

Minutes, Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods
May 11, 2022 Virtual online meeting

Note: Action items are highlighted in yellow.

Neighborhoods attending:

Central Houghton	
Everest	Nathan Paczan
Evergreen Hill	Johanna Palmer
Finn Hill	Bill Blanchard (KAN Chair)
Highlands	Mari Bercaw, Debbie Ohman, Laurie Hanson
Juanita Neighborhoods	Leo Gilbert
Lakeview	Mark Still
Market	Ken MacKenzie, Liz Hunt
Moss Bay	
Norkirk	Jane Ainbinder
North Rose Hill	
South Rose Hill/Bridle Trails	Chris Kagen

City Staff/Elected Officials attending:

- David Wolbrecht, Communications Program Manager
- Kurt Triplett, City Manager
- Tiffany Trombley, Neighborhood Resource Officer, Kirkland Police
- Renee Cox, Community Responder Lead, Kirkland Police

Guests:

- Terri Cleveland, Woodlands at Forbes Lake
- Jeff Canin

7:02pm Introduction

- Chair Bill Blanchard called the meeting to order
- Round-the-horn introductions

7:14pm Public comments

- None

7:14pm Homelessness

- Officer Tremblay, presenting
- Camping
 - 9th Circuit Court decision: having ordinances against camping is a violation of the 8th amendment
 - Cities are not required to provide a shelter
 - “Unattended property” does not always mean that it’s abandoned; therefore, agencies can’t destroy or dispose of seized property
 - Tents and shelters on public property are protected by the 4th amendment

- This includes towing vehicles that are considered a home
 - So, what can the City do?
 - Enforce current city ordinances
 - Connect homeless with resources
 - Create new ordinances

- Drug use, alcoholism
 - Top 10 drugs:

Rank	2020	2021
1	Carboxy-THC	Carboxy-THC
2	THC	Methamphetamine
3	Methamphetamine	Amphetamine
4	Amphetamine	THC
5	Morphine	Fentanyl
6	Benzoylcegonine	Norfentanyl
7	Fentanyl	Morphine
8	Norfentanyl	Carboxyhemoglobin
9	Flualprazolam	Benzoylcegonine
10	Alprazolam	Alprazolam

- Behavioral and mental health issues
 - Homelessness
 - Disturbances
 - Hospital commitments
 - 911 calls
 - People often don't qualify for community court diversion programs

- Trespassing
 - Legal definition of criminal trespass
 - We are arresting for trespass if it comes to that
 - **What you can do:**
 - Give warning
 - Contact shift supervisor
 - Call KPD

- Q&A
 - [Leo] Encampment by I-405; concern for living conditions, fire safety, etc.
 - We need permission of the property owner to make a trespass case, and WSDOT is the owner. Making contact with them now. Our community responders have gone out to offer resources.
 - [Liz] Update us on non-police resources?
 - [Renee Cox, community responder, answering]
 - We can respond with or without an officer
 - Interviewing eight people for open positions
- Can contact Tiffany at ttrombley@kirklandwa.gov
- Can contact Renee at rcox@kirklandwa.gov

- Flyer went out last month about Highlands “Kiss & Ride”
 - Bill apologizes for sending out the flyer without formal KAN approval
 - Specific apology to Karen Story and Bea Nahon
- Outreach and meetings [Liz]
 - Have contacted many officials, at City and County levels
 - Two meetings in the next week: study session (5/12) and then open house (5/18)
 - Large packet for each, with lots of new material about zoning and design documents
 - 5/18 meeting is largely an informational meeting
 - June 9 will be a public hearing with the Planning Commission
- [Ken] Phase 1 is primarily about the Lee Johnson / Google redevelopment
- [Nathan] I live in the Everest neighborhood, and we see a lot of spillover parking from the Google campus
 - All of 9th Ave. S gets filled up with Google employee cars
 - [Ken] Recommend that you show up at the upcoming sessions to raise this topic
 - [Liz] Recommend that you email your feedback to the Planning Commission and Council
 - The 5/12 joint session doesn’t allow for public comment
 - They’ve been promising that parking spillover will not be a problem (based on a promise from Google)
 - Nathan has photos of the parked cars and the people with Google badges
- [Mark] Any update on the build of the Bus Rapid Transit station itself?
 - [Liz] It was originally scheduled for 2025. Now sched’d for 2026 completion along with the northern portion of the new BRT corridor, although the rest of the southern portion (down through Bellevue) is scheduled for 2027. The station appears to be fully funded, though perhaps not all of the surrounding amenities.
- [Kurt] Updates
 - All systems are go
 - Highlands Kiss & Ride concerns
 - How to address spillover parking in Highlands and around Google
 - Considering creating parking zones; resident parking only, by stickers
 - Nathan repeated his story of spillover parking in Everest: 9th Ave., and even 8th and 7th Ave at times
 - Kurt will bring this concern to the deliberations
 - Google is hoping to open in 2026, roughly the same time as the BRT

7:55pm State of the City: Mayor’s address

- Mayor Penny Sweet unable to attend; showed a [video](#) of her annual address
 - See video for details
 - Thematic homage to Star Trek, with just a whiff of Star Wars (mixing these is heresy! [Chris])

- Summary of projects, initiatives, successes
- Recap of COVID impact
- Black Lives Matter response: Resolution R-5434 for a safe, inclusive, and welcoming Kirkland
- Recovery and prosperity: services, shelter, financial assistance, business support (Kirkland Cares relief fund; ShopLocalKirkland.com), parks, events
- Sustainability: new master plan
- Safety: 2020 Proposition 1 improvements in fire stations, police hiring, community responders, and more
- Program plan statements from councilmembers
- Q&A
 - [Chris] Where do we stand on providing paved access through the Cross Kirkland Corridor?
 - [Kurt] Master plan still shows a paved trail in the corridor, as well as some allowance for mass transit. The challenge of paving the interim trail, as part of the Eastrail: Highest percentage of population living next to the trail, throughout the whole length of Eastrail. Paving would bring issues of collision, accidents.
 - [Laurie Hanson] Advocate for some kind of gathering to spread information about the 85th Station Area Plan; many people are still unaware.
 - Could we arrange an outdoor event, something that is a draw in itself (food, entertainment?) to increase outreach contact?
 - [Kurt] Always looking for more and better ways to achieve outreach; will pass that idea on to Council
 - [Laurie] Would also appreciate a mailer with details
 - [Kurt] Yes; difficult to condense
 - [Joanna] CKC crossing at 132nd, where the interim trail ends and there's the rough section to Willows
 - Need a safe plan for the trail crossing, across five lanes of traffic at high speed
 - Even today, people sprint across the road rather than cross at the intersection
 - [Kurt] Yes, 1,000%. Exploring option with the County. Can't go underground, because there's a giant conduit there. Going over would be very expensive, nearly as much as the Totem Lake bridge. Possible: a \$3M "hot crossing," like a flashing beacon on steroids. And sooner than that, better signage.
 - [Jane] Mental health services for people experiencing homelessness?
 - [Kurt] Dedicated community responders for people in mental health crisis
 - We want to create a "regional crisis clinic" in partnership (county, cities, agencies), because there aren't enough facilities in our region. Short-term facility, with immediate services and referral to longer-term programs.

- This facility would be separate from the La Quinta program. Different funding source, different departments at the county.
 - [Bill] Park bond/levy coming up
 - [Kurt] We brought an à la carte slate of projects to a community-based advisory group
 - Aquatic community center was a big focus, as well as some smaller community centers
 - We'll be working the list for the next four months, then widening the outreach and input. **Look for KAN to be asked around October.**
- Neighborhood Services Coordinator: open position, hiring
 - Three finalists, all good
- Plan updates in the coming year
 - Lots going on; we appreciate all public input into the planning processes

8:40pm Roundtable

- Finn Hill (Bill)
 - DennyFest, mid-August, coming back
 - Picnic food and music with live bands
 - Land acquisition
 - Goat Hill: June 12 meeting with residents
- Lakeview (Mark)
 - Small group of neighbors talking to Chief Harris re: loud/fast cars
 - Increasing concern with good weather coming, more people out walking
- Norkirk (Jane)
 - June NA meeting: Jim Lopez talking about La Quinta
 - Joint picnic with Highlands Aug 27th, 1-4pm, Crestwoods Park: bands, food from DERU. Permit process underway.
- Market (Ken)
 - 5/14 Garage sale
 - 5/26 will be first in-person meeting
 - 9/18 picnic
 - **Reminder for IRS 990 filings**; thank you to Bea for her work!
- Evergreen (Johanna)
 - No picnic this year
 - Work on 132nd Square Park on target for September celebration of opening
- Highlands (Mari, Laurie)
 - Looking at the 85th Station Area challenges
 - Zone 1 is supposed to be done soon, and the rest in the fall – and many people are still unaware of the scope of what's happening
 - Anticipate that developers who work on other lots in the Station Area will push for increased heights after the fact, as a variance, due to the abnormal height of the Google buildings
- Juanita (Leo, as posted in mtg chat)
 - Neighborhood Picnic scheduled for 9/17, Edith Moulton Park, 12-3pm
 - Live music, other entertainment, games, free food

- SRH/BT (Chris)
 - Hot topics are still:
 - 85th Station Area plan – what name for the new district?
 - Bridle Trails Shopping Center – nearing completion of initial permitting
 - Houghton Park & Ride – possible pending sale to Kirkland

8:53pm Closing

- Statement of thanks from Bill
- Adjourned at 8:54pm
- Next meeting: September 14, 2022
- Off for June/July/August