

Neighborhood Plan Update Phase II Workshop with Members of the Amharic-Speaking (Ethiopian) Community

June 26, 2009

Part I: Places and Connections

Exercise to discuss gaps and opportunities for improving pedestrian, bike and transit connectivity. (Where do you live/work/shop and mode of travel)

- We prefer to drive our cars instead of riding buses--even if we are shopping around on Rainier Avenue because the buses are too slow and because of traffic.
- We are scared to walk at nighttime because there are not enough street lights.
- On North Rainier the pedestrians and bike roads are too narrow.
- We have experienced that on M.L.K so many drivers and pedestrians attempt to cross near the train and jump into the way without watching the upcoming cars.
- We are waiting to use the train.

Part II: Building a Great Town Center

Exercise to explore relationships between number of households, retail destinations, parks and walkability. (Creating a town center, housing density, building heights, etc)

- 6 stories around the train stations on MLK and Rainier.
- 6 stories on IbeX restaurant which is on MLK ½ mile from the link light rail station.
- 12 stories on Lowes property
- 12 stories on QFC property
- 8 stories on the back of the train station at MLK and Rainier which used to be the outlet store.
- 4 stories on the places which Vietnamese restaurant is located at in front of the gas station on MLK and McLellan next to Franklin High school.

Part III: Emerging Priorities and Opportunities

Capturing new ideas or major concepts (new themes and remaining issues)