

# THE FIRST STATE OF THE NEIGHBORHOODS SUMMIT

January 18, 2006



## **PARTICIPANTS AND ATTENDEES**

### **Speakers in Order of Appearance**

Yvonne Sanchez, Director, Seattle Department of Neighborhoods  
Pete Spalding, Chair, City Neighborhood Council  
Greg Nickels, Mayor City of Seattle, Keynote Speaker  
David Della, City Councilmember - Chair Parks and Neighborhoods Committee, Keynote Speaker

### **City Council Members**

Peter Steinbrueck, City Councilmember  
Richard Conlin, City Councilmember  
Jean Godden, City Councilmember  
Tom Rasmussen, City Councilmember

### **City Staff**

Marco Lowe, Director of Community Outreach,  
Office of the Mayor  
Alan Painter, Human Services Department  
Calvin Chow, Seattle Department of Transportation  
Michael Podowski, Urban Development and Planning  
Margo Polley, Seattle Department of Transportation  
Woody Wheeler, Seattle Parks Foundation  
Christopher Williams, Seattle Department of Parks  
and Recreation

### **City Neighborhood Council Board Members**

Adrian Bailey - Central District Council  
Matt Fox - Alternate for Northeast District  
Council, Chris Leman - Lake Union District  
Council,  
Stephen Lundgren - Alternate for Ballard  
District Council,  
Andrew MacDonald - Ballard District Council,  
Dennis Ross - Southwest District Council,  
Pete Spalding - Delridge District Council.  
Andrew Taylor - East District Council,

### **District Council Presenters**

Convener and Chair, '05 City Neighborhood Council  
Facilitator - Advanced Approach

Northeast District Council  
East District Council  
Central District Council  
Magnolia/Queen Anne District Council  
Ballard District Council  
Delridge District Council  
North District Council  
Northwest District Council  
Lake Union District Council  
Downtown District Council  
Greater Duwamish District Council  
Southwest District Council  
Southeast District Council

John Coney  
Timothy Corey

Matt Fox  
Andrew Taylor  
Adrian Bailey  
Matt Fraser  
Mary Hurley  
Pete Spalding  
Cheryl Klinker  
Jerry Owens  
Kate Wilheit  
David Dillman  
Judith Edwards  
Dennis Ross  
Judith Miller

## SUMMIT ATTENDEES

John Dodd - Admiral Planning Coalition; Pat Murakami - SE District Council, CNC, Mt. Baker CC; Timothy Corey - Facilitator, Advanced Approach; Tim Burgess, Queen Anne Neighbors for Responsible Growth; Matt Fox - NE District Council, U. DC; Brenda Sevilla - HSD; Pete Spalding - DN DC; Jerry Owens, NW DC; Woody Wheeler, Seattle Parks Foundation; Richard Sewell - Queen Anne Neighbors; Christine Palmer - Historic Seattle; Roberta Nelson; F. John Jeannot, Squire Park CC; Charles Redmond; Thomas Whittmore - DON; David Bolin - Interbay Neighborhood Association; Bill Gilland; Eliza Johnson - Broadway BIA; John Pehrson - BHLOS; Kemp Hiatt - Queen Anne Neighbors for Responsible Growth; May Hurley - Ballard DC; Brian Swanson - Wedgwood CC; Dean Olson - Judkins Park / BAN; Annmaire Sewell - Queen Anne; Mariana Quarnstrom - SE DC; Dennis Ross - Admiral CC; Richard Haas - Friends of Gas Works Park; Matt and Carole Fraser - Magnolia-Queen Anne DC; Christopher Williams - Seattle Parks Director of Operations; Margo Polley, SDOT; Jody Grage Haug - Ballard; Alan Beasley - Queen Anne Neighbors; Lawrence Tara - Queen Anne; Andrea Faste - Whittier Heights, Ballard; Cindi Barker - Morgan Community Association; Leslie Miller - SE DC; Yun Pitre - DON; Mike Reinhardt - Meadowbrook; Eli Forman - Queen Anne Neighbors for Responsible Growth; Donna Duggan - Queen Anne Neighbors for Responsible Growth; Pamela Beckett - Queen Anne Neighbors for Responsible Growth; Gloria Butts - Broadview CC; John Burgess - Queen Anne Neighbors; Cheryl Klinker - NDC and GLCCC; Susan Casey - Queen Anne Interbay PP; Kay Willnight - Lake Union District Council; Anthony Cameron - TriCourt Apartments Resident and Council President; Andrew Taylor - Miller Park; Nancy Guppy - Queen Anne Neighbors for Responsible Growth; Steve Wacker - Queen Anne Neighbors for Responsible Growth; John Barber - Parks and Open Space Advocate /Leschi CC; David Dillman - Downtown DC / DSA; Christa Dumpys - DON; Diane Duthweiler - Save Our Zoo; Toby Weymiller - West Seattle and Flexcar; Jose Cervantes - DON; Sharon Kelleher - SPU; Ross Laine - DDC / DSRD; Elaine Hayes - RBCEC; Brian McNulty - SHARE/Wheel, Leo Rhodes - SHARE/Wheel; Philip Lonigan - SHARE Rep; Diane Vincent - As Safe As Possible for Kids; Jodie Vice - Beacon Hill; Daniel Lowery - Queen Anne PPQA; John Coney - CNC; Jodi Coney - Queen Anne; Lise Kenworthy - SWBC; Vanisha Diggall - NW DC; Melanie Mayock; Janice Camp; MLCC; Megan Taylor - Library; Paul Andrews - Save Our Zoo; Celine Andrews - Save Our Zoo; Ed Pottharst - DON; Mitch Arnone; Chris Leman - LU DC; Jesus Amati - Bethel; Joyce Pisanant - IDHA; Suzanne Hartman; Jason Wachs - DON; Pat Doran; Jean Godden - Seattle City Council; Glenn Avery - Queen Anne-Magnolia DC; Kate Mortenson - SLU; John Stoltzfus - Capitol Hill; Margaret Okamoto - Picture Perfect Queen Anne; Larry Cali - Queen Anne; Justina Guyott - Othello Station; Deborah Kuznitz - Sustainable Seattle; Joyce Moty - PPatch-Open Space Adv.; Peggy Orse - Queen Anne Neighbors; Paul Stoms - East DC; Craig Fryhle - Phinney Ridge - Save Our Zoo; John Leonard - DON; Jeff Parker - QA CC; Alan Lee - International District Housing Alliance; Becki Frestedt - Powhat Neighborhood; Michael Dobbie - Olive Bellevue; Jeanne Perrin - Flexcar; Andrew MacDonald - Ballard DC; Tim St. Clair - West Seattle Herald; Nancie Kognoff - Queen Anne Neighbors for Responsible Growth; Steven Cohn - Ballard DC; Elise Child - SCAN; Barbara Maxwell - Maple Leaf CC; Peter Steinbrueck - City Council; Jan Drago - City Council; Michelle Blackmon - Arts and Cultural Affairs; Cathy Palmer - Wallingford CC; Steve Sindiong - Morgan Community Association; Bill Fenimore - Phinney Neighborhood Center; Emma Morno - KWMP; Karen Ko - DON; Steve Kirsch - Northwest Greenlake Neighborhood Coalition; Peggy Hotes - SHARE; Anne Reed; Alan Painter - Seattle Housing; Bernie Matsuko - DON; Judith Edwards - N Beacon Hill Council; Catherine McCoy - Wallingford; Richard Kingsbury - SHARE; Joseph Parietti - Bikeworks; Mike Podowski - DPD; Suzanne Cali - Queen Anne; Willie Austin - Austin Foundation; Robert Hinrix - N Beacon Hill CC; Scott Minney - DON; Melissa Hines - Arts and Cultural Affairs; Kristin O'Donnell - Yesler Terrace CC; Stephen Lundgren.

## INTRODUCTION

On January 18, 2006 more than 100 neighborhood leaders convened in the First State of the Neighborhoods Summit under the auspices of the Seattle City Neighborhood Council, the Parks, Neighborhoods, and Education Committee of the Seattle City Council, and the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods.

Many opportunities exist for Seattle's neighborhood leaders and District Councils to express positions on specific topics under consideration by the City. The event marked the first opportunity for neighborhoods to bring all or any salient topics, regardless of category or neighborhood plan status, to the attention of City officials.

The City Neighborhood Council made up of elected representatives from each of Seattle's thirteen District Councils convened this Summit meeting in order to obtain a snapshot in 2005 of the topics and issues relating to City government that each District Council perceived as most important.

The attendees and District Council representatives were greeted by Yvonne Sanchez, Director of the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods and Pete Spalding, Chair. for '06 of the City Neighborhood Council. Greg Nickels, Mayor of Seattle and David Della, Chair. of the City Council Parks, Neighborhoods and Education Committee addressed the Summit.

A selected representative of each District Council delivered a prepared list of issues and topics. An impartial facilitator noted all issues and topics.

Breakout sessions gathered Summit attendees together with the District Council representatives, members of the City Neighborhood Council, elected officials, and City departmental staff to further consider issues and topics in four categories:

- Transportation,
- Streets/Sidewalks/Bridges,
- Libraries and Library Services,
- Greater Seattle Issues (topics of interest to neighborhoods beyond the Center City.)

The four breakout subjects were determined by a survey conducted by the City Neighborhood Council in November, 2005. A reporter from each of the four breakout groups presented the topics and issues the group felt were important for 2006 - 2007.

After a summary of the evening's work neighborhood leaders joined elected officials for an informal panel discussion about how the City is addressing key topics brought up at the Summit.

## STATEMENT OF ISSUES

During the first half of the neighborhood summit each of the district council representatives presented their individual community's top issues relating to city government. The issues were recorded on large sheets of paper in the front of the room for everyone to see which provided a visual that provided the opportunity to notice emerging themes that crossed over between two or more neighborhood communities.

### **NORTHEAST District Council Matt Fox**

- Changes in land use
- On call cars available
- More funding for library
- Alternatives to Hwy 520 improvements
- Focus on police, fire & emergency services
- Improve streets, bridges & parks
- Support single-family zoning
- Improve Metro access
- Sidewalk & street maintenance
- Congregant living
- Deal with increase of traffic due to Magnuson
- Park improvements

### **NORTH District Council Cheryl Klinker**

- Great street design
- Day lighting Thornton Creek
- Implemented transportation plan
- Developing civic core
- Land acquisitions
- Homelessness & safety
- Land use issues
- Increase of car prowls
- Community beat police
- Growing immigrant population
- Need food bank support

### **NORTHWEST District Council Jerry Owens**

- Want public safety improvements
- Preserve single family neighborhoods
- Preserve open space
- Monitor/implement neighborhood plan
- Keep allocating matching funds
- Revisit Zoo garage plan

### **BALLARD District Council Mary Hurley**

- Strong neighborhood spirit
- Strong collaboration with transit
- Want improvements to infrastructure
- Mobility- being able to connect with other parts of the community
- Public safety and staffing to support
- Wanting more confidence in SPD
- Managing growth
- Involving new neighbors in our work

### **LAKE UNION District Council Kay Wilheit**

- We're an urban & marine community
- Safety of bridges
- Quality of the environment
- Quality of the water
- Increase in boat & car prowls want more harbor patrol
- Increase neighborhood quality by removing litter, making family friendly
- Better use of open spaces

### **CENTRAL District Council Adrian Bailey**

- Re evaluate neighborhood plan
- Maintain mother-in-law units
- Do cumulative impact study of traffic vs. single development study
- Focus on community safety to promote business patronage
- More traffic circles to improve safety
- More community participation by youth

### **EAST District Council Andrew Taylor**

- Vast diversity of issues
- Re-examine district boundaries
- Fair delivery of tax supported services
- Increase in public safety spending
- Support impact fees for development
- Support urban villages & affordable housing
- Address commercial impacts on single family neighborhoods

## STATEMENT OF ISSUES CONTINUED

### **MAGNOLIA/QUEEN ANNE District Council Matt Fraser**

- Urban village density needed
- Living wage jobs near Urban Villages, Center
- Increase Neigh. Matching Fund & staffing
- More SPD bike patrols
- Restore street tree programs, parks maint.
- Fund street paving
- Develop emergency neighborhood plan
- Fully fund land swap for Capehart Housing
- Maximize benefits from Ft. Lawton closure
- Reduce KC Airport jet noise
- Fund Magnolia Br. Replacement, Alternative A
- Add another access route to Magnolia
- Improve transit connections
- Study rezoning in Interbay at Dravus
- Ensure NW access to Viaduct replacement
- Construct waterfront access at W. Thomas
- Fund further DPR viewpoint park restoration
- Lower Aurora, restore street grid
- Implement Historic Conservation Districts in Uptown/QA Hill
- Annex Denny/Broad/Aurora Triangle to QA Plan
- Neighborhood Homeless Shelters: fund and mitigate
- Implement Alcohol Impact Area
- Relocate skateboard park at Seattle Center
- Add short-term parking in retail areas
- Improve Interbay bike routes
- QA Boulevard system; improve sidewalks, restore trees

### **DOWNTOWN District Council Dave Dillman**

- Number one issue is public safety = livability
- We have 13 different neighborhood organizations
- Improve transportation
- Outreach & support participation
- Implement neighborhood plan (zoning aspects)
- Increase density
- Public outreach to support community problems i.e. end homelessness
- Encourage business participation in issues

### **SOUTHEAST District Council Leslie Miller**

- Education
- Jobs
- Arts & culture
- Economic development
- Reinstate gang unit
- More police officers
- Access to affordable housing
- Like detached dwelling it supports families
- Continue community development fund
- Want nuisance business ordinance
- Outreach to increase diversity of participation

### **DELRIDGE District Council John Coney speaking for Pete Spaulding**

- More emphasis on human services
- More support of the homeless
- Addressing issues of domestic violence
- Support for treatment centers

### **GREATER DUWAMISH District Council Judith Edwards**

- Fighting Boeing field & Intermodal station
- Traffic issues – Sound Transit
- Don't want strip clubs in Sodo area
- Detached housing should apply
- Support industrial development
- Reaching out to people on the margins i.e. ethnic outreach
- Sound Transit is a positive
- Duwamish clean up
- More police presence

### **SOUTHWEST District Council Dennis Ross**

- Emergency preparedness
- Transportation
- Support to fulfill district plan i.e. Spokane widening
- Improve parking
- More open space
- Increases in density needs to be addressed
- Improve library services
- Pedestrian improvements
- Fairer Metro split 80/20 doesn't work

## **RANKING OF NEIGHBORHOOD ISSUES AND TOPICS BY NUMBER OF MENTIONS**

|                                  |    |                                      |   |
|----------------------------------|----|--------------------------------------|---|
| • Land Use/Density               | 18 | • Neighborhood Plans Updating        | 3 |
| • Police Protection              | 14 | • Neighborhood Matching Fund         | 3 |
| • Human Services in Neighborhood | 12 | • Noise (night clubs & KC Airport    | 3 |
| • Transportation-Major CiPs      | 9  | • Parking                            | 3 |
| • Street Improvements            | 9  | • City Support for Community Council | 3 |
| • Parks                          | 8  | • Libraries                          | 2 |
| • Transit                        | 8  | • Traffic Congestion                 | 2 |
| • Industry/Economic Development  | 5  | • Annexation to Neighborhood Plan    | 2 |
| • Affordable Housing             | 4  | • Clean-up Streets                   | 1 |
| • Emergency Planning             | 3  | • Fair Distribution of City Services | 1 |
| • Environmental Improvements     | 3  | • Arts Funding                       | 1 |

## **BREAK-OUT SESSION REPORTING**

All summit participants were given the chance to participate in break out sessions the second half of the evening. Each break out group was related to one of the top eight issues as identified through the November 2005 survey and public input during the first part of the summit. The sessions provided an opportunity to create deep conversations and develop constructive actions between City Council Members, District Council Members and a cross section of individuals residing in the local communities.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

- Not enough resources
- More effective allocation of resources
- More community policing
- Hire crime prevention coord.
- Reduce police captain turnover
- More patrol officers
- Restore Share wheel funding
- Restore gang unit

### **NEIGHBORHOOD PLANS**

- Plans provide plan as starting point
- Plans have no teeth (zoning trumps plan)
- Plan out of date not routinely updated
- Citizen groups unpaid & overwhelmed
- Unrealistic expectations of planning
- City is more "globally focused" in decision making
- Want new process for updating plan they need to be "living documents"
- City support structures has faded away need support to implement

### **HUMAN SERVICES**

- More youth & family services
- Continue funding for shelters
- Use Dignity Village in Portland as example
- Hold non-profits accountable
- More preventative & rehabilitative care
- Job support & training for homeless
- Ensure enough transitional housing
- More after school programs
- Delivering services in a condensed area is more cost effective

### **PARKS & OPEN SPACE**

- Want more funding for park maint. space & involvement
- Pro parks levy yes!
- Support safety
- Parking/curb cuts
- Use shorelines and dead end streets as open space
- Identify uses of open space

## **BREAKOUT SESSION REPORTING CONTINUED**

### **TRANSPORTATION**

- Get people out of cars have them use Metro
- Viaduct improvement & better street maintenance
- We have wonderful bike trails
- Increase freight mobility
- More curb cuts and traffic calming strategies
- Don't reduce arterial capacity
- East/west transit lacking
- Viaduct in tunnel
- Too many bus connections
- Improve Spokane St. viaduct
- More legislative alliances
- Change 80/20 split, City buys hours
- More bus express stops

### **STREET, SIDEWALK, BRIDGE...**

- Lander @ Beacon & 17<sup>th</sup> is a good place to envision a town center with plaza
- Bridges need substantial \$\$ commitment (Dept. of Transportation & Port must come to agreement)
- Repair & improve sidewalks
- Repair & improve stairwells

### **LIBRARIES & LIBRARY SERVICES**

- We have wonderful library staff
- Great citizen oversight
- Want more library hours, especially nights in support of youth & morning hours for young children & families
- Re-evaluate services for ESL constituents
- Increase book budgets
- Look to bookmobiles & deposit/collection in non library facilities i.e. YMCA
- Lengthen hours of Seattle room which houses local treasures

### **GREATER SEATTLE**

- Restore neighborhood matching funds
- to previous levels with staffing
- Use neighborhood funds to purchase land
- Pro parks levy
- More P-Patches increase environmental stewardship
- Improve greenery
- Shelters stay open longer & offer better services
- Fund & coordinate Tent Cities

## **SUMMATION**

Participants were asked to consider three questions during the break out session:

- 1.) What's working?
- 2.) What's not working?
- 3.) What ideas should the City support in 2006-2007?

Recommendations were listed for each issue. Representatives from each group formed a panel and presented their recommendations to the assembly.

Recommended items included short-term recommendations like supporting the upcoming proparks levy and long term recommendations that included funding and coordination of Tent Cities. Summit participants also identified specific projects i.e. increase bookmobile frequency & develop deposit/collection in non-library facilities such as the YMCA. There were also some general recommendations i.e. more effective allocation of resources.

## **CLOSING CREDITS**

**Thanks to:**

**Elma Borbe of Council Member Della's office**

**Bernie Matsuno, Department of Neighborhoods**

**Wendy Watson, Department of Neighborhoods**

**Peter McGrath, Department of Neighborhoods**

**John Coney, Chair 2005 City Neighborhood Council**

**Pete Spalding, Chair 2006 City Neighborhood Council**

**Timothy Corey, Advanced Approach – Facilitator/Graphic Recorder**

**Michele Corey, Advanced Approach – Photographer and Registration**

**Jodi Coney - Registration**