



**Cheshiahud Lake Union Loop
Master Plan Open House – June 17, 2008
Public Comment Summary**

On June 17, 2008, the first public open house was held to share project information regarding the proposed Cheshiahud Lake Union Loop Master Plan. The open house invited community members to meet City staff members, and the City's consultant team; provide input on the about issues and opportunities around Lake Union and for the loop; and offer observations about the loop. A short presentation, held twice during the open house, further provided the meeting attendees an overview of the project and the master plan process, and an opportunity to ask questions of the project team.



The open house was structured to gather the full range of initial public input regarding the Cheshiahud Lake Union Loop. The meeting informed attendees about the project status, timeline, loop route challenges and opportunities, and opportunities for public participation and comment. Comments collected at the open house are summarized below. The open and facilitated meeting format enabled Seattle Parks and Recreation (Parks), the Seattle Department of Transportation, the Office of the Mayor and the Seattle Parks Foundation to hear first-hand from the community and to fully understand their interests in the project, while allowing neighbors, business owners and other concerned stakeholders to collectively hear each other's concerns. Presentation boards provided background and historical information, route alternatives and neighborhood information.

Numerous public comments were collected regarding the Cheshiahud Lake Union Loop project. One common value shared by the community is to preserve the neighborhood character of the houseboat communities. Another common value that was often repeated was respecting private property and not removing parking areas currently used by businesses and residents around the loop. Parking was specifically an issue for houseboat owners and businesses along the corridor through the Eastlake neighborhood and more specifically on Fairview Avenue East. Overall safety was a primary concern for drivers, pedestrians and bicycles. The following themes represent large concepts that the community is asking the City to take into consideration as the project continues.

Comment Overview, as collected at the Open House:

Note: All comments received at the public meeting are available upon request

- Respect, keep and enhance the unique and different character of the neighborhoods adjacent to Lake Union.
 - Maintain privacy for houseboat owners. There the potential that trail users will unknowingly walk on private-access docks in houseboat communities.
 - Further the Fairview Avenue Green Street Plan, which was developed by Eastlake Community Council as part of the Eastlake Neighborhood Plan.
- Identify areas along the current proposed loop route that may be unsafe to trail users and / or residents and businesses.
 - Fairview Avenue East to Roanoke and Lynn Streets is very congested: many pedestrians and bicycles are cars travelling too fast. Provide additional signage to remind bicyclists and drivers that it is a pedestrian-heavy area.
 - Residential areas at Edgar Street and Yale Ave East.
 - Difficult visibility on streets around Eastlake houseboat communities.
 - Car access for AGC Building on Westlake Avenue and Highland Drive.
 - Area outside of Diamond Marina on Westlake Avenue North is very busy; careful to maintain signage to remind drivers of pedestrian / bicycle presence.
 - Be clear about intentions for loop use for pedestrians and bicyclists, as well as signage for drivers to be aware of loop users.
- Loop alternatives should encourage and provide adequate access for pedestrians and bicyclists.
 - Current loop plan does not correctly link Fairview Avenue from Hamlin and Edgar Streets to Roanoke. Reconnect Fairview to provide adequate access for trail users, so that they do not have to climb up Yale Terrace to continue on loop.
- Create viable opportunities for residents to enjoy loop benefits.
 - One comment said that is was a “visionary project” that will enable residents to more fully enjoy neighborhoods surrounding Lake Union and will provide great opportunities for physical activity, environmental stewardship and learning about local history.
 - Renovate Peace Park for clearer trails, crosswalks, signage and paths.
 - Maintain shore and boat access.
 - Public-access street-ends should be developed into mini-parks.
 - Continue to work with neighborhoods for planning and approval.
- Maintain adequate parking for residents and business owners.
 - Do not take away any current parking spots for residents and business owners. Specifically, comments focused on Fairview Avenue East houseboat owners, Lake Union Dry Dock company and high-volume visitor areas.
 - Consider Residential Parking Zone requirement.

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