

CNC November Meeting Minutes

November 28, 2011

District Council representatives in attendance: Chas Redmond, (CNC Chair); Phil Shack, (North District and CNC Vice-chair); Chris Leman, (Lake Union District and CNC Budget Committee Chair); Laine Ross, (Downtown District and CNC NMF Chair); Ref Lindmark, (Transportation Committee Co-Chair); Jody Grage, (Ballard District); Sharon Sobers, (Central District and Youth, Schools and Education Committee Chair); Irene Wall, (Northwest District and CNC Neighborhood Planning Chair); Dick Burkhardt, (Southeast District and CNC Transportation Committee Co-chair); Tony Provine, (Northeast District); Bruce Carter, (Magnolia/Queen Anne District); Ed Marquez, (Greater Duwamish District); Mathew McBride (Delridge District)

Others in Attendance: Pamela Banks, Garry Owens, DON; Scott Macklin, Seattle Center Next 50, Skip Knox, Kirk Robbins, Ballard District Council, Tony Mazzella, Allison Schwartz, SDOT

Agenda and September Meeting Minutes Approval

September minutes were approved with no changes

Marco Lowe – Intergovernmental Relations

Special session underway in Olympia to deal with budget shortfall. Times are dire. City is also in a tough spot. Primary focus – mitigate effects of budget cuts to city. Two full time lobbyists represent the city's interests in Olympia. Second area of focus is protecting the vulnerable populations. Housing Trust Fund is also endangered. This fund helps support affordable housing. Capital funds are also being looked at. In regular session will also address sexual exploitation of minors, education, economic development, transit infrastructure, public safety, medical marijuana, and possible loss of liquor sales monies. Would help for CNC and District Councils to express concerns to the Legislature over loss of these funds. Concern also over state proposal to have B&O tax paid into one state web portal; worries that dollars coming to cities will be reduced over time and state would not be as interested in doing audits.

CNC member stated he would like to see a progressive tax targeted at transportation. Marco stated Councilmember O'Brien would be a good person to connect with on this issue. Any major changes in the tax system would require legislative action.

CNC member expressed concerns over items in the Legislative Agenda related to open government and environmental issues. Marco stated that the issues in the agenda were not intended to curtail public disclosure legislation, but related to reducing costs and waste associated with such requests. Marco stated that requested changes to SEPA was not intended to lessen the protections offered under it. CNC member reiterated that he felt neighborhood input was not being included in this change.

Tony Mazzella/Allison Schwartz – Transit Master Plan

SDOT met with Mayor and City Council to establish goals for the Master Plan. Ultimate goal was to increase transit use. Other goals included developing a plan that took into account that there are populations within the city who are reliant on transit services, including those without cars, low-income, elderly, youth, disabled, etc. Another goal was to ensure that the plan was well aligned with the city's growth management strategy. Transit can be a spur to increase economic activity. Transit plan had to take constraints into consideration, some of these being financial and physical. Focus was on corridors with greatest ridership and where greatest benefits might accrue. Other modes of transportation must share the same rights-of-way.

Two advisory committees were formed, a citizen committee and a technical advisory committee composed of SDOT, Metro, Sound Transit, Puget Sound Regional Transit and King County Roads staff. A preliminary report or briefing book on the Master Plan was published in February. This document is available online.

Tony distributed the second version of this document to the CNC. Although the city does not operate transit, it operates in the city rights-of-way. Tony cited examples of the city's involvement in transit:

- 1) South Lake Union Street Car
- 2) Planning for areas adjacent to Light Rail stations
- 3) Through Bridging the Gap the city has funded enhancements to bus service in the city, such as the Rapid Ride corridors, as well as the Rainier Avenue Corridor and will begin work on the Ballard and University corridor. These improvements include transit signal bus priorities, bus bulbs, dedicated transit lanes, bus stop consolidation and purchase of additional service hours.

The plan identifies high capacity bus/transit corridors throughout the city. Rapid streetcar and bus rapid transit are recommended on these corridors. City just received federal funding to study potential alignments. This gets the city in the pipeline for possible future federal funding to actually build these corridors out.

CNC member stated that currently many buses pass through Eastlake from the University District, but don't stop. Would like to see this issue addressed. Tony suggested that CNC use data shown in the plan showing strong demand along the Eastlake Corridor to push for increased bus service. CNC member stated that West Seattle doesn't seem to get much service either now, or in the proposed future. CNC member from the Central area also felt they were not being well served. Tony reiterated that comments were still being taken on the plan. CNC member stated that there was no city vision outside of the corridors. How will people get to the corridors? CNC member stated there are many elderly in the Central area, was this taken into consideration? Tony stated that this was. CNC member asked how much the project cost. Tony stated that \$600,000 was paid to a consultant over 18 months and \$100,000 for staff costs/printing, etc. CNC member asked about the Free Ride Area. Current plan is for that to go away. Tony stated that issue was discussed in the plan. Alternatives are suggested for the very low-income who utilize this service. CNC member stated that more frequent bus service was needed on 5th Avenue, as this serves government/police, etc.

Please send any comments/thoughts/questions to Allison/Tony. Will be going before City Council in January. Final plan will be presented in February. City Council will review before adopting.

Scott Macklin – Seattle Center Next 50

A year-long celebration will be held next year. Theme is "A Story Runs Through it". Scott has been working with youth on how to tell digital stories. In February, announcements will be made about the project. Workshops will be held in the spring. Scott asked if CNC members knew of people/organizations who were filmmakers, etc. By October winners will be identified and a film festival held. Would also like input on how to make this project successful and how to make this as engaging as possible. All entries will be posted on an internet site. Pamela suggested Scott contact the district coordinators as well for suggestions. Scott stated that storytellers would be connected with filmmakers and vice versa. Chas will forward additional information that Lois forwarded to him. Hope to add these films to SIFF in the future.

2012 CNC Officers Election

Results:

Chair: Chas Redmond

Vice Chair: Phil Shack

Secretary: Ed Marquez

NMF Committee: Laine Ross

Neighborhood Planning: David Miller and Irene Wall

Budget Committee: Chris Leman

Transportation: Ref Lindmark and Dick Burkhart

Youth, Schools and Education: Sharon Sobers

2012 Workplan

Dates are not current for everything. Document is a draft. Request to strike the word "appeals" in the workplan related to NMF Large Projects Fund. Please send any other changes to Chas. CNC member suggested a letter should be drafted soon regarding items in the Legislative Agenda. CNC members stated they needed to give input into creation of the

agenda, and should not just be assigned work of supporting or selling the agenda. CNC member stated any letter must be vetted by the District Councils.

Neighborhood Projects Fund

Opens December 1, closes February 1.

Youth Conference

Chris Leman presented a proposal for a city-wide "Teen Friendly Neighborhoods" event in March. He stated that schools play a key role in neighborhoods and original neighborhood planning cited schools as key to neighborhoods. Idea is to hold the event at a high school or middle school during a weekday. Would have several sessions concurrently. Topics would include youth employment, homework support, school sponsored extracurricular activities/partnerships with non-profit groups and businesses, youth arts and music opportunities and youth athletics and outdoor activities. CNC member stated holding two conferences, one for younger students and one for teens.

CNC member suggested asking School District to co-sponsor. With passage of levy, this would be a good time to do this. Central District does have school representatives. Would suggest Garfield High, or Washington Middle School. CNC member asked who this would be targeted at: is it parents, students, those without connections to schools? Audience would be parents, students, would also initiate conversation around issues, use of levy funds. Could air on Seattle Channel or NPR. Chris stated he saw it as an extension of the levy. The Levy is limited in how it can be used. CNC member stated that Levy was sold as more than just an education levy; it would address students, families, neighborhoods, etc. CNC member suggested that transportation be one of the topics for the workshop. CNC member stated her feeling was the workshop should be specifically targeted to the teens. Most parents are not going to be available on a Thursday afternoon. Pamela suggested needed to get youth involved in the planning of the event. Suggestion to first focus on a single neighborhood before going city-wide. Another CNC member stated the event would be more productive as a city-wide event so kids from different neighborhoods could meet one another.

Chas stated that the city is looking for citizens to serve on a Levy oversight committee.

2012 Meeting Dates

A proposal was made to lengthen the time of the meetings. It was decided to increase the meeting time by 15 minutes and have a time keeper. The meetings will run from 6:30-8:45pm. Most members want food at the meetings. CNC members were requested to ask their district councils for up to \$50 each from their District council enhancement fund to pay for food at one CNC meeting for next year. CNC members would be responsible to bring food to one meeting per year and submit their receipts to Pamela to receive the reimbursement.

Committee Reports

Neighborhood Matching Fund – Laine Ross

Staffing reductions have led to elimination of some Small and Simple cycles. Chas and Laine met with Bernie Matsuno around possible reductions in cycles for 2012. Current proposal is to reduce Small and Simple cycles from three to two. Small Sparks remains the same. Proposal for Large Projects is to change from a Letter of Intent model to an RFP model, which would lessen demands on staff time, and perhaps allow for three Small and Simple cycles. Changes are also proposed for the LPF timeline, with process beginning second half of the year. Chas and Laine queried the group on their feelings about pushing for a third Small and Simple cycle in 2012. CNC member stated that cycle deadlines should be spread out and not overlap. CNC members stated their support.