

LCC Trustees Meeting
Laurelhurst Community Center
January 14, 2013
Minutes

Attending: Emily Dexter, Jeannie Hale, Kay Kelly, Linda Luiten, Colleen McAlleer, Liz Ogden, Brian McMullen, Don Torrie, Maggie Weissman, Leslie Wright

Excused: Kevin Chang, Stan Sorscher

Guests: Sara Zora, Catherine Hennings, Dave Rogers, University Park; Kevin Steffa, Friends of Burke-Gilman Trail

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. and was followed by introductions.

Bicycle Master Plan, Sara Zora, SDOT

The Bicycle Master Plan is a blueprint for making improvements to Seattle's bicycle network since its adoption in 2007. The goals are to triple the amount of bicycling between 2007 and 2017 and reduce the rate of bicycle collisions by one-third.

There have been significant accomplishments since the plan's adoption in 2007. The City has installed 129 miles of on-street facilities, including bike lanes and sharrows, added nearly eight new miles of multi-use trail improvements, implemented 98 miles of signed bicycle routes and installed 2,200 bicycle parking spaces.

The plan assumed an update after five years. That process began in May 2012. There was a bike to work month in March and two months of public engagement. This was Phase 1. The City is now in Phase 2. There is a summary report of Phase 1 on the city's website. A report of existing conditions will be added as an appendix to the upcoming revision of the Bicycle Master Plan. The updated plan will go to the Council at the end of the summer. The update will address all ages and abilities and will include a draft network map.

The advisory committee developed preliminary criteria to prioritize projects and a policy framework with updates on vision, goals and objectives. A handout was distributed on these matters.

They have heard the following concerns:

- Maintenance issues, poor pavement conditions,
- Faded paint,
- Need for construction mitigation and detours for bicyclists,
- Safety as people do not know the rules (sharrows are no real protection for bikers), and
- Need for education and enforcement and understanding the rules

They are working on solutions for the Montlake Boulevard and Bridge problem.

Zora when through the bicycle facility toolkit. Neighborhood greenways and safe arterial crossings are goals. They will still use pavement markings. There is a need for wayfaring signage. Elizabeth Sheldon (Liz) is the new manager of the paving program. Zora distributed Seattle bike maps.

Proposed Bike/Pedestrian Connection to the Burke-Gilman Trail by the Hartmann: LCC's settlement agreement with Children's and the master plan approved by the City Council calls for a pedestrian, bicycle and non-motorized connection between Sand Point Way and the Burke-Gilman Trail within the north setback. Neither the Agreement nor the master plan proposes the use of parkland for this project. About 2,000 square feet of park property would be used for the project. For this reason, issues have surfaced with community groups.

Here is the wording of the Settlement Agreement with the language about LCC's acquiescence to a Burke-Gilman connection:

4.2 Development of Hartman Property Outside Children's MIO.

a. Concurrent with development of Phase 2 of the New MIMP, Children's commits to the following measures:

i. All Sequoia trees in the existing grove on the Hartmann Property shall be retained to the extent they are healthy;

ii. A landscape/green screen shall be provided along the north, south and west edges of the Hartmann Property, and Children's shall seek neighborhood and community organization input and review during its design;

iii. A pedestrian, bicycle and non-motorized vehicle access connection between Sand Point Way NE and the Burke Gilman Trail shall be provided within the north setback, and shall be designed in partnership with the City as well as Hawthorne Hills, Ravenna/Bryant, and Laurelhurst neighborhoods and community organizations;

Friends of the Burke-Gilman Trail oppose the project. Three days before they had planned to plant several hundred trees and shrubs, they learned of the project. The parkland that will be confiscated in their view is the last piece of potentially good bird habitat before the University Village area. One volunteer worked 200-300 hours on the clearing project last year. This person and other volunteers have contributed a total of 1,000 hours to upgrade the site.

The Friends group received a grant from King County to purchase the trees and shrubs, scheduled to be planted in mid-November when they learned about Children's proposal.

They only learned of the project when they saw someone taking photographs on the site one day.

DPD has indicated that Children's will submit a MUP application for the project within the next few weeks. DPD stated that the project is part of the "public benefit" that Children's must provide as a condition of approval of the street vacation.

It is unclear whether the use of the parkland triggers Initiative 42. That initiative requires many things, including replacement of the park property with similar property. LCC has a longstanding position supporting Initiative 42.

A letter and concept drawing about the project received by Seattle Children's today was distributed and letters from Catherine Hennings and Kevin Bergsrud.

CALLS AND CONCERNS

1. Burglary: On January 8, Susie Rogers reported that her Ivanhoe home was burglarized that day. Burglars took a laptop, an iPad, silver, jewelry and perhaps more items. The burglar(s) crawled into a very small bedroom window. The police that responded said they have had over 8,000 calls since the first of the year. He said that most of these crimes are crimes of opportunity—easy access. He added that the bad economy and drug addicts have turned a lot of people into thieves.
2. SR 520: Jean Amick reported today that the proposed sentinels for SR 520 are now gone from the design. She thanked WSDOT for listening and respecting the natural beauty of the lake.
3. Proposed Burke-Gilman Bike/Pedestrian Connection: Catherine Hennings sent LCC a copy of her letter to Children's re this proposal and DPD's response outlining the upcoming MUP process. These letters were distributed. Hennings supports the proposal.
4. Talaris: Barb Ragee called today to report that she received a postcard about meetings to view the Talaris concept plan. She has questions about whether it is more difficult to evict a renter than to evict someone that doesn't pay homeowner dues if units are condos. She mentioned a condo project on 35th and 85th that was converted to apartments. That place has retail on the main floor and three or four levels of apartments. It also has a concierge to handle complaints and things seem to be working out well.

ADMINISTRATION

Minutes: The board reviewed the December minutes. MOTION by McAleer, seconded by Kelly to approve the minutes as presented. *Motion passed with all voting yes, except Ogden abstaining.*

Treasurer's Report: Dexter distributed and briefed the board on the monthly treasurer's report and the report on committed funds. She noted that substantial funds are coming in for the private security project.

Announcements:

1. NEDC announcement handout: Included in the agenda packets.
2. Thank you: Special thanks to Kay Kelly for the wonderful letter she drafted to Barbara Frost for her role in the annual sock drive. Thank you also to Kevin Chang for his letter supporting repaving and street improvements on NE 50th Street next to Villa Academy and to Liz Ogden for presenting the project at the December NEDC meeting.
3. Children's proposed bike/pedestrian connection to the Burke Gilman Trail: The final concept plan will be presented on Saturday, February 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Gould Hall, University of Washington, 15th Avenue and NE 40th Street.
4. Save Union Bay Meeting: February 26, 7-8 p.m. in the Isaacson Classroom at the Center for Urban Horticulture. The purpose of the meeting is to inform the public about the aquatic weeds management program for Union Bay. They will review the results of the 2012 aquatic weed management program and will describe plans for 2013. Everyone is invited to attend.
5. Basketball Court Resurfacing Project: LCC wrote to the 46th District state legislators asking for assistance in moving forward with the basketball court project. Representative Gerry Pollet is working on LCC's behalf. LCC also submitted a public records request to DNR asking for records of no fee agreements for lands that it manages. A conference call with DNR and LCC's committee is scheduled on Friday afternoon.

REPORTS/ACTION

School Levies: On February 12, 2013, renewal of two Seattle School District levies will be on the ballot. The Operations Levy provides more than a quarter of the funds needed to operate the Seattle Public Schools, including funding for day-to-day teaching and instructional programs such as a sixth period for high school. The Capital Levy (BEX IV) will provide *essential* funding to maintain and improve aging existing schools, provide earthquake safety upgrades at 37 schools, and build and renovate schools in growing communities. These levies are renewals and the total additional cost of both levies for the owner of an average \$400,000 home is \$13 a month. LCC has consistently supported school levies over the years. MOTION by McAleer, seconded by Kelly to support the February school levies. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Crime Prevention:

1. North Precinct Report: Luiten reported that Donna O'Neill from the bomb squad was the speaker at the last NPAC meeting. That department investigates arson and deals with suspicious packages. Dennis, the bomb dog, was at the meeting. There is a robot named Robbie that is equipped with cameras and can x-ray things. Bomb suits weigh 90 pounds.

After the Sandy Hook massacre, the Seattle police went to schools. The vice president of NPAC donated \$2,000 in honor of his wife. The socks and other items collected by LCC were delivered to Solid Ground.

2. Crime in the Neighborhood: In addition to the January 8 burglary, Brian reported that there was a suspicious person in the neighborhood and one domestic violence person who was taken to the hospital. The responsible person was caught.

SR 520 Update: McAleer addressed three issues on SR 520:

- One was the removal of the second set of proposed sentinels at the Arboretum from the design. The sentinels at the western high rise remain.
- There has been intense work among concerned constituents and the local bike advocacy groups to formulate a bicycle and pedestrian connection along the west side of SR520. One group wants a 12 foot bike/pedestrian lane added on to the Portage Bay Bridge. Another group of neighbors prefers a route along Delmar Drive if WSDOT purchases an adjacent piece of property from Seattle Prep. Discussions of the route will continue as the westside design is refined. Both groups want safe access for all ages and abilities as a goal.
- WSDOT is proposing building a temporary structure on the west side using federal TIFIA loans-plans due out in February.

Talaris Update: Talaris has set up its website for redevelopment of the 18-acre property. It is <http://talarisliving.us/>. The site lists dates and times of upcoming neighborhood open houses which will be held on February 4, February 7 and February 9. All open houses will be hosted at the Talaris Conference Center, Willows Building in the central building cluster and will provide the same exhibits and information.

Talaris is also hosting two open houses for nearby neighbors. They have asked that LCC not publicize these meetings and that only one trustee attend each event.

The open houses for residents to the west of the site are:

Monday, January 21, 3-7 p.m.
January 22, 3-7 p.m.
January 24, 3-7 p.m.

The open houses for residents to the east and south of the site are:

January 28, 3-7 p.m.
January 31, 3-7 p.m.
February 2, 11-2 p.m.

MOTION by McAleer, seconded by Kelly to authorize \$1,000 to commission Carol Eychaner to undertake land use analysis on Talaris. *Motion passed unanimously*. It was suggested that Eychaner prepare a primer on how the process works and/or host a seminar or two.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 9 p.m.