

Minutes, Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods
October 10, 2018 Kirkland City Hall, Peter Kirk Room

Note: Action items are highlighted in yellow.

Neighborhoods attending:

Central Houghton	Lisa McConnell
Everest	Anna Rising
Evergreen Hill	Johanna Palmer
Finn Hill	Bill Blanchard (KAN Co-Chair)
Highlands	Karen Story, Debbie Ohman
Juanita Neighborhoods	Doug Rough
Lakeview	
Market	
Moss Bay	Amanda Judd
Norkirk	Janet Pruitt (KAN Co-Chair), Heather Hendrix-McAdams, Cindy Randazzo
North Rose Hill	
South Rose Hill/Bridle Trails	Chris Kagen

City Staff/Elected Officials attending:

- David Wolbrecht, Neighborhood Services Outreach Coordinator
- Joel Pfundt, Transportation Manager
- Deb Powers (Kirkland Urban Forester)
- Kellie Stickney, Communications Program Manager
- Captain Mike Ursino, Kirkland Police
- Dave Asher, City Councilmember

Guests:

- Tom Kreinbring, Race Director, Hopelink TurkeyTrot (tkreinbring@hopelink.com)
- Jenna Franklin, King County Metro, Senior Community Relations and Public Engagement Planner
- Emily Kish, King County Metro, Transportation Planner
- Grace Carlson, King County Metro, Transit Service Planner

7:02 pm Introduction

- Co-Chair Bill Blanchard called the meeting to order at 7:02pm
- Heather suggested having name placards, in addition to the neighborhood placards, to help learn each other's names
- Review of KAN charter: two reps per neighborhood
 - Invite people from neighborhoods that are currently underrepresented
- September 2018 minutes accepted

7:08pm Public comments

- Tom, Hopelink Turkey Trot race (Sun 11/18)
 - Need race monitors, age 16+
 - Hiring them costs \$Ks
 - Volunteers to stand at intersections, etc., to ensure safety
 - Distributed a buckslip (old term for a brochure-shaped 1/3-sheet with no folds) with contact information for volunteers
 - **Please pass on to your neighborhoods:** For more information or to register as a volunteer:
www.hopelink.org/turkeytrot
- Doug: Quick shout-out to first responders (he's a dispatcher)
 - Kirkland police and fire departments are great!
 - Recent events were handled very well
 - As comparison, a city neighboring to the south has twice as many fire stations but 1/3 as many aid vehicles

7:12pm Communications

- Kellie Stickney, new Communications Program Manager
- Started almost one month ago
- Former Communications Manager for Sammamish and Bainbridge, and a non-profit for energy development
- Analyzing communications for the city of Kirkland
 - What's working well?
 - What can be improved?
- Social media
 - Kirkland has online presence, but timely updates and dissemination is increasingly important
- Community events and involvement
 - Neighborhood groups can leverage the City's communication instruments (e.g., this Week in Kirkland)
 - Push information toward the City, as the ears and eyes of the neighborhoods
 - Kellie will watch KAN's (and neighborhoods') social media accounts, but **please email material directly to her (kstickney@kirklandwa.gov)**
- Q&A
 - Lisa: What are best practices for putting information out to residents?
 - Perhaps share some metrics after you've had some time in role to see what works best
 - Kellie: There is no silver bullet that works everywhere, but will be happy to share what I learn
 - Apartment/Non-homeowner residents are a special challenge to reach (per Lisa)
 - Anna: I don't use Twitter, but I do forward emails
 - Kellie: It's important to find what works best for your demographic
 - Heather: The playground survey that you're doing is good
 - 1200 responses so far!

- Garbage pickup is delayed this week due to a natural gas shortage
 - Example of information that should be disseminated quickly and efficiently

7:25pm Tree code update

- Deb Powers, Kirkland Urban Forester
- City-wide tree code revisions and updates this year
- History:
 - Growth Management Act
 - Kirkland Comprehensive Plan, goal E-2: “Protect, enhance, and restore trees and vegetation in the natural and built environment”
- Strike a balance between growth and livability that works in urban areas
 - Pervious surfaces have a great impact on stormwater management
 - 40% average canopy cover is recommended for optimal ecological health throughout the Puget Sound area
 - 40% is the City’s policy goal for Kirkland
- Codes
 - Codes are in place to help us reach the policy goal
 - Codes carry more force than policy
 - Kirkland Zoning Code (KZC) Chapter 95
 - Definitions
 - Tree removal allowances
 - Tree retention with development (pointed toward residential)
 - Landscaping by zone (pointed toward commercial, industrial, etc.)
 - City Forestry Account (how the City spends money collected from code violations)
 - Code is prescriptive, but also tries to have flexibility, because there’s not always one answer to a situation
- Handout: Kirkland Tree Code Summary
 - Scenarios, whether a permit is required, and process details
 - Examples:
 - Can remove any two trees, in a 12-month period (as long as they aren’t the last two trees on the lot)
 - Can remove hazard or nuisance trees without a formal permit process or arborist report, if the condition is obvious in a photo
- Updates
 - Last tree code update was in 2010
 - Potential updates to consider:
 - Reflect changes to policy goals in the Comprehensive Plan
 - Industry standards
 - Holmes Point Overlay (HPO)
 - Planning Department list of ongoing issues
 - Planning Commission input
 - Intern findings
 - Minor code changes (these have been done)
 - Moderate-Major code changes

- Public outreach
 - 2018 canopy cover data
- Schedule
 - ~~10/22: Houghton Community Council~~ (canceled, as of 10/11/18)
 - 11/8: Planning Commission, canopy analysis and Moderate/Major code issues
 - 11/20: City Council, briefing on code update process
 - 11/26: Joint Planning Commission / Houghton Community Council meeting, continued Moderate/Major code issues
 - 12/13: Planning Commission, review draft code (added as of 10/11/18)
 - Jan 2019: Public hearing
 - Feb 2019: City Council final adoption
 - Mar 2019: Houghton Community council approval
- For more information:
 - https://www.kirklandwa.gov/depart/planning/Code_Updates/Projects/Tree_Code_Updates.htm
- Q&A
 - Janet: What are the highlights of potential changes that might be of interest to our neighborhoods?
 - See the webpage for bullet points
 - A brief list of amendments under consideration includes:
 - Limiting tree removals prior to development permit application submittal
 - Limiting the number of tree credits given for planting Arborvitae
 - Using tree canopy cover instead of the City's current tree density credits system for tree retention and replanting requirements
 - Mandate Integrated Development Plan short plat reviews so tree retention decisions are made early in the design process, rather than allowing tree removal with each development phase
 - Heritage/Landmark tree designation with a higher level of protection/retention
 - There's still time for public input; see the webpage or email Deb directly
 - If you would like to be kept informed via email of upcoming public meetings and meeting packet information, sign up for the Citywide Tree Code Amendments [Listserv](#)
 - Anna: We see developers mowing down trees with little consequence; should fines be increased?
 - That is one of the amendments being considered
 - Increased fines and other penalties were brought to City Council in June. Council did not adopt them at that time; staff is waiting for further direction on how to proceed.
 - Code enforcement data don't support all the stories of abuses

7:53pm Kirkland Transit Implementation Plan (KTIP)

- Joel Pfundt, Transportation Manager
- Overview

- This Plan has been in process for about a year
 - Building on the 2015 Transportation Master Plan
 - Consider Metro and Sound Transit planning documents
 - Prioritize transit-related projects through 2035
 - Ensure that transit is efficient, safe, reliable, and convenient
- Phases
 - Outreach phase 1: Winter 2017/18
 - Outreach phase 2: Spring, summer 2018
 - Transportation Commission
 - City Council
- Analysis
 - King County Metro analysis
 - Transportation Master Plan transit analysis
 - Public feedback
 - Field visits
 - Update demand analysis
 - Key themes:
 - Accommodate growth in demand
 - Integrate with transit agencies
 - “First/Last mile” connections and accommodations
 - Evaluation criteria
 - Ridership, travel time, cost, etc.
 - Forecast of sharp rise in daily transit usage in coming years.
- Plan development process
 - Project types:
 - Speed and reliability
 - E.g., flow mechanics, signal priority, dedicated lanes/access
 - Non-Motorized
 - Pedestrian and bike connections/accommodations
 - Safety and comfort in access and waiting areas
 - Flexible transit service
 - Things that might work better in low-density areas, e.g. Finn Hill
 - E.g., an app that hails transit to come pick you up
- Next steps
 - September
 - Draft plan staff review
 - Planning and Economic Development (PED) committee
 - Public Works, Parks, and Human Services (PW/PK/HS) committee
 - Transportation Commission
 - October
 - Outreach phase 3
 - Transportation Commission
 - Next steps
 - Council review and action

- For more information:
 - <https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Page17236.aspx>
 - or search on “Kirkland Transit Implementation Plan” for fresh updates, new postings
- 10/15/18 followup from Joel: the draft Kirkland Transit Implementation Plan is now available for review at www.kirklandwa.gov/KTIP
 - Also, please share your thoughts on the draft plan before November 10 by **filling out our survey** at <https://survey.participate.online/s3/draft-ktip>
- Q&A
 - Bill: What do you have in mind for Finn Hill?
 - King County Metro “iCarpool” app
 - Metro “Community Van” project: van available for communal use
 - “Trip Pool” for carpooling to school
 - Metro “Community Ride” ridesharing project
 - Johanna: What caused all the traffic signals to go wonky the other day?
 - A software typo sent the system into a flashing state
 - We’re taking steps to ensure that it doesn’t happen again

8:10pm North Eastside Mobility Project

- Presenters:
 - Jenna Franklin, King County Metro, Senior Community Relations and Public Engagement Planner
 - Emily Kish, King County Metro, Transportation Planner
 - Grace Carlson, King County Metro, Transit Service Planner
- Refreshing policies for “integrative mobility,” creative solutions to serve transit users across diverse geographies and needs
- Lots of input over the last year
 - Public outreach
 - Large organizations (including advocacy groups and major corporations)
 - Transportation stakeholders
- Handouts
 - Flyer for public meetings
 - Maps with current and proposed mobility networks
 - Map of key potential network improvements, major route changes (which would come with the “Take Action” option, defined below)
 - Printout of the “online open house” questions
 - Flyer for the proposed Montlake Triangle Project
- Public outreach meetings (open houses)
 - “Open house” also available online: www.kingcounty.gov/metro/north-eastside
 - 10/23, 11am-1pm, UW Bothell Campus
 - 10/27, 11am-1pm, Redmond Senior Center
 - 11/5, 6-8pm, Kingsgate Library
 - 11/7, 6-8pm, Kirkland City Hall

- Goal: 10,000 participants in the outreach process
- Options for future service
 - Things that will happen next year, regardless of the transit options:
 - All buses will be kicked out of the Seattle downtown tunnel
 - Montlake freeway station closing in March 2019
 - “Take No Action” option
 - Metro 255 continues to go to downtown Seattle
 - Because the Montlake station is closed, if you want to get to the Montlake area, you’ll take Metro 255 to Evergreen Point and transfer to another bus
 - Because the Seattle downtown tunnel is closed, Metro 255 uses the Seattle surface streets and takes longer
 - “Take Action” option
 - (There will be six months of “Take No Action” pain, from March to September 2019, because implementing these “Take Action” changes will take time, after the Montlake closure and bus tunnel revision)
 - Reroute 255 to the UW Link Rail station (faster overall than current service to downtown)
 - Increase frequency, reliability, and service hours of the 255 overall
 - Redistribute the saved bus hours across other Eastside routes
- Concern: rerouting to UW will get buses stuck in the Montlake exit backup
 - There’s a new HOV exit lane that just opened this week
 - There’s still a narrow bridge to cross ... but the DOT has plans to upgrade the bridge, with the timeline unknown
- **Let your neighborhoods know about the open houses and input opportunities**
 - ... and about the Montlake freeway station closing next March
 - ... and about the Seattle downtown tunnel closing to buses
- New ridesharing and carpooling apps
 - Concern: safety in carpooling with people who participate
 - Drivers are vetted by the County
 - The County and the State have a third-party vendor supplying apps, with plans for safety and rollout
 - Bothell, Woodinville, Kingsgate Park&Rides are the initial targets
- Metro will provide (this month) a communications toolkit for cities to get word out to residents
- For more information:

<https://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/transportation/metro/programs-projects/routes-and-service/north-eastside-mobility.aspx>

8:35pm Neighborhood Communications Toolkit

- Karen, Cindy, David met to discuss this
- Email survey coming soon to see what Neighborhood Associations are already using
- Contact Karen if you have specific questions

8:38pm Neighborhood Services Report

- David Wolbrecht, Neighborhood Outreach Coordinator
- **Would like to come to NA meetings**, to get public responses to:
 - Bike share
 - We already have bike-share bikes in our city, as neighboring cities have implemented them
 - City Council wants to know what the community thinks about permitting them for a year-long pilot program; want public input
 - Will also be polling the Kirkland Downtown Association, other stakeholder groups
 - Dog parks
 - Two parks currently: Jasper's and Edith Moulton
 - Does the City need more?
 - What do people want? More urban availability? Amenities?
- Neighborhood Safety Projects
 - Kari is compiling the suggested projects, hopes to have them out soon
- City Hall for All event last weekend
 - 150-ish attendees
 - Learned a lot about what works, what doesn't
- Q&A
 - For the topics (bike share, dog parks), would like to have info about revenue impact: cost to City, possible income from licensing, etc.
 - Bike share clarifications
 - Docking vs. dockless, how to use them
 - Why they get abandoned on roadsides
 - Business models for licensees (how/why they pick them up, etc.)
 - Kirkland can exert some controls even without licensing the bike companies, such as codes for impounding bikes or otherwise dealing with issues

8:50pm Hot Topics, Liaison Reports, Neighborhood Roundtable

- Proposition 1
 - Increase sales tax by .01% to fund public safety programs
 - Should KAN support it?
 - Can KAN support things like this?
 - We are supposed to represent our neighborhoods and should take issues to the neighborhoods before making big decisions
 - But, all Kirkland commissions and such take action by vote. We are the elected members of KAN and should be able to vote on resolutions as allowed by our by-laws
 - Call for motion to support Proposition 1
 - Resistance: it feels like exerting my personal view rather than representing my neighborhood
 - This Proposition is something that citizens will vote on themselves; KAN shouldn't take a position on candidates nor ballot issues

- No motion to vote
 - Disseminate information on Prop 1 to your neighborhoods
 - Future KAN topic: review KAN by-laws
 - Liaison Reports (none)
 - City Council Committee Reports (none)
 - Neighborhood Reports
 - Central Houghton
 - Recommend limiting speakers at future KAN meetings; need more time for conversations and KAN-specific topics
 - Everest
 - Evergreen Hill
 - Johanna read the Kirkland Reads book and passed it on
 - Finn Hill
 - Highlands
 - Juanita
 - Welcome to Juanita was a great success!
 - Played many games, then gave away the games themselves
 - Booths, freebies, food
 - Lakeview
 - Market
 - Moss Bay
 - Add Amanda to the KAN email list (Karen will do)
 - Norkirk
 - Submitted 19 Safety Projects from our neighborhood; is that a lot? (General agreement: yes.)
 - Discussion: how to get broad neighborhood feedback on the proposals
 - Kari helps weed out the non-feasible ones
 - SurveyMonkey or other way of collecting feedback from residents
 - Some Neighborhood Associations vote at meetings, others vote online to ensure that more people have a voice
 - North Rose Hill
 - South Rose Hill / Bridle Trails

9:07pm Closing

- Adjourned at 9:07pm
- Next meeting: November 14, 2018

Upcoming agenda items, events, deadlines

- Agenda items
 - FAR and lot coverage review
 - Tree code redux (not enough time to discuss violations at length)
 - Housing strategies
 - Neighborhood Plan updates
 - Review the KAN website, guidelines, policies

- Communication and Outreach Strategies
- Disaster Preparedness Coordination
- Parking reduction proposal from Totem Lake study
- CERT/Map Your Neighborhood
- Parks Director – Lynn Zwaagstra
- Community Conversations
- Parking Survey – Part II
- Events
 -