

LCC Trustees Meeting
Laurelhurst Community Center
February 13, 2012

Attending: Kevin Chang, Emily Dexter, Elizabeth Graham, Jeannie Hale, Kay Kelly, Linda Luiten, Liz Ogden, Colleen McAleer, Brian McMullen, Stan Sorscher, Don Torrie, Maggie Weissman

Excused: Kristen Curry, Leslie Wright

Guests: Carl Presley, Mark Howard from the Office of Emergency Preparedness

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM, followed by introductions.

Emergency Preparedness: Mark Howard from the Office of Emergency Preparedness passed out handouts. We tend to think of earthquakes, and the images of New Zealand or Chile. The time scale for severe earthquakes is 400 years around here. We should also think about smaller events, such as snow storms, which happen many times during a decade.

Households should have kits, including water for drinking and cleaning. If you take medication, that should be in the kit, too. If you have pets, they should have a kit. Everyone in the family should know someone out of the area who can take calls and coordinate status of family members who may be separated. The family should plan where to meet, taking into account that travel and roads may be disrupted.

The next level of preparedness is to organize neighbors, similarly to families having their plan. The City has a program called SNAP – Seattle Neighborhoods Actively Prepare. Individuals can check in on each other – especially on older neighbors. SNAP also encourages teams to check on neighbors. Sometimes a house will show damage, and neighbors may need to go inside to see if someone needs help. In an earthquake, houses can shift off the foundation. Gas leaks are always a threat.

SNAP classes are offered in libraries. The Northeast branch has a SNAP class on Saturday March 3.

Higher up the preparedness pyramid involves City services. Hubs will be set up around the City to coordinate local problems and local resources. West Seattle can be isolated from the rest of the city. The City has already set up hubs in that neighborhood. Magnolia, Interbay and Wallingford are also moving forward in this program.

Discussion of building a network of volunteers to manage these activities.

CALLS AND CONCERNS

1. ADUs: A neighbor emailed on January 19 inquiring about the rules for accessory dwelling units as there has been a problem on her block. LCC emailed DPD's

informational material about the requirements for ADUs and a link to DPD's code compliance page if a complaint is warranted.

2. Idling Metro buses: On January 31, a neighbor inquired about idling buses in the neighborhood—the idling takes place in the early mornings and extends up to eight minutes and is quite loud. LCC contacted King County Councilmember Larry Gossett's office about this. In the meantime, LCC has learned that buses are not allowed to idle. Drivers must turn off buses immediately. Kevin Chang suggested a Metro employee to call about idling buses.
3. Loud noises at the UW: On January 31, the Laurelhurst Blog emailed to ask about the constant banging coming from the UW track area. The banging, suspected to be drilling into the marsh to put in pilings, goes on very late into the night. LCC followed up and learned that despite these complaints, the contractor reported that the crew has not driven a pile later than 4:30 p.m. and that there has been no pile driving on a weekend. Neighbor perceptions do not match up with what the UW has told LCC.
4. Median at the foot of Suicide Hill: A neighbor emailed to inquire about the status of maintenance of the median at the bottom of the big hill. Talaris is responsible for this maintenance and still has not stepped up to the plate to perform its responsibilities under the Settlement Agreement. LCC will follow up.
5. Parking issue: A neighbor in the Town of Yesler called on February 1 to report a parking issue between 36th and 37th Avenue NE. A new neighbor petitioned the city for two-hour parking sign due to the high volume of people from the UW and CUH parking in front of her house. All she was required to do was get agreement from 50 percent of the neighbors on the block and there are only five homes. LCC will follow up on this to learn the rules as the issue will likely resurface in the future. It was suggested that an RPZ might be a better approach.
6. Fiber optic lines: On February 1, Barb Ragee suggested that LCC contact Seattle Children's to see if they are adding fiber optic lines or electrical service in the Town of Yesler. These lines do not benefit that part of the neighborhood and LCC was encouraged to ask Children's to assist in paying for undergrounding of the wiring.
7. Waterway No. 1: Judith Thornton emailed several times beginning on January 15 in a message to Emily Dexter about revegetation of the waterway and options to consider from her group. LCC was briefed on the plan for the waterway developed by Arthur Lee Jacobson at its January 9 meeting and DNR has since approved that plan. LCC sent Thornton LCC's plan and letter from DNR. On January 19, Thornton sent notes she'd prepared on plants and trees in the approved plan. On January 20, Thornton sent options prepared by her group and her notes to the full LCC board. LCC responded today thanking Thornton and her group for their suggestions and pointing out that the vine maple suggested, the pathway and seating area in one of the options are excellent ideas that should be considered in a future phase when landscaping in the southeast portion of the site is undertaken.

8. Talaris: Paul Klemond emailed on February 11 about the sale of the Talaris property. He has concerns about the future of the site and would like to be kept informed.

Brian McMullen mentioned cars vandalizing the median on NE 41st St.

ADMINISTRATION

Appointment to the Board: Former LCC trustee Liz Ogden has expressed a willingness to rejoin the board. Since retiring from the board, she has remained active on land use, waterway and shoreline street end issues and projects. **Motion by** Maggie Weissman, seconded by Elizabeth Graham to appoint Liz Ogden to the Board of Trustees. **Motion passed** unanimously.

Minutes: The board reviewed the January 9, 2012 minutes. **Motion** Maggie Weissman, seconded by Colleen McAleer to accept the minutes, noting that Brian McMullen was excused. **Motion passed** unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: The board reviewed the monthly treasurer's report. LCC received notice from its insurance provider. The Hartford would like to increase LCC's deductible from \$2500 to \$15,000. McDonald/McGarry, LCC's insurance broker, has indicated that they have other insurers and are checking to see what the terms may be to secure coverage for a lower deductible. They will be back in touch within a week or so.

Changes to the Agenda: Add billboard relocation nomination after the Land Use items.

Announcements:

1. SAC meeting: The SAC meeting has been rescheduled to Thursday, March 1 from 6-8 in the Sound Café at the hospital. Children's will update the SAC on Phase 1 construction, 40th and Sand Point Way signalization, replacement housing and emergency department planning. There will also be a report on ambulatory care needs.
2. Community Center open house: The Community Center invites everyone for coffee, tea, juice and treats to celebrate the new community center hours, permanent staff and spring programs on Tuesday, March 13 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
3. Magnuson Park Workshop: McAleer and Hale attended the Magnuson Park Strategic Planning Workshop on Saturday, February 11. The Parks Department will compile feedback from the four-hour workshop soon.

REPORTS/ACTION

Essential Public Facilities Update: LCC is on the homestretch in its appeal of the code amendment that would authorize the siting of "essential public facilities" in residential zones contrary to zoning restrictions and development regulations. LCC's concerns about the siting of facilities such as crisis centers, drug rehabilitation centers and the like on the 18-acre Talaris property and in the low-rise Hartmann property across from Seattle Children's prompted LCC's involvement in this hearing examiner appeal. The

waiver of development regulations also raises concerns about the SR 520 Replacement Project.

The City has continued to drag its feet in complying with LCC's public records requests, despite orders from the Hearing Examiner to turn over certain documents. The City's most recent stalling tactic occurred on January 11. The City filed a second motion to dismiss based on lack of standing. The City is basically saying that LCC has no right to file the appeal in the first place. This motion has far reaching impacts for every community group in the Seattle filing similar appeals on any proposed regulation or master plan.

Motions for standing are brought when a case is initiated, yet the City waited over four months. In that interim period, there has been a prehearing conference and several other motions with no mention of standing as an issue. The City cited no authority for its motion and ignored the long-standing Code provision that allows any "interested person" to file an appeal. Under the City's Code, "interested person" includes community groups "significantly affected by or interested in proceedings."

The briefing on various motions are scheduled to be complete by mid-March.

Expenses to date have exceeded our original budget.

SR 520 Update: Colleen McAleer brought new drawings of the bridge, which came from WashDOT through the Shoreline permit process. The drawings are dated July 2011, and show elevations and plan views of the new bridge sections, with shaded outlines of the old bridge. Discussion of location and height of the new bridge.

Colleen gave a brief update on the legal challenge by the Coalition for a Sustainable 520.

Talaris: As reported in the February 10, *Seattle Times*, the Talaris property has been sold to Maryland-based nonprofit Teaching Strategies. Attorneys for the new owners would like to meet with LCC reps to talk about amending the Settlement Agreement or pursuing development of a 90 lot housing subdivision.

Liz suggested we get more information about what the transaction was, exactly. We have been asked to meet with lawyers for the new owners to discuss their intentions. Carol Eychaner has contacted DPD to check on the permit status and master use permit (MUP) activity for the site. She is also tracking pre-application activity.

Motion by Jeannie Hale, seconded by Liz Ogden, to authorize 3-5 hours for Peter Eglick and Carol Eychaner to meet with lawyers from the new owners of the property. **Motion passed** without objection, with Kevin abstaining.

Waterway #1: At the January meeting, LCC reviewed the re-vegetation plan prepared by tree and plant expert, Arthur Lee Jacobson, but did not officially vote to endorse the plan, although there was general support expressed at the meeting. **Motion** by Elizabeth Graham, seconded by Linda Luiten to endorse the re-vegetation plan at Waterway #1, prepared by Arthur Lee Jacobson. **Motion passed** unanimously.

Billboard Relocation: Every year, between January 1 and March 1, DPD accepts applications from residents to request the relocation of a billboard located within Seattle. In 2007, LCC nominated removal of the big billboard at Five Corners. The billboard at this intersection contributes to driver distraction, even more so in recent years due to Code changes that authorize video components to signs and billboards. The level of service (LOS) is F and there is concern about pedestrian and bicycle safety. **Motion** by Liz Ogden, seconded by Colleen McAleer to request DPD to relocate the billboard at 5 corners. **Motion passed** unanimously.

Crime Prevention: Linda Luiten reported that the North Precinct meeting looked at fraud. Check crimes and credit card skimming at the most common fraud crimes. Fake card readers can be placed in gas pumps or bank lobbies. The fake reader reads the card in addition to the regular machine reading the card.

CUCAC Rep: Kirsten Curry is currently LCC's CUCAC representative and Heather Newman is the alternate. Curry's work schedule and Newman's recent foot surgery have meant that neither could attend recent CUCAC meetings. CUCAC meets the Tuesday after LCC meetings, but only four-six times a year. Jeannie will attend the CUCAC meeting, but we are looking for a volunteer.

Neighborhood Street Fund: Thirteen street fund applications have been submitted for this year's Neighborhood Street Fund process. LCC submitted an application for curb bulbs on 47th Avenue NE. This is the last remaining project to be funded in LCC's 1992 North Laurelhurst Transportation Master Plan.

Children's submitted two applications—speed signs on NE 45th adjacent to the hospital and curb bulb(s) on NE 45th and 43rd Avenue NE, a project included in the Livable Streets Report.

NEDC will rank the projects at its March 1 meeting. It is possible that two or three of the applications will be rejected outright because the proponents have not coordinated with SDOT or the Parks Department.

Spring Clean Planning: April is Spring Clean month. The City provides yard waste bags, garden gloves, yard waste pickup, safety vests and free passes to the dump. LCC will again sponsor a traffic circle cleanup and work parties.

Executive Session: The Board began Executive Session at 8:57 PM.

Motion by Colleen/Liz to authorize an additional \$25,000 funding to complete the Essential Public Facilities matter through the hearing process. **Motion passed** without opposition, Brian and Kevin abstaining.

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM.
Minutes by Stan Sorscher