



HOUSING AFFORDABILITY  
AND LIVABILITY AGENDA

**HALA Community Focus Groups**  
**Hub Urban Village | Meeting #7**  
Tuesday, November 22, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
Online Meeting

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*Due to audio technical difficulties experienced this evening, there is no recording available for this webinar. The following captures key questions, comments, and clarifications from the webinar participants.*

**Discussion Summary**

Housing Affordability and Livability Agenda (HALA) Focus Group members provided the following key questions, comments, and clarifications during their webinar review of the [preliminary summary of Focus Group feedback](#), compiled by the Office of Planning and Community Development (OPCD) following the Hub Urban Village Focus Group's October meeting:

- Under “varied opinions” on the **First Hill–Capitol Hill map**, the preliminary summary of Focus Group feedback indicates the need for additional open space. This comment should instead be categorized as “generally supported,” as there was no Focus Group resistance to that issue at the October meeting.
- In the **First Hill–Capitol Hill map**, will the City work to balance historical preservation with zoning changes along Harvard Avenue E and Belmont Avenue E? Will the City promote the preservation of facades, at least?
- In all Hub urban villages containing a current or future Link station, all surrounding zoning should be highrise.
- In general, Hub urban village zoning should support greater density in these areas.
- In Hub urban villages, parking is not always necessary. It is important for residents to use other modes of transportation to get from place to place, and the answer is not always additional space for personal vehicles.
- Is an Urban Design Workshop scheduled for the First Hill–Capitol Hill area? How does an Urban Design Workshop differ from the five community meetings?
- The City should create "posting ready" notices for social media that get the word out in advance of upcoming public meetings and Urban Design Workshops.

Observers participating in the webinar made the following comments:

- Are all comments on MHA zoning maps due by January 2017, with City Council action occurring in summer 2017? It seems like a very tight timeline for public input.
- West Seattle Junction has had several huge apartment buildings recently constructed or are still under construction, and these will add new traffic to the urban village. Are zoning changes realistic without first seeing how current developments affect West Seattle?
- Which Seattle neighborhoods received postcards about upcoming meetings rolling out draft MHA zoning maps? It is important to educate, involve, and solicit input from as many residents as possible.

## **Online Meeting Attendees**

### **Focus Group members:**

- Katharine Kurfurst
- Dean McBee
- Scott McGee
- Beatrice Peaslee
- Jennifer Price
- Sue Shaw
- Hannah Tang

### **Observers:**

- Jeannine Elms
- Diane Haddock
- Jim Schwartz

### **City Staff:**

- Nick Welch, OPCD
- Geoff Wentlandt, OPCD

### **Facilitation Team:**

- Sophie Cottle, EnviroIssues
- Susan Hayman, EnviroIssues

**HALA Focus Group**  
**Hub Urban Village Webinar – Submitted Questions**

November 22, 2016

**Written Questions/Comments Received from Focus Group members:**

- Comment #3 under varied opinions on First Hill map indicates concerns about parks, etc... why isn't that under generally supported? I don't remember any resistance to that issue.
- Are you going to balance historical preservation with upzones along Harvard-Belmont? Will you be promoting the preservation of facades, at least?
- Why not high rise at the light rail station?
- I support the idea of greater density.
- West Seattle Junction has had several huge apt buildings recently constructed, and some are still under construction. Once occupied, traffic out of West Seattle thru the Junction is concerning, without any of the suggested zoning changes. Are new zoning changes realistic without seeing how current changes affect West Seattle first?
- Is there an Urban Design Workshop coming up for Capitol/First Hill?
- How does an Urban Design workshop differ from the 5 community meetings?
- Have you created some "posting ready" notices for social media...announcing the various public meetings?
- When does the opportunity for public input end? It appears that it is January, with HALA going internal to City officials to work on until presentation to City Council in Summer '17. It feels like very tight timing.
- Parking is not a god given right.
- No more money for parking... take a bus; share a car.

**Written Questions/Comments Received from Observers:**

- For instance in Ballard... who received the postcard noting the date and time of the upcoming meeting rolling out the draft map to the community. I am admittedly quite new to learning about HALA/MHA developments in 2016, and am worried I am not alone, that most Seattle residents don't have much idea what is going on, much less have the opportunity to provide important input re the future of zoning, density, housing being ambitiously planned now for Seattle and their respective neighborhood.