Lundgren/Ross)

#### 9:00 COMMITTEE REPORTS

**BUDGET (Leman)** – Leman urged the district councils to develop their own budget letters to the Mayor and City Council, and to make recommendations on what should be in the CNC’s budget letter regarding citywide issues. The committee is engaged in planning a Citizen’s Budget Conference to be held in November or January jointly with the Departments of Finance and Neighborhoods and the City Council.

**NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING (Wall)** - 40+ neighborhood residents attended the April 23 Forum on the Neighborhood Business Strategy and On-Site Parking Requirement Reductions. A June 15 Evening Forum is being planned for neighborhood residents and business people.

**TRANSPORTATION (Lindmark).** The Committee will work closely with SDOT on the draft of the Seattle Street Right-of-Way Manual, a critical document that will guide the design, capacity, and appearance of our streets

9:20 ADJOURN

NEXT MEETING: MAY 23, 6:30 P.M., WEST PRECINCT CONFERENCE ROOM

Agenda Item: Consider letter re: Proposed Building Code Changes, Neighborhood Business Strategy

#### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Budget Committee: 7:30 a.m., City Hall #370, May 3 and 17, June 7

Transportation Committee: 12:00 noon, Pike Place Market, Economy Building, Goodwin Library, May 20 (3rd Fridays)

Neighborhood Planning Committee: 7:00 p.m., West Precinct Conference Room, May 10

#### RELATED TOPIC MEETING

Forum on "How to obtain density and preserve the environment" - UW Architecture Hall, evening of April 27