

CNC June Meeting Minutes

June 27, 2011

District Council representatives in attendance: Chas Redmond, (Southwest District and CNC Chair); Nancy Bolin, (Northeast District); Laine Ross, (Downtown District and NMF Committee Chair) Dan Wasell, (North District); Chris Leman, (Lake Union District and CNC Budget Committee Chair); Catherine Weatbrook, (Ballard District); Sharon Sobers, (Central District and Youth and Education Committee Chair); Mathew McBride (Delridge District); Ed Marquez, (Greater Duwamish District); Dennis Ross, (Southwest District); Nicole Franklin, (Magnolia/Queen Anne District); Jody Grage, (Ballard District); Rick Klingele, (Northwest District)

Others in Attendance: Pamela Banks, Veronica Sherman King, Patricia Lopez, DON; Ron Posthuma, King County District Council, David Miller, Maple Leaf Community Council; Patrick Baer, CRT Chair; Stephen Dell, Estela Ortega, Ashley Haigen, Jordan Van Voust, all El Centro de la Raza; Scott and Jessica Bishop, Maple Leaf Community Council, Bobby Forch, City Council candidate, Joe West, Ballard Neighborhood Council, Kevin Tran

Agenda and May Meeting Minutes Approval

Agenda and minutes were approved with no changes.

Discussion regarding whether or not CNC should meet in August. It was moved, seconded and approved to not hold an August meeting, although the Executive Committee conference call will still take place. (This was later changed. CNC will NOT hold a conference call in August).

Discussion around timeline for CNC elections for next year's executive committee. Chris Leman explained the process and timeline.

Presentation of 2011 Large Project Fund Recommendations

Sixteen applications were submitted. Recommendation is 12 projects be funded. Process was very good and robust. Patricia Lopez distributed materials to the group. A number of project types are being recommended. Nine of the twelve are physical improvement projects. Scoring was evenly divided 50% to district councils and 50% to CRT. CNC member expressed hope that process can be streamlined next year and that the 50/50 split will be looked at. CRT, NMF staff and the CNC NMF Committee will be holding a debriefing meeting to review the process and look for ways to improve for next year.

CNC voted unanimously to approve the recommended projects. Project recommendations now go to the Mayor, then to City Council on August 1 for its approval.

King County Metro Presentation on Impact of Budget on Transit Service – Ron Posthuma

Recession has severely impacted Metro. 60% of funding comes from sales tax. \$150 - \$200 million reduction annually in revenue. Metro has been able to negotiate with unions to save some money. 100 staff positions have been eliminated; fares have been increased by 80%. Legislature voted to allow a \$20 car license fee. County Executive recommended the implementation of this fee for 2 years, generating a total of \$50 M. This would provide needed funding for the next two years. The King County vehicle registration tax (\$20) would apply in addition to the Seattle one. It would require a vote of the people if passed by a majority of the King County Council rather than a supermajority.

5 of 9 King County Council votes are enough to send it to the ballot (at a cost of ~\$1M). 6 of 9 King County Council votes are enough to implement it without a ballot.

Will be getting some federal funding for Rapid Ride. Will be holding public hearings to explain need for car tab funding to preserve level of service. If the fee does not pass, will be looking at 17% reduction in service. Council must decide by July 25 whether to pass the fee. It can also be placed on the ballot for a vote in November.

Q. How has recession affected ridership?

A. Less ridership if people are not going to jobs, shopping. Gas prices increasing has led to some people riding the bus, but also had to raise fares, which may have lessened increase some.

Q. Will routes be eliminated completely, or just reduced? (referring to map)

A. Some routes on map being shown as eliminated are actually being replaced by Rapid Ride buses.

Q. Is there a rainy day fund?

A. Have already tapped to maintain service levels up to this point. Is being spent down very quickly at this point.

C. Will be looking at most productive runs and routes. Some buses may run less frequently. Some routes may be shortened if they duplicate other transit opportunities, i.e. Light Rail.

Q. Express buses vs. local buses

A. Moving more toward local bus service. Rapid Ride may take some of the work from the express buses. Many express buses are targeted to be eliminated.

Q. Are any other revenue sources being looked at?

A. Car tab funding would be for two years only. Working with Legislature and other transit groups to come up with alternative sources.

Discussion of Proposed CNC Letter to Mayor, City Council re: Budget

CNC has traditionally prepared a budget letter. District Councils have added comments to the letter. Changes were made to the public safety and crime prevention coordinators section. District Coordinators would not be able to take over Blockwatch and all associated work. Ballard planning a gathering of district council executive committees this fall to share ideas. Central District needs a lot of help organizing and would like access to the Blockwatch database. Different Blockwatch models were discussed.

Suggestion to note that homelessness is a regional problem that can't be solved by city of Seattle alone.

Wording was changed to reflect this.

Letter makes suggestions around consolidation of city departments. No decision on this has been announced yet. May not know until late September if Mayor has decided on this course. Decision made to keep this section in the letter.

Wording changes around damage caused by heavy vehicles to roadways.

Letter will be distributed via e-mail for any further comments/edits with urgent in the subject line and deadline of July 1 included. It was so moved, seconded and approved.