

**CITY OF SHORELINE
COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS MINUTES**

May 3, 2006
7:00 p.m.

Shoreline Center
Spartan Room

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Ballinger – **Londa Jacques, Larry Moss**
Briarcrest – **Stan Terry, Bettelinn Brown**
Echo Lake– **Marci Riedinger, Dale Wright, Diane Hettrick**
Highland Terrace – **Allan Bennett**
The Highlands – **Bonnie Mackey**
Hillwood
Innis Arden – **Judy Allen**
North City – **Charlotte Haines, Sally Granger**
Parkwood
Richmond Beach – **David Bannister**
Richmond Highlands
Ridgecrest – **Patty Hale**
Westminster Triangle – **Kathy Marden**

VISITORS PRESENT: Shoreline Mayor Bob Ransom; City Councilmember Keith McGlashan; Gabriel Ferguson, King County Representative Bob Ferguson's Office; Shoreline residents Dan Henry and Glinda Matthews.

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Joyce Nichols, Communications and Intergovernmental Relations Director; Nora Smith, Neighborhoods and Public Outreach Coordinator; Kirk McKinley, Aurora Corridor and Interurban Trail Project Manager; Carol Shenk, Records and Information Manager

I. Call to Order

Chair Mackey called the meeting to order. The meeting agenda and the minutes of the April 5, 2006, meeting were approved unanimously.

A. Old Business

- **Bonnie Mackey, Chair: Election of Officers for Council of Neighborhoods Executive Board, 2006-2007**

Chair Bonnie Mackey announced that the Nominating Committee had identified a slate of nominees for the Council of Neighborhoods Executive Board. The Committee had sought to create a Board with balanced representation in terms of geography, personalities, and interests. The nominees were Patty Hale, Chair; Judy Allen, Vice Chair; and Marci Riedinger, Secretary. Chair Mackey asked for nominations from the floor. Seeing none, she asked for a motion to elect the slate of nominees. Charlotte Haines, North City, so moved, and, seeing no objections, Chair Mackey welcomed the new Executive Board, which will be seated at the June, 2006, meeting.

B. New Business

- **Kirk McKinley, Project Manager Aurora Corridor and Interurban Trail**

Chair Mackey introduced Project Manager Kirk McKinley who provided a construction update on both projects. Mr. McKinley described his own background, having been with the City for nine years, first as a transportation planner, then as long range planner, and now in the Public Works Department as project manager.

Before beginning the construction update, Mr. McKinley encouraged people to shop along Aurora Ave. N to help businesses who have been affected by the construction. He noted that restaurants are especially hard-hit.

He then described the plan for the Aurora Corridor Project N 145th St.-165th St., which includes sidewalks, Business Access/Transit (BAT) lanes, landscaped medians, and left and U-turn pockets placed on average every 350 feet. He noted that landscaped medians were required by the state, and that project planners had included every left/U-turn pocket possible in order to facilitate access to businesses along Aurora. A major piece of the construction has been the undergrounding of overhead utilities in a four-foot amenity/utility zone. Regarding right-of-way acquisition for the project, he explained that on this first mile of the project the City has had to obtain only narrow strips and corners of property. In addition, following the recommendation of the project's original Citizens Advisory Task Force, sidewalks have been made narrower where needed to preserve businesses set closer to the right-of-way. Additional features include two new traffic signals at 152nd and 165th Streets, decorative concrete to designate crosswalks and bus pads, and light fixtures similar to those used in the North City Project.

Mr. McKinley acknowledged the arrival of Mayor Bob Ransom to the meeting. He then continued, describing the complexity of the construction work. He praised the City's two main contractors for the project, Gary Merlino Construction, and Harris and Associates, which serves as construction manager and inspector. Mr. McKinley then described the vaults that will hold the undergrounded utilities as well as storm water treatment sites. He noted that the project will result in an overall decrease in impervious surface, and so no water retention/detention was required. However, to further improve the quality of storm water runoff, storm drains in key locations will include oil/water separators.

Contractors are pouring curb and gutters and constructing red concrete crosswalks along side streets. Mr. McKinley pointed out that the project design has driveway aprons that dip into the amenity zone, leaving the sidewalks level. Patty Hale, Ridgecrest, commented that she appreciated this design feature, because sidewalks that undulate at driveways can be an impediment to pedestrians.

Dale Wright, Echo Lake, pointed out that underground wiring, improved drainage, and stormwater filtration were not included in the Edmonds and Lynnwood Highway 99 redevelopment projects, which are often compared to Shoreline's project. Mr. McKinley agreed and added that the undergrounding would be paid for by City Light through ratepayer increases, though it is not yet determined how the increases will be distributed among ratepayers. He noted that the project is only 12% funded by the City, and the rest is paid for through grants. Mr. McKinley said this was a reflection of City staff's work obtaining the funds and the State's eagerness to improve Highway 99.

Mr. McKinley then reported on the status of the Interurban Trail Bridge. He invited all those interested to come to Aurora Ave. N at 160th and 155th Streets the evening of Friday, May 19. From 7pm to 6am the highway will be closed and the City will set up viewing areas for people to safely watch the placement of girders for the Interurban Trail Pedestrian Overcrossing. Responding to Ms. Hale, he clarified that the actual placement is expected to take begin around 9 or 10pm. Mr. McKinley described the traffic plan for the night as well as the outreach program informing affected businesses and neighbors of the closure.

Mr. McKinley then showed slides of the art on the walls of the pedestrian bridge ramps and the final design and construction of the two bridges that will connect the Interurban Trail. Finally, he discussed the last remaining section of the trail, the North Central segment, which runs from N 175th St. to Midvale and behind Sky Nursery, connecting to 192nd St. The Project is managed by Dave Buchan, City of Shoreline Project Engineer. He noted the ongoing removal of the rented buildings on the City Light right-of-way for this section.

Larry Moss, Ballinger, asked about the design of the bus stop at 185th and Aurora Ave. N. He said that the stop feels unsafe because there is no bus pad nor is there a shelter. Mr. McKinley explained that the current location is temporary, and that the bus stop would be moved to the north side of 185th St. when connecting the Aurora Corridor sidewalk to the Gateway Plaza section of the Interurban Trail. Again responding to Mr. Moss, Mr. McKinley stated that the City also may purchase a section of the empty lot on the west side of Aurora at N 185th St. in order to add a right-turn lane from N. 185th St.

Ms. Haines asked when a traffic signal would be added at the intersection of Midvale Ave. N and the Interurban Trail. Mr. McKinley answered that this would be part of the construction of the North Central segment, when Sky Nursery would be building its section of the trail as part of its redevelopment permit.

Mr. Wright asked whether the next 2 mile section of the Aurora Corridor Project would be treated as one or two projects. Mr. McKinley responded that the City is designing for the whole length, but that it may break up the construction into smaller sections in order to reduce the impact on businesses.

Ms. Haines then inquired about King County's possible acquisition of property at the corner of 200th St. to improve bus access to the transit center. Mr. McKinley said that the Aurora Corridor project will improve access issues at that site, and that King County Metro may contribute funding as it has for the first phase of the project. Ms. Haines expressed hope that the design for the south section of the corridor could be continued through the north section.

Ms. Hale recommended that signage for the Interurban Trail at N. 200th St. exiting near Aurora Village should be improved to clarify the connection. Mr. McKinley thanked her for the suggestion, and noted that there is also a need for signage along the trail identifying cross streets. The Council has approved funding for trail upgrades that would include such signage and access to adjacent businesses.

Responding to Stan Terry, Briarcrest, Mr. McKinley confirmed that the project is currently on time and at budget. Diane Hettrick, Echo Lake, asked if the City planned to enhance the trail on 200th. Mr. McKinley responded that at present that portion of the trail will remain a bicycle lane with improved sidewalks.

Judy Allen stated that the visible improvements along Aurora have already made the temporary inconvenience of construction seem worthwhile. She expressed appreciation for the contribution of Steve Burkett, former City Manager, and the Shoreline employee team to the entire project. Mr. McKinley thanked Ms. Allen and reiterated that the project is the result of teamwork.

- **Summer Planning**

Chair Mackey explained that each summer the Council of Neighborhoods participates in two major events: a book sale at Swinging Summer's Eve and hosting a carnival game booth for

children at Celebrate Shoreline. She asked for volunteers for the book sale scheduled for July 26, 5:30-8:30pm at Cromwell Park. Last year seven neighborhoods participated and raised \$440. Ms. Hale volunteered to lead this effort again in 2006, and said she would contact other Council of Neighborhood representatives to volunteer. She encouraged neighborhood groups to begin saving books for the sale and added that neighborhood groups wishing to share in the proceeds must have volunteers working at the booth.

Ms. Mackey next asked for volunteers to plan for and work the game booth at Celebrate Shoreline, scheduled for Saturday, August 19, from 12:00-5:00pm. In the past, the Council of Neighborhoods booths have offered activities for younger children. Alan Bennett, Highland Terrace, volunteered. Nora Smith, Neighborhoods and Public Outreach Coordinator, reminded representatives that last year David Bannister, Bob Barta, and Dwight Stevens conducted outreach at the booths, informing residents about neighborhood associations. There was general consensus in support of this idea for 2006. Ms. Hale recommended asking the Shoreline Explorers' to provide activities that would attract older children and teens. Ms. Smith said she would discuss activities with recreation coordinators for the City's Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Division. Ms. Hale also suggested showcasing the new Ridgecrest playground equipment that they hope to fund in part with a Neighborhood Mini-grant.

Chair Mackey went on to ask about the status of the fall candidates forum. Ms. Hale, Mr. Terry, and Dave Bannister, Richmond Beach, who had volunteered to organize the event, responded that planning was just getting started.

Chair Mackey sought to confirm the summer break, and there was consensus that the Council of Neighborhoods would not meet in July and August.

II. Public Comment

Gabriel Ferguson introduced himself as a representative of King County Councilmember Bob Ferguson's Office.

BREAK

Chair Mackey invited Mayor Ransom to relate his discussion with the artist on the design of the Interurban Trail Pedestrian Overcrossing art. Mayor Ransom showed how by breaking up contiguous lines in the pattern, the overall design keeps viewers' attention and creates a shimmering effect like looking down into water.

III. Neighborhood Roundtable

Londa Jacques, Ballinger, apologized that she had been absent the past few months due to an extended illness. Activities are still in planning stage.

David Bannister, Richmond Beach, reported that the neighborhood is gearing up for the Strawberry Festival, to be held Saturday, May 6. On May 20, Richmond Beach is holding its neighborhood-wide garage sale. June 26-28, Pizza Mia will be donating all proceeds from lunch sales (12:00pm-2:00pm) to neighborhood projects.

Marci Riedinger, Echo Lake, reported that the April meeting focused on the Echo Lake development, with representatives from the City's Planning and Development Services Division and the Planning Commission. Planning Commission members also discussed their role in relation to City Council decision making. May's presenters include Interurban Trail Project Managers Dave Buchan and Kris Overleese, along with North City residents Gretchen Atkinson

and Charlotte Haines, who would provide their perspective as residents who had experienced the impact of the North City/15th Ave. NE Corridor Project. On May 17, Sky Nursery's architects will be holding a pre-application public meeting on the nursery's redevelopment plans.

Stan Terry, Briarcrest, reported that at its last meeting Shoreline Police Officer Deneese Elfensen talked about crime prevention in response to recent vandalism and car theft in the neighborhood. In May the group is holding its general membership meeting and elections. They had the first meeting of the Neighborhood Traffic Planning advisory committee and would establish traffic safety priorities at the next meeting. Bettelinn Brown applauded Mr. Terry's work. She discussed crime affecting a Nepalese restaurant on Bothell Way and 145th St., and she described what she saw as inappropriately dense development at 31st and 32nd Ave. NE in the same area.

Shoreline City Councilmember Keith McGlashan arrived at the meeting.

Patty Hale, Ridgecrest, said that at the May 9 joint Ridgecrest/North City meeting there would be election of Ridgecrest officers, a presentation by Dick Deal, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Director, and a presentation by Forward Shoreline. She expressed regret that this meeting conflicted with the meeting of Progress Shoreline.

Charlotte Haines, North City, presented bouquets of flowers to Joyce Nichols, Communications and Intergovernmental Relations Director, and to Ms. Smith, thanking them for the Volunteer Breakfast. Ms. Nichols thanked Ms. Smith, who also recognized the staff committee that assisted her. Ms. Haines reported that on June 17 the North City Business Association would be hosting its Corvette Car Show at the Shoreline Water District building. The event will include sidewalk art and neighborhood information. Finally, she announced that a new floral shop was moving into North City.

Allan Bennett, Highland Terrace, reported that 60 volunteers helped with their Urban Forest clean-up event. He joked that the level of participation was the result of the Highland Terrace Web site and then identified publicity at the elementary school, nearby high school and the community college. Resident Tia Barrett has arranged for Ballard Tree Service to provide tree chipping services for the clean-up. Mr. Bennett expressed concern over plans to redevelop the Highlands maintenance facility, which he said will result in the loss of 60,000 square-feet of trees for the utility yard.

Judy Allen, Innis Arden, reported that the group has been planting hundreds of trees in the reserve and clearing debris. She is working with Shoreline Police Officer Leona Obstler on updating their Block Watch lists and educational materials.

Kathy Marden, Westminster Triangle, stated that they are still seeking an editor and are considering holding a fundraiser for the newsletter. They held the Interurban Trail cleanup on Earth Day. She reported that the City of Shoreline Traffic Services will be placing traffic circles on their streets. Ms. Marden then thanked the Shoreline Police for responding to a call regarding a solicitor who did not have proper identification.

Ms. Nichols commented that the problem of car theft and vandalism is a regional one in the Puget Sound. Most often, youth are simply using the cars briefly for transportation. Ms. Nichols advised that 40% of cars stolen in Shoreline were unlocked, and so this crime is largely preventable. Chair Mackey asked if this information could be broadcast on the City's

Government Access Channel. Ms. Nichols confirmed that it is part of the City's education campaign.

IV. Neighborhoods Program Report

Ms. Smith first thanked all who attended the Volunteer Breakfast. She reported on Earth Day activities, including Natural Yard Care Day, which had over 1,000 attendees. Ivy Out events had over 100 volunteers, in addition to neighborhood weeding parties. Ms. Smith stated that these events provided a great example of coordination between City-sponsored and neighborhood events.

She reminded neighborhood representatives of the 1st Northeast Transfer Station closure and provided flyers with information about disposal options, including the Household Hazardous Waste Mobile, which would be at Aurora Square near Sears May 19-21, and the City's Clean Sweep recycling event on Saturday, May 13. All residents were sent a flyer about Clean Sweep, and that flyer serves as an entry ticket. Ms. Smith then pointed out an informational leaflet published by the City on the upcoming parks bond measure.

Ms. Smith then notified representatives that each neighborhood chair would receive a copy of the insurance policy for neighborhood associations, along with a certificate of insurance that will greatly facilitate obtaining right-of-way and event permits from the City.

Regarding solicitation, Ms. Smith noted that only United Missions has registered with the City as a 501(c)(3) organization and therefore is allowed to solicit door to door. No commercial businesses have registered to solicit in Shoreline. Responding to Diane Hettrick, Echo Lake, Ms. Smith said that non-profit solicitors are not required to carry identification but instead have their information on file at the Clerk's Office.

Ms. Nichols suggested that the Council of Neighborhoods could evaluate the effectiveness of current solicitation regulations this summer and make recommendations to the City Council if changes are needed. Ms. Allen advised that residents should post "No Trespass" and "No Solicitation" signs at their homes.

V. New Business --- Neighborhood Representatives

Mr. Terry expressed the opinion that the Seattle Housing Authority project at 30th Ave. NE and NE 145th St. was likely the source of crime in their neighborhood.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.