

Seattle Neighborhood Workshops

SUMMARY THEMES

*** Please also see map of potential zoning changes discussed at the workshop and table notes*

Eastlake

Assets – The small groups said they valued:

- The marine environment, houseboat community, views
- The central location, closeness to hospitals, UW, access to I-5, amenities, alley network
- Walking/running along the shoreline, Fairview “Green Street,” parks, parklets, trees
- The school, cohesiveness, the “cute” and “funky” nature of the neighborhood, the mix in ages and family sizes, diversity of people who use the neighborhood.

Proposed zoning changes – Some of the residents saw aspects of the proposed changes that made sense to them. There were also many concerns and questions.

- Favorable:
 - Most groups favored expanding affordable housing but wanted that housing to be built in the neighborhood
 - Increasing height along Eastlake made sense to some, as long as not blocking light
 - Density could be increased toward I-5, and at the south end of the Urban Village
 - There were suggestions to make use of I-5: lid I-5 at Roanoke with housing and open space; and build a parking garage under I-5
- Concerns:
 - Increasing height will create a canyon effect, block light, and create a wind tunnel
 - Changes need to take the topography into account
 - Don’t wall off the water; create view corridors
 - Buildings need to be set back on the sides and front, not be boxy, fit with neighborhood character
 - The changes will lead to displacement of both renters and owners, resulting from tax increases and tearing down current buildings
 - Preserve the existing affordable housing
 - Affordable housing created by MHA program should stay (be built) in the neighborhood
 - Fees charged developers not enough to build affordable units but will force developers to take the extra story
 - Coordinate with SDOT’s plans for transit and bike use of Eastlake
 - Street parking and traffic flow are problems now; new developments should include parking or not get RPZ
 - Better transit is needed
 - Maintain walkability
 - Need for vegetation, open space, tree canopy, medians
 - Pocket parks, marinas, Fairview “Green Street” need to be preserved
 - Lack of infrastructure to handle growth, no grocery store or pharmacy, not enough schools