

Minutes, Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods
August 12, 2020 Virtual online meeting

Note: Action items are highlighted in yellow.

Neighborhoods attending:

Central Houghton	Lisa McConnell
Everest	Anna Aubry
Evergreen Hill	
Finn Hill	Bill Blanchard (KAN Co-Chair)
Highlands	Karen Story
Juanita Neighborhoods	Leo Gilbert
Lakeview	Mark Still
Market	Ken Mackenzie
Moss Bay	Bea Nahon
Norkirk	Heather Hendrix-McAdams (KAN Co-Chair)
North Rose Hill	
South Rose Hill/Bridle Trails	Chris Kagen

City Staff/Elected Officials attending:

- David Wolbrecht, Neighborhood Services Outreach Coordinator
- Jim Lopez, Assistant City Manager
- Kari Page, Senior Neighborhood Services Outreach Coordinator

Guests:

- None

6:59pm Introduction

- Co-Chair Bill Blanchard called the meeting to order

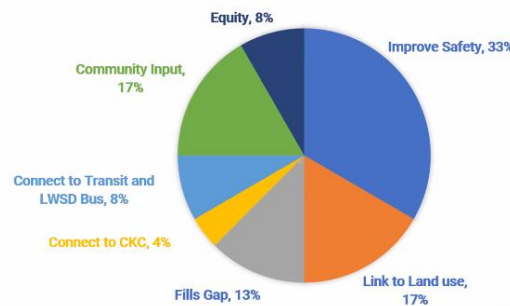
7:00pm Public comments

- No public attendees

7:01pm Safer Routes to School action plan

- Kari Page presenting
 - Kari is retiring soon ...
- Background
 - Partnership with schools, law enforcement, engineering professionals, students, parents, administrators, and neighborhoods
 - Summary of investments since 2013: \$24M total
 - Funding sources vary, from many buckets
 - Future funding sources
 - School zone safety cameras
 - Robust income for now
 - \$136-250 per ticket

- Many Rose Hill tickets have gone to non-Kirkland residents
 - [Update](#) available
 - Capital improvement program
 - N. Kirkland/JFK School Walk Route Enhancements
 - Neighborhood Safety Program
 - Neighborhood Street Light program
 - Grant funding
 - Redevelopment frontage improvements
- 2019-20 timeline
- Public process
 - 61 meetings (NAs, Walk/Bike to School events, community events, interest group meetings, City Hall for All)
 - 1,298 online engagement
 - 178 Suggest-a-Project
 - 490 Safe and Active Transportation Survey
 - 630 Walk Recommendation Survey
 - Biking improvements
 - The scope for bike improvements is larger; bigger impact on citywide network
 - Bike suggestions that came in during SRtS were communicated to appropriate city staff
- Prioritization
 - 1% of the city participated in the process
 - Norkirk had the highest participation, Totem Lake the least
 - Transportation Master Plan establishes criteria for prioritizing projects:



- Planning [map](#):
- Action plans
 - Walkthrough of specific plans – thorough!
 - Sets a blueprint for many years to come

7:46pm Resolution R-5434: Affirming BLM, Safe/Welcoming Community

- Jim Lopez presenting
- Resolution: “Affirming that Black Lives Matter and Approving the Framework for Kirkland to Become a Safe, Inclusive, and Welcoming Community”
- David Wolbrecht is the outreach lead for this initiative
- Local governments throughout the US responding to community engagement

- Six sections to the resolution
 - Transparency strategies (new dashboards, expose data)
 - Use of force
 - School Resource Officer program
 - Human Resources
 - Human Services
 - Evaluate bias in our existing police dashboard
 - Accountability strategies concerning police use of force
 - “8 Can’t Wait” use-of-force policy review
 - Third-party policy review
 - Council deliberation on use of force
 - Evaluate options for civilian oversight
 - Develop a police body camera pilot program
 - Review national best practices for alternatives to police, addressing homelessness, behavioral health, drug addiction, and other community challenges
 - Accountability strategies concerning equity and bias
 - Community court
 - Comprehensive equity assessment
 - Review procurement and contracting processes and documents
 - Evaluate existing public art, symbols, events, City programming
 - Expand diversity of art, symbols, events, and programming to be more inclusive
 - Civic engagements strategies
 - Community engagement process centered around Black people
 - Targeted stakeholder engagement including Indigenous people and people of color
 - Town halls, virtual meetings, small group discussion
 - Surveys, mailers, social media
 - Council retreat, public hearings
 - Funding strategies
 - Funding for outside review of police use of force
 - Funding police body camera pilot
 - Funding community engagement strategies
 - Reserve funding for other strategies
 - Approval of funding sources on Aug 4th
- Outreach
 - Want to engage KAN among many others
 - Goal is to create substantive change
 - Not assuming that we “get it wrong”
 - But want to move forward
 - Jim priority: Alternative interactions with public that don’t require an armed police officer
- Discussion
 - Heather: Please put forward the availability of KAN as a resource, conduit to the community

- General agreement with the priority to create alternative response paths to armed officers
- Bill: Dashboards are a great move; people in COVID time have gotten more accustomed to seeing data in this way
- Bea: Consider expanding KAN
 - We don't have any people of color participating today (or much in past)
 - Consider adding public members to achieve diversity
 - Might lead to redefining "neighborhoods" ...

7:02pm Shop Local Kirkland initiative

- Jim Lopez presenting
- Park Lane: isn't it beautiful?
 - Restaurants able to seat more people in open space, better for employment
 - Will be discussed at Council, Sept. 1
 - Originally said it would go until Labor Day; possibly extending
 - Anecdotal feedback (from businesses and public) is positive, "going well"
- "Safety net economy"
 - Can't predict/assume when we'll get back to normal
 - Give a viable alternate way to engage with Kirkland's vibrant businesses
- Ensure that Kirkland businesses have a virtual, online presence
 - Example: Wednesday and Friday Markets
- Targeting the people who care most about local economy
 - Example: KAN
 - Plan to use KAN as a virtual focus group
 - If focus group people don't use it, then that's a poor prospect for success
- Shop Local Kirkland site
 - Project is underway
 - Engaging with "service transaction partners" (businesses, portals, ...)
 - Will want to pilot with KAN when ready, targeting September
 - Want to provide discounts and incentives as well
 - But that has cost
 - Perhaps in the form of online currency that you can then spend at the local businesses?
 - Drop-off and pick-up areas
 - The software can coordinate the zones
 - Delivery services can more quickly/effectively operate
 - Funding a Small Business Relief fund
 - Likely best use is on commercial rent
 - Hoping for \$600K or more in fund
- Discussion
 - Bea: Innovate quickly, as it'll get harder when weather turns wet/cold
 - Need to build awareness and engagement now
 - Heather: Critical service for people at high health risk who are less mobile at all phases of restriction
 - Bill: Timeline?

- Early September is the target
- Early focus on Park Lane businesses, because Jim knows them
- But open to any Kirkland business that wants to get involved
- Expect to send an email blast to city businesses
- Recently communicated through the Chamber of Commerce
- KAN action
 - Spread the word to businesses
 - Help circulate the coming survey on the effectiveness of the Park Lane project

8:23pm The role of KAN in the COVID world

- Bill Blanchard presenting
- Topics include:
 - How and when do we meet
 - How do we address public participation
 - How do we help our neighborhoods and what is our role
- Heather: Moving to Woodinville!
 - Offer on house accepted, but could be months still before moving
 - Let us know if you are interested in KAN leadership, or have a name to put forward
- Discussion
 - Bea: Would like to draw more public participation into KAN
 - Designated seats at the table?
 - Increase diversity
 - Lisa: Struggling with diversity issues
 - Hard to engage with groups that aren't coming to the table
 - Feel like we're doing pretty well with the virtual tools we have today
 - Anna: Online platform working well
 - No commute, easy access
 - Convenient for speakers to present
 - Agree that we need to get public more involved
 - Karen: Civic engagement energy is low
 - Pandemic taking a toll on everyone
 - Feel less connected, with fewer activities
 - People are focused on their homes, families, "pods"
 - Keep virtual connection as a long-term strategy; we're adapting to making connection in this new way
 - Leo: Ask the NA for opportunities to amplify their voices
 - Actively reach out for topics to bring up, to escalate
 - Advertise board openings, KAN Rep position
 - Yes, Kirkland is very white, slowly integrating
 - Mark: KAN's mission is still viable and important
 - Zoom meetings are effective
 - Expand the concept through outreach, actively inviting neighborhood residents to participate

- Provide public comment time at start of meetings
- Leverage City resources for outreach: surveys, etc.
- Ken
 - Can we get copies of KAN and City slide decks used in our meetings, so that NA people can pass them along?
 - Even better: have the slides before the meeting
 - David: often wrapping the decks right before the mtg ...
 - Feedback from residents that virtual City Council meetings are too passive: watching the Council rather than feeling participative
 - Other cities have a more open City Hall than Kirkland; why are we choosing the level of service that we are?
- Chris
 - Welcoming vs. inclusion vs. invitation
 - It's the difference between opening a space and then truly engaging someone and bringing them into that space
 - Would like to have more support, tools, learning, teaching, etc., from KAN and City to foster this way of truly engaging our diverse population
 - KAN and NAs as conduits for information
 - We're pretty good about flowing information down from the City
 - Email lists, NextDoor, other social media
 - Not so sharp on flowing information up from residents
 - How do we pass grass-roots topics from residents up to KAN and City?
 - To what degree are we (NAs, KAN) "gate-keepers" to filter that flow? Issue of judgment and responsibility

8:50pm Halloween

- Heather topic
- Is there a way to have a safe Halloween experience this year?
 - Example: "candy slide" to give trick-or-treat delivery at a distance :-)
- It's not just about giving candy to kids
 - Family traditions and connections
 - Seniors often look forward to the connection to kids
- Action: Bill to schedule a separate session to discuss this
 - Subcommittee: if interested, let Heather or Bill know

8:53pm Closing

- Adjourned at 8:53pm
- Next meeting: September 9, 2020