

KAN meeting – April 12th, 2023

Called to order at 7:08 pm

Aaron Jacobson chairing tonight (KAN co-chair)

Hybrid meeting in the Peter Kirk Room at City Hall and via Zoom

Action items are marked in **yellow**

Neighborhoods Attending:

Aaron Jacobson, KAN Co-Chair, Lakeview

Bill Blanchard, KAN Chair/Finn Hill

Sue Contreras, Moss Bay resident

Liz Hunt, Market Chair

Ken MacKenzie, Market KAN rep

Janet Pruitt, Norkirk KAN rep

Deirdre Johnson, South Rose Hill/Bridle Trails (SRHBT)

Jim Hoff, SRHBT

Walter Jaccard, Everest new KAN rep

Kim Graves, North Rose Hill KAN rep

Margaret B - Juanita, filling in for Leo G

Doug Rough- Juanita resident

Amanda Judd, Finn Hill resident

Launa Johnson, Highlands KAN rep

Judy Beto, Lakeview temp KAN rep

Johanna Palmer, Evergreen Hill KAN rep

Not in attendance: Central Houghton, Totem Lake (Johanna is covering?)

City Staff/Elected Officials attending:

Don Robinson, Sr. Community Engagement Coordinator

Jen Boone, Human Services Manager

Janice Swenson, Sr Planner

Chief Cherie Harris, KPD

Public Comment - none

Community Police Update - Chief Cherie Harris

Intro - her 30 yr anniversary in law enforcement; Kirkland is a phenomenal community; KAN and n'hood assn's are a key element; it's great that the police have a way to communicate with people in neighborhoods; KPD has a sign up sheet to come to neighborhood meetings (building relationships)

A requested topic for tonight: Unhoused Persons

Being homeless is not a crime

Related laws:

- 9th circuit decision - Boise Idaho
 - Limitations re: what police can do if someone is camping on public property (a violations of 8th amendment to charge people who are camping)
- KPD can't arrest someone just for being homeless
- Unattended property is not necessarily abandoned (KPD can't necessarily remove/dispose it)
- 2 women are sleeping in their cars in KPD parking lot - KPD regularly offers services
- Some encampments on DOT property
- WA State Supreme Court decisions

- State v. Pippin - tents and shelters on public property are protected by the 4th amendment (search and seizure) - may not be able to tow vehicles or remove tents that are considered homes
 - RVs near Totem Lake - KPD provides attention to ensuring no laws are being broken; some RVs move on, some stay
 - She does not believe that those people are involved with the crimes at the car dealerships, based on who KPD is arresting

- Private property is a different story

What can KPD/the city do?

- Enforce city ordinances
- Connect homeless w/resources
 - Crisis response team
 - Have had some success connecting people with family members (it's a lot of work)
 - Hospitalization (not a long term resource)
 - Mental Health professional
 - We have pretty good track record in people not living in our parks; have had some near the CKC
- Arrest (trespassing, shoplifting)
- Create new ordinances

Collaboration with City Staff

- Human Services Division - Jen Boone
- Homeless Outreach Coordinator - Meli Paulo (new hire; just started)

Resources in Kirkland and on Eastside:

- Day centers - for men, women, families
- Emergency shelters - men, women, families, Friends of Youth
- Safe Parking - we don't get calls to these places (the calls are more so problems with people in misc. places)

Q: Ken M - is DOT public property?

A: Chief - Yes, but there are some extenuating circumstances related to safety, etc.

Q: Deirdre - Houghton P and R lot now has hideous fence, refuse there, graffiti.... It's not CoK... it's not really Metro because not being used... who do we talk to to get action? ... the only way we have gotten any response is when we contacted Toby Nixon... it's a blight!

A: Chief - There have been meetings about this discussing what we can do there (higher fences? Perm fences?)... don't know exactly why it was closed... The fence might be to deter people living in cars there (it's hard to remove people living in cars/vehicles)

Q: Jim Hoff - this is a real issue... there's got to be a better way... our n'hood has some good suggestions for temporary use of that space

A: Bill B - yes, this is a proper forum to raise this... Don R will take this back to City Manager & Deputy City Mgr...

A: Don - you (Kirklanders) can certainly raise it at City Council / Items from the Audience

Q: Jim H - how do I report parked camper that you can't see around when you exit the Safeway?

A: Chief - if it is a danger, you can call 911 and report it, or report it via Our Kirkland (QAlert), or call Jen or Meli, or file an online police report — if it is a traffic safety issue, we can address that

Q: Jim H - public property - most of us have some public property in front of our houses - mine is well cared for with gravel, etc. - what if someone decides to park their vehicle and live there?

A: Chief - Yes, that is public property... we would try to problem solve that and not allow someone to live in front of your house. Sometimes repeated contacts works. We try to discern why are they there (some connection to the neighborhood?) and assess how to help them transition to a more stable living situation

A: Chief - we are working on a grant that will help us provide support (for vehicle repairs?)

Q: Doug - This happened on my street, what can the police can and cannot do in this situation? House was sold to developer, property vacant, squatters moved in and parked 6 vehicles on the property

A: Chief - if we get written consent from the homeowner, contact the trespassers and tell them they need to leave, we keep an eye on it because sometimes they come back

Q: does the county sheriff need to evict?

A: No, not if squatting

Q: vehicles?

A: KPD can assist and/or the property owner can call an impound company

Q: Bill - seems like you need to draw on a lot of resources/a lot of people. Where does that funding come from? How taxed are the people who are doing this?

A: Chief - the biggest source is Prop 1 money (public safety), grants to shelters (prop 1), Catholic Community Services \$

A: the personnel is pretty taxed right now (KPD is staffed at 101 vs. 108); we had some retirements and some departures (officers are like NFL free agents right now - hot commodity - city council is looking into a few things to help that (will be discussed at a May council meeting))

Q: Sue C - noise cams pilot program?

A: Chief - was going to end in June but was extended/some appropriations made; the vendor had not deployed in the snow before (snow on the mics was a bit of a challenge), developing some encasement and will deploy again on Central in both places - have had some good learning - in May we will start emphasis patrols again (specifically in/near parks) - please share issues with loud vehicles on Our Kirkland - had a recent comment where loud vehicles have moved away(a win!) - another comment said the noise is terrible (aargh)- the police are really trying (problem solving, working with business owners, foot patrols on "transmission alley" (by the auto dealers), etc.)

Camp Unity - everyone got housed (Redmond) - a win! - this is what we're striving for

2044 Comprehensive Plan Update- Janice Swenson

<https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Government/Departments/Planning-and-Building/Code-and-Plan-Amendment-Projects/Kirkland-2044-Comprehensive-Plan-Update>

ETA by end of 2024

The Comp Plan is not a regulatory ordinance - it is a vision for the future - decision making guide - basis for policy and zoning

Why do we plan? E.g., Totem Lake business plan - 20-yr vision/plan

Vision statement - will revisit that - Jan 11 had a visioning event (virtual)

9 elements (parks, transpo land use...)

Not a wholesale rewrite - it's updates

Transportation Master plan - also being updated

- Looking at the entire multimodal network

Ms. Swenson described the process for the update

Now = community engagement stage

We are forming focus groups

Neighborhood plans

- Most have been updated
- Need to update Juanita and Kingsgate - when get a Sr planner hired
 - Since annexation, haven't had a chance to deep dive those n'hoods

Equity review report - by EcoNorthwest - reviewed Comp Plan -have recos for text and policy changes through an equity lens to ensure the words are inclusive to everyone

- This report is on the 2044 comp plan update web page

GMA growth targets

- Focus in Station Area and totem lake

- Other areas will have infill growth

CARs - community-initiated amendment requests- were submitted in December

- 1 in totem lake - rezone
- 1 in market/market st - text change
- 1 in bridle trails - rezone

Key Themes

- Advance DEIB
- Sustainability
- Housing options for all & affordability
- Connections to transit, mobility
- Resiliency (emergencies, fiscal, etc.)
- Smart City initiatives
- Consistency with City Council goals

The Update process - Process IV described in zoning code and State statutes

Comty engagement goals

- Want input from those who have not historically been involved
- 5 focus groups
- Surveys for each topic area are rolling out
- In 2023

KAN - city staff could cycle through our KAN meetings over the next year

Q: Bill - is the Parks outreach now closed? (on the calendar for Feb-Mar '23)

A: We didn't want to confuse people that the PROS plan is wide open again - we will take the highlights from the PROS plan to inform the Parks chapter of the Comp Plan

Q: Bill - is there any way that people can interject input re: parks?

A: The PROS plan is complete (this most recent update). It is a "functional plan"...

Q: Margaret - on the web site - I don't see a link to sign up for the email list (on my phone) - I'll try on my PC

A: or email me - it's a box on the right side

Q: Liz - the outreach schedule - shows outreach related to a couple of Elements each couple of months during Feb-Oct '23 - are community comments on the Elements restricted to those windows?

A: that schedule is the focus groups and surveys - but there will be continuing outreach

Q: Liz - I don't see the Community Character Element in any of the focus groups?

A: That is correct.

Q: Janet - most neighborhood associations and KAN don't meet in the summer... have you considered coming to picnics?

A: you can push this info out to your n'hood now before summer; there will be continuing outreach

A: Comp Plan emails also come out... we could push some of that info out via the KAN email list

Q: Liz - Growth numbers? Are these the same numbers that were in the Station Area Plan?

A: Yes

Q: Johanna - Ev Hill n'hood association - we are unique because over half of people are in strong HOAs with private parks - need to take that into consideration during plan update

A: good point - the new Sr planner when hired will be reaching out to you

Clean Sweep Kirkland - Sue Contreras

Last year approx. 18 ppl showed up

We have 86 ppl signed up already - but room for more - it will be fun!

Neighborhood Round Table

Finn Hill - Bill - Denny fest coming up in august

Goat hill - a lot of property has become available - potential parks/open space in the future

Last year got over \$5M for new open space (Denny Creek)

Ken - Market

Successful in-person meeting last month

Great Easter Egg Hunt

Garage Sale April 22

Janet Pruitt - Norkirk

Had a meeting last week - tremendous success - packed meeting with social and business, had food

Sent a newsletter to all in the n'hood - last time we did that was many years ago

John Wilson, KC assessor spoke at meeting

Garage Sale on Apr 29

On the 18th, Council considering buying the Norkirk Cannery - historic property

Summer picnic in August with the Highlands

SRHBT - Jim

We've been doing virtual meetings, attendance has dropped off, decided to return to in person in Sept probably at Ben Franklin Elem School (vs. the church)

Does hybrid work?

There is a lot going on... want more ppl involved... going to try a survey and flyers (but posting them is labor intensive)

August picnic

Bill Blanchard - some ideas from Finn Hill:

- We've used FaceTime or Facebook broadcast - we can get 20 or 30 people watching
- Every Door Direct from the postal service - very reasonable cost - goes to everybody - approx half the cost of first class mail

Everest - Walter J

Newsletter - have done it for a long time - help keeps interest up

Meetings are by zoom - most recent in march

Houghton Village property - (he was not at the meeting and thus does not have a report)

Bea Nahon - Moss Bay

Planting an idea... 2023 is an odd-numbered year - city council election year - 2 yrs ago we had a KANdidate forum

- about 40-45 ppl virtually - Anna Aubrey knew how to put on a fair, non-biased forum - doesn't take a lot of work to plan it, have some decisions to make (hybrid/virtual, gather questions) - not looking for a decision tonight - just getting it out there - those involved need to be not attached/endorsing any campaign

Timing = around the time that ballots drop

Chamber also has a forum

Doug - Juanita

Welcome event - will be 3rd sat in Sept, food, prizes, Ukrainian band plus a local band

Juanita public pathway - city of Bothell is on board, want a written plan & assurance of helping the fish - working on getting traction

Trying to put the lights back up at Juanita village

Launa - Highlands

Neighborhood egg hunt - a great time
Summer event will be going on (picnic)
We are struggling to get everyone involved as well... trying to figure out how to light that fire
Curious about doing a newsletter

Can we create a KAN forum to make it easier to share ideas??

Johanna - Evergreen hill
Not much going on.... Still in the middle of construction zones... major road closures
Weather isn't helping 132nd sq park

Judy Beto - Lakeview
Focused on the la Quinta project
A meeting in the next 6 weeks

Kim Graves - NRH
At our last meeting, discussion of the viability of the board going forward... everyone committed, now have 11 board members on the board, Kim is the new KAN rep
Some fun events coming up - picnic July 15th, woodlands park cleanup July 22, hopefully a movie night on first Sat in august, and 124th Ave NE cleanup sat Sept 23rd

Don Robinson - Update

4/26 community appreciation event - please RSVP - it will be a fun night - our way to say thank you for what you all do for us

Matching grant - I will send an email on Monday with full information

Liz - quick updates on Station Area Plan and NE 85th St interchange/new BRT station

SAP Phase 1 remains completed - there have been requests to revisit the changes (e.g., 250' max height) now that Google has pulled out of the Lee Johnson property purchase, but city staff responded that there is no need to make changes.

SAP Phase 2 is in progress; the rest of the square mile outside of the commercial areas next to I-405); includes parts of Norkirk, Highlands, North Rose Hill, South Rose Hill, Everest, and Moss Bay

- City staff (and planning commission) are working on how to encourage/require affordable housing in the area
- A study session is planned for the end of April with Planning Commission
- Some properties next to the planned upzones have requested to also be upzoned
- Targeting Phase 2 Council adoption in Spring 2023

NE 85th St new interchange/BRT station construction

- Was scheduled to start in Q1 2023; schedule is no longer on the web site; the word from ST & WSDOT is that construction now planned to start in summer or fall '23; stay tuned
- BRT S1 and S2 routes and stations - designs are complete (NE 85th is part of S2)

Adjourned at 9:00 pm