

Laurelhurst Community Club
Minutes for October 12, 2009
St. Stephen's Church, Seattle WA

Meeting called to order by Jeannie Hale at 6:25 PM. The Board began an executive session, which ended at 7:06 PM.

Trustees Attending: Emily Dexter, Jeannie Hale, Cary Lassen, Colleen McAleer, Brian McMullen, Stan Sorscher, Mark Trumbauer, Maggie Weissman, Len Nelson, Marian Joh, Kirsten Curry, and Leslie Wright.

Excused: Don Torrie, Adrian Whorton, Maggie Weissman

Guests: Susan Marten, Dave Warner, and Ethan Bancroft, Washington State Department of Transportation

SR 520: Ethan Bancroft and Dave Warner

The SR 520 project can be understood in 4 segments:

- The construction from I-5 to Medina - Alt A, K, L plus a second bridge across the Montlake cut
- Roadway from Medina to SR 202;
- Lake Washington bridge traffic congestion - tolling of existing bridge;
- Pontoon construction project.

Income from tolling is committed to replacement of 520 bridge.

Q: What about infrequent users, tourists, who have no transponder?

A: This will be settled by the Transportation Commission, Fed Hwy Authority, the Governor and the toll implementation committee.

All four parts each have an environmental process.

Medina to I-5 project:

- I-5 improvements
- Portage Bay replacement
- Montlake interchange improvements
- West approach replacement
- Floating bridge replacement

The project should be totally complete by 2018. During construction, at least 4 lanes should be open at all times, except maybe weekends or short-term closures.

The design has changed since the Environmental Impact Statement was written in 2006. Each alternative was assessed against 30 disciplines - 10 particularly significant disciplines, such as noise, visual quality, traffic (flow) discipline report, wetlands ecosystems, and parks.

Option A: Base - second bascule bridge. No connection to Lake Washington Blvd. Remove freeway flyer stop (bus stops will be on surface streets away from freeway).

Alternative A would add some traffic flow capacity in the Montlake Ave interchange. Light rail can be added, later.

Option K: Tunnel under Montlake Cut. In this case, construction would lower the intersection at Montlake, and Pacific. A larger radius curve has been included in the design. All 520 traffic headed north on Montlake would go through the tunnel.

Option L: Add a second bascule bridge diagonally over Union Bay, similar to the tunnel proposed in Option K. "In your face" visual impact. Opposed by neighborhoods.

Costs are changing as work continues on the alternatives.

K is more expensive with the tunnel and it has a sunken interchange into and out of tunnel.

L is less expensive, because bascule bridge is cheaper than the tunnel.

Legislative work group web site is linked to WashDOT project web site.

Q: Stimulus money?

A: Some extra funding sources may appear.

Susan Marten:

Q: What do we know about a letter to the editor in the Puget Sound Business Journal - letter to the editor written by Colleen McGinn?

A: We were pleased to see it.

Q: Minutes refer to bylaws change to define LCC as Board of Trustees. Clarification?

A: The bylaws are reviewed from time to time, and this point had not been addressed clearly in the bylaws.

Q: Adrian Wharton is a trustee. Does that violate the conflict of interest?

A: LCC has a conflict of interest policy. Adrian complies with that policy.

Q: Webmaster is on the Board. Conflict of interest?

A: Leslie Wright is recused when the board discusses the Newsletter Editor.

Comment: Special meeting should be held to discuss Childrens Hospital, to hear how the community really feels.

ADMINISTRATION

Minutes: The board reviewed the minutes of the September meeting. Corrections to a typo on pge 4 regarding Department of natural Resources, and another typo at the top of page 13. **Motion** by Brian McMullen seconded by Colleen McAleer to approve the September 14, 2009 minutes. **Motion passed** without objection, Leslie Wright, Len Nelson and Kirsten Curry abstaining.

Treasurer's Report: Joh briefed the board.

Changes to the Agenda: Add siting for a combined sewer overflow facility and election of officers.

CALLS AND CONCERNS:

1. Parking: Kevin Wrenn emailed on 9/24 about the overflow parking from the Springbrook complex onto 40th Avenue NE. He was interested in exploring an RPZ as he has a photography business and now must often carry heavy equipment several blocks. LCC responded to ask for clarification. He might also consider a "Load zone," since home businesses can qualify for load zones.
2. Process issues: Susan Marten emailed ten times since the last trustee meeting about a response to the memo she read and distributed to the board at its 9/14 meeting, posting agendas on LCC's website, getting minutes posted more promptly on LCC's website and other matters. LCC provided a response to her memo on 10/11 (included in the agenda packet).
3. Use of St. Stephens: The Church emailed on 9/30 for some background information about LCC's building use agreement that must have been entered into decades ago. LCC is checking on that.
4. Children's: Haney Scott sent LCC a copy of his message of 9/25 and response from DPD director Diane Sugimura. He asked that DPD support the Hearing Examiner's decision. Helen and David Belvin shared their similar email exchange of 9/21.
5. DADUs: Karl Hellstrom sent LCC a copy of his message exchange of 9/20 to Councilmember Tom Rasmussen opposing the "backyard cottage" proposed ordinance. Graciela Rutkowski emailed on 9/28 asking for clarification on LCC's DADU position.
6. Mega houses in the Town of Yesler: After the 9/14 trustee meeting, LCC emailed the neighbors who attended the meeting asking for specific questions about the mega houses in Yesler. Several neighbors have responded so far.
7. Tailgate parties on the Talaris property: LCC still needs to follow up on the 9/05 concern from Robert Cation about the tailgate parties on the Talaris open space area. As reported last month, approximately 12 cars were parked on the property and loud, rowdy parties took place throughout the day. Neighbors had to pick up all the garbage after the game the following day. Last year, Talaris put out cones to block parking in this area that is part of the wetlands.
8. Boat parking: A neighbor left a voice message for Stan Sorscher objecting to the practice of storing boats on the street.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Please see the NEDC announcement handout.

REPORTS/ACTION:

Crime Prevention:

At its September meeting, LCC unanimously passed a motion to support adequate funding for public safety and crime prevention. The Mayor's proposed budget adds 20 new patrol officers in 2010, keeping Seattle on track with Nickels' plan to have 154 new officers on the streets by 2012. Funding from crime prevention does not appear to be in the budget. It has been suggested that funds to pay Diane Horswill will continue for one year using federal stimulus money. It is unclear whether funding for the Red Light Runner program will be cut. The budget reduced overtime funding for the police department's Automated Traffic Control programs by \$156,000. The Red Light Runner program is part of this funding allocation. Apparently, the goal is to rely upon officer straight time, rather than overtime for this project and the School Zone Enforcement Van Project.

Brian McMullen passed out the crime report and statistics. We experienced a jump in car prowls.

Seattle Children's Update: The first meeting of the Council's Planning Land Use and Neighborhoods Committee (PLUNC) to consider the proposed Seattle Children's master plan was tentatively scheduled for October 8, 2009. The date has been postponed to mid-November.

City Budget Issues: With a projected \$72 million revenue shortfall in the city's 2009-2010 budget, the Library was asked to identify approximately five percent in cuts—about \$2.6 million. Proposed cuts include:

- Reduce branch operating hours (branch libraries closed on Fridays and Mondays): \$1.2M
- Sustain 2009 management and administrative reductions: \$562,000
- Close the Library system-wide for one week (unpaid furlough): \$649,000
- Extend staff computer replacement cycle from 4 years to 5 years: \$23,000
- Absorb citywide inflation, health care and rate adjustments that don't affect services or staff: \$200,000 above the Library Board's proposed cut.

There is a public hearing on the budget on Monday, October 26 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall.

Waterway No. 1 Update: On October 8, the State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) issued a decision retaining its threshold determination of Declaration of Nonsignificance (DNS) for the Lewis Waterway No. 1 permits. DNR provided a summary of findings for the permits addressing components of the environmental checklist and a summary of public comments and its responses.

Siting for a Combined Sewer Overflow Facility: To comply with federal regulations, the Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) department will be creating a combined sewer overflow facility in northeast Seattle. The 4-acre underground basin would be paved over after construction. SPU held public meetings about the project and selected Warren G. Magnuson Park (near NE 65th) as its preferred site. The Hawthorne Hills, North Windermere and Belvedere Terrace Community Councils support this location.

Instead of pursuing its preferred location for the facility, SPU decided to instead use the large parking lot of the Center for Spiritual Living just north of Seattle Children's. The cost of this location would exceed using the northeast corner of NE 65th and Sand Point Way NE at Magnuson Park. Concerns have been raised due to traffic disruption, no alternative parking area for the church participants for an extended period of time, noise and pollution. It is unclear whether SPU's decision is final.

Leave of absence for Maggie Weissman: **Motion** by Stan Sorscher, seconded by Cary Lassen to authorize LOA for 6 months. **Motion passed** unanimously.

Election of officers:

The following trustees were nominated.

President Jeannie Hale
Vice President: Emily Dexter
Secretary: Stan Sorscher
Treasurer: Marian Joh

Motion by Leslie Wright, seconded by Len Nelson to elect the trustees as nominated. **Motion passed** unanimously.

Executive session started at 8:40 PM, ended at 9:05 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Minutes by Stan Sorscher