

Minutes, Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods
September 14, 2022 Virtual online meeting

Note: Action items are highlighted in yellow.

Neighborhoods attending:

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Central Houghton | |
| Everest | James Meniketti (for Anna Aubrey) |
| Evergreen Hill | Johanna Palmer |
| Finn Hill | Bill Blanchard (KAN Chair), Emily Mrowiki |
| Highlands | Mari Bercaw |
| Juanita Neighborhoods | Leo Gilbert |
| Lakeview | Aaron Jacobson (for Mark Still) |
| Market | Ken MacKenzie, Liz Hunt, Mark Nelson |
| Moss Bay | Bea Nahon |
| Norkirk | |
| North Rose Hill | |
| South Rose Hill/Bridle Trails | Chris Kagen |

City Staff/Elected Officials attending:

- Don Robinson, Senior Community Engagement Coordinator
- David Barnes, Senior Planner/Sustainability Manager
- Lt. Lisa Brouelette, Kirkland Police administration
- Amy Falcone, City Council (and Finn Hill)

Guests:

- Launa <?>, Highlands

7:01pm Introduction

- Chair Bill Blanchard called the meeting to order
- Round-the-horn introductions
 - What did you do over the summer?

7:15pm Public comments

- None

7:16pm Police Command Staff Q&A

- Lt. Lisa Brouelette presenting
- Hiring and recruiting: police, corrections, and support staff
 - Permitted for 110 officers (108 + cushion for upcoming retirements)
 - Three current openings (many neighboring cities are down 15-20 positions)
 - Two lateral corrections officers coming soon (experienced, no training necessary)
- Body cameras

- \$200K Dept. of Justice grant will help with two new positions
 - Public Disclosure specialist
 - Evidence technician (one dedicated to body cameras)
- Schools
 - Resource Officers are in “learning communities” rather than assigned to individual schools
 - Structured around high schools and the schools that feed them
 - New uniforms: tan slacks and polos, a softer/friendlier look
- Crime
 - Pro-Act unit (from Prop 1) broke up a large steroid ring, with Postal Inspectors
 - Two graduations from Academy for new officers; expect to see pairs of officers sometimes, as trainees accompany their training officers
- Q&A
 - [Bill] Does KPD respond to Big Finn Hill Park?
 - Yes, KPD responds for criminal complaints. There’s a parks employee who acts as a “security guard” who can call police. King County will get involved with any civil issue, such as use of the park outside of operating hours.
 - [Bill] Bicycle injury recently in Big Finn Hill Park with unsatisfactory emergency response; took too long just to find the guy. Can we arrange some sort of drill/practice for Fire/EMS emergency response?
 - Contact the KFD.
 - [Liz] Has there been an increase in property crimes?
 - Yes. Crimes of opportunity, and often driven by drug use. Ulta Beauty Supply and Lulemon Yoga are getting hit especially, as their products are hot on the resale market and the security staff are instructed not to engage for their safety. Our crime analyst unit is having some success in identifying the people involved.
 - [Liz] Are perpetrators getting off easily these days?
 - In Seattle, yes, we hear discouragement about people getting released on recognizance for “crimes of poverty.” Nationally, on average, someone has to get caught seven times stealing a car before they do jail time. Drug arrests have slowed, as we have more alternatives now, such as drug courts and diversion programs. In Kirkland, we ensure that we keep good records, to hold people accountable.
 - [Launa] Is there a digital online taskforce, to protect kids online?
 - We have a detective on the Internet Crimes Against Children taskforce for King County. Make a 911 call, explain to an officer in an initial report, and it can be referred to the taskforce.
 - [Chris] Can you please advertise more when having a catalytic converter etching event?
 - We filled all available slots at the LW Technical College event. Don’t know about any other events. Can perhaps get information into the weekly City newsletter.

7:42pm Energy Smart Eastside: Heat pump installation

- [David Barnes](#) presenting
- Sustainability Master Plan, Climate and Efficiency impact
 - Helping the community through education, incentives
 - Reduce emissions, fuel use
- [Energy Smart Eastside](#)
 - Partnered with four other cities: Bellevue, Redmond, Mercer Island, Issaquah, plus project partners:
 - Spark Northwest
 - Mitsubishi Electric, heat pump manufacturer
 - Hopelink, for equitable access
 - Gensco, a local Kirkland distributor of Mitsubishi and Trane products
 - Heat pump campaign
 - It's a complex chain of events to get a heat pump: research, contact utility, find local HVAC contractor, fill out paperwork, ...
 - Creating a simpler experience through free workshops
 - Comparing heat pumps to electric, gas, and other HVAC systems
 - Comfort: heating and cooling, no on/off cycling, quiet
 - Efficient: electric, low emissions, zone heating/cooling
 - Simple: quick installation, easy maintenance, long-lasting
 - Heat pumps are part of a complete energy solution: appliances, insulation, air sealing, solar energy, and behavior changes
 - Ducted vs. ductless
 - Ducted are good for replacing existing central furnaces
 - Ductless are single installations with an outdoor unit and an indoor unit (head), good for up to four heads, usually for small house
 - Group purchase model
- How will I save money?
 - Energy efficiency
 - PSE plans to achieve 100% clean energy by 2035
 - Reduce overall usage so that we don't need to over-increase capacity
 - Program discount and incentives
 - \$400-\$600 rebate
 - Save ~40-60% of current heating costs
 - Check out the [Federal Inflation Reduction Act](#) for more opportunities
 - 100% cost coverage (through Spark Northwest) for affordable housing units
- Scheduling seminars
 - Contact [David](#) if you want a presentation at your NA mtg, or to place a sign in your neighborhood
- Q&A

- [Launa] Would like to connect you with elementary schools, PTSA
 - Already working with Sustainability Ambassadors
- [James Meniketti] Why hasn't Kirkland banned gas in new development?
 - It's tricky. Seattle considered it and then didn't do it. Washington adopted a requirement for buildings of three or more stories to use only electric HVAC, and we'll apply that. Council recently adopted a set of "high performance standards" for new construction, with some restrictions on gas. For example, that's part of the baseline code for the 85th Station Area.

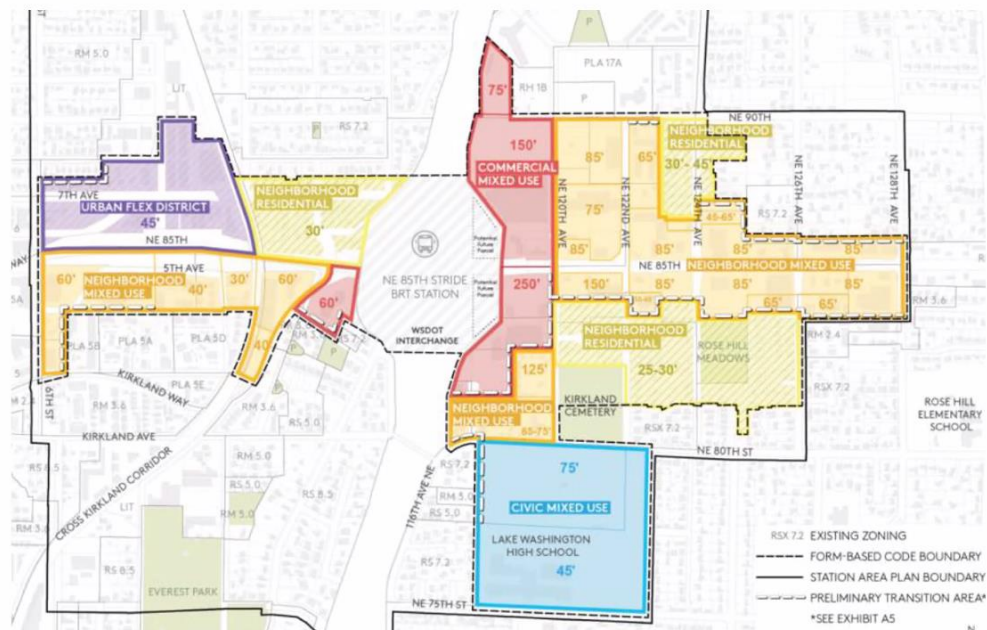
8:15pm ——— Kirkland downtown business

- Sheila Cloney NO SHOW

8:15pm ——— 85th Station Area Plan working group

- Ken Mackenzie and Liz Hunt presenting
- Recent milestones
 - 6/20/22 open house at the Salt House Church, 90 attendees
 - 6/28: SAP Phase 1 adopted by City Council (Phase 1 includes the overall Vision document, the up-zoned heights in the whole area, a new Comp Plan chapter, and new form-based code for the Lee Johnson and Costco blocks)

Phase 1: Red Phase 2: other colors



Map/drawing from material presented to the Planning Commission on 6/9/2022 by City Staff and City Consultants

- 7/19, Council adopted Google Development Agreement
 - "Catalyst project" for the Station Area

- 1.54M ft², roughly like the two Lincoln Square Towers in Bellevue, or the Columbia Tower in Seattle
 - Four buildings in five phases; Phase 1 is a foundation “podium” for the buildings
 - Main parking access on 120th Ave.
 - Extra access on 85th for bus/shuttle
 - Extra access on 120th for service vehicles
 - Extra access on south side for emergency and service vehicles, and possibly later for commuter parking
 - No architectural pictures of massing, volume, elevations, frontage, setbacks, stepbacks
 - Commercial Mass Timber construction, the planned method, is limited to 180’ of elevation, and these are zoned for 250’. Extra elevation will come from the podium and from rooftop appurtenances.
 - 9/6, Council approved Google Planned Action Ordinance that streamlines environmental review (bypasses further review)
- Next steps
 - Phase 2: new form-based codes for parts of NRH, SRH, Highlands, Norkirk, Everest, Moss Bay
 - Three meetings next week: Design Review Board, City Council, Planning Commission
 - Planned Action Ordinances for the rest of the Station Area
- Tax Increment Financing
 - Only recently allowed by new laws passed by the Washington legislature
 - Being considered by Kirkland for projects required by the Station Area Plan, e.g., sewers, storm water management, Forbes Lake Park (or that may be included in possible new park funding being considered for 2023 ballot measure), 124th Ave. widening, etc.
 - City issues bonds to fund capital investment and promises to pay off the bonds using future predicted tax revenue – works like a City credit card rather than a traditional bond. No voter approval is required.
 - Risk: assumes that property value will increase enough because of the Station Area Plan improvements and will hold/increase value over time – or else the City general fund may have to pay off the debt.
- Q&A
 - [Leo] Many local folks wanted lower building heights. Did Google get what they wanted?
 - [Liz] Yes, they got 250’ max across the entire lot. The Planning Commission’s recommendation of a lower limit (150’) was disregarded. The KAN working group (not officially a KAN body) raised height concerns to the City but also pushed for accurate traffic studies and positive community impacts.
 - [Launa] Google just did their Houghton expansion. Why didn’t they put the big height and capacity there? Traffic at LW High School is already terrible.

- [Liz] Google maxed out the allowed height in Houghton.
- [Ken] When we talk to the City about traffic problems around the high school, they shrug and say traffic is always bad around high schools.
- [Chris] Google wants to leverage the new Bus Rapid Transit station, as part of transit-oriented development.

8:44pm KAN meeting location

- Bill would like KAN to meet in City Council chambers
 - Raises KAN's visibility and perception of City importance
 - Would increase people's interest in participating in KAN
 - Show of hands: Who would be interested in meeting in Council chambers?
 - Majority of hands on video
- Shifting date
 - This would require moving to a different day/time, as another group already uses chambers on second Wednesday
- Shifting location?
 - Peter Kirk room, Heritage Hall [Ken]
 - Chainline Brewery at Kirkland Urban [Aaron]
 - Adding food/drink can be an attraction, bring more people
 - Kirkland Justice Center [Bill]
- Meeting in person
 - [Leo] I feel much safer meeting in person, with current COVID boosters
 - [Bea] Cautious for family health reasons, despite double vax and double booster. Want to be inclusive. Strongly urge a hybrid meeting solution.
 - [Bill] We'll work on this, with Don.

8:52pm Neighborhood Services introduction/updates

- Don Robinson presenting
- Neighborhood Safety Projects
 - Want to catch up with 2021-22 projects in pipeline, as well as start for 2023
 - Please update Don with current list of NSP reps; **send email to Don if you've changed reps in the last year**
- City Hall for All, Sat 9/17/22, 10am-12pm
 - Part of Eastside Welcoming Week
 - This even is before the Juanita Welcoming event on the same day
 - Two-hour symposium with three facilitated discussions:
 - How we plan
 - How we live
 - How we work
- Transportation Benefit District community forum
 - The TBD seeks to accelerate investments that will give students, families, and workers safer bicycle and pedestrian routes for getting to school, stores, and work
 - Oct 3, 6:30-8pm

- Budget
 - Opportunities to engage, learn, give feedback
 - Can do an interactive event at next KAN meeting
 - 9/23 Friday Market booth, can do the interactive game there
 - 10/1 Harvest Festival as well
- [Health Fair](#)
 - Juanita High School, Oct 8
 - Variety of services including COVID-19 vaccinations, flu shots, health exams, dental services, information exhibits, music, food, kids activities, giveaways

8:59pm Roundtable

- Everest [James]
 - Neighborhood Picnic this weekend
- Highlands (Launa)
 - Would love to see flowers at the “welcome to [neighborhood]” signs
 - [Chris] Talk to your NA treasurer; we have this as a recurring budget item in our budget for City matching funds
- Juanita (Leo)
 - Welcoming event this Saturday, 10am-12pm
 - Edith Moulton Park
 - Started as a Neighborhood Picnic permit, and City responded that they couldn’t do all these things; Doug pushed back and got it done
- SRH/BT (Chris)
 - Policy walk with Don Robinson and Erika Mascorro
 - With three board members
 - Walked Neighborhood Greenways (128th Ave, 75th St.)
 - History of neighborhood, changes, trends, diversity, schools, development, housing, engagement
 - Recommend talking to Don if you’d like to do this!

9:05pm Closing

- Adjourned at 9:05pm
- Next meeting: October 12, 2022