

**Jackson Place Community Council
Quarterly Meeting
September 15, 2008, 7:00-8:30p
Artspace Hiawatha Lofts (843 Hiawatha Place South)**

Agenda

1. 7:00 – Community members arrive, mingle, fill out nametags, and sign in
2. 7:10 – 7:30 Ginger Bonnell from Seattle Housing Authority will talk about Disaster Preparedness
3. 7:30 – 7:45 Committee Reports (Traffic, Crime, Bylaw revision, Land Use)
4. 7:45 – 8:00 – JPCC Board reviews Goodwill Site Community Benefits Agreement
5. 8:00 – 9:00 – Public Comment (10 minutes per speaker – sign-up ahead of time to speak)
6. 9:00 – Adjourn

Disaster Preparedness

Ginger Bonnell spoke. She's an emergency manager by trade, but says she is speaking from a Red Cross perspective. "If it has to do with disaster, I'm your gal." If you are prepared for an earthquake, you are probably prepared for everything else. Be prepared for yourself, your family, your pets, your neighborhood.

There's a fault line that is half a mile south of I-90. Even a 6.0 earthquake would cause a lot of damage in Seattle.

On being personally prepared:

What you need to survive for 3 days: water. But you will be grumpy. Have more, especially if you have kids. Food, first aid, etc.

72 hour kit:

Water: FEMA/Red Cross recommends 1 gal/per person/per day. Don't carry it around; in this area there should be a fair amount of water.

Kits should be individualized: Home; Car; Office

Should be a "Go Kit" with essentials (water, first aid kit)

Communications Plan:

With children, significant others, out of area contact to a non 206 or 425 number;

Should involve more than just being able to contact by cell phone;

Should have access a corded land-line phone;

Develop a set of specific questions that the contact should be able to answer (e.g. which Red Cross shelter are you at)

www.seattle.gov/emergency – lots of information, including videos

Q: Will it be likely that the Washington Middle School will be a resource for the neighborhood

A: Unlikely. During school hours the priority will be the students. After hours it may be used, but that designation doesn't happen until after the disaster. Don't necessarily rely on them. Listen to the radio, at frequencies AM710 and AM1000.

Q: In a major disaster, is there any facilitation for out of state contact.

A: Yes, the Red Cross does have an excellent system, but it is recommended that you develop a personal plan.

Q: Are there are other nearby faults?

A: Yes, but the Seattle fault (near I-90) is the major one, partly because it is overdue (every 300-400 years, and the last one was about 350 years ago.)

Q: Doorway or desk?

A: Don't do a doorway. Drop, cover and hold. If nothing else, dropping and covering your head is better than nothing.

www.usgs.gov – look at their worldwide earthquake maps, which are updated hourly

Committee Reports (Traffic, Crime, Bylaw Revision, Land Use)

Traffic Committee Report

John Schroeder gave a brief update, which was largely the information in the September 2008 newsletter.

John said that the Traffic group is ready to take on new projects, and is eager to get input from the community.

There will be a meeting on Saturday, September 27 at Café Vega at 9:00am.

On October 4th there will be a 16th and Weller Traffic circle cleanup.

Crime Committee Report

October 16th meeting at SVI. The captain of the precinct usually shows up, and wants to hear personally from citizens.

East Precinct has been sponsoring concerts. Next one is 9/27 from 2-5.

Vince brought a bunch of posters on vehicle safety.

Bylaw revision Committee Report

None given.

Land Use Report

Tadashi wants to get people interested in the Land Use Committee and solicited members. Will send CORA information to Johnny for jacksonplace.org

Bill Bradburd: Briefly talked about the upcoming revisions in the city's Multi-Family guidelines, which is something that the Land Use will take a look at.

Steve Van Oel: Neighborhood planning process is being revived, although there is yet to be an agreement between activists, the City Council, and the Mayor's office.

JPCC Board reviews Goodwill Site Community Benefits Agreement (CBA)

Maura Deering, JPCC Board member who sat on the Steering Committee for the Dearborn Street Coalition for Livable Neighborhoods (DSCLN), introduced David West from SAGE.

David gave a history of the DSCLN (established in 2006) and negotiations with the developer. David gave an overview of some of the aspects of the benefits in the signed CBA.

David Tran from the Vietnamese community spoke in support of the CBA. Sees some economic benefits for small business owners.

Maura spoke about why the JPCC Board signed the agreement. Lots of division even on the Board, which matched the division in the community. Outlined the progress made on the negotiations.

Public Comment

Bill Bradburd:

Bill Bradburd spoke first, summarized the negative traffic impacts, the destruction of neighborhood character. Talked about the beginning of the coalition, and how the coalition started to fracture as some groups wanted to complete a deal with the developer. Opposing groups include Squire Park (representing 3500 homes adjacent to JP and LS), and Inter*Im, representing Chinatown.

Congratulates Labor and Sage for their success, but feels that community interests were used to pry mitigations from the developer, with little actual gain for the affected communities.

Bill feels that there are continuing opportunities for opposing the project that goes beyond what the CBA was able to get. Thinks there are impacts that are not being considered, e.g. air quality.

Bill's biggest complaint with the CBA is with respect to the Street Vacation. Thinks the money should go into a community redevelopment fund that would then accompany a Livable South Downtown sanctioned project. Thinks that the CBA is a developer giveaway.

A year ago it might have been a good idea to sign an agreement, but with Livable South Downtown in place, shopping malls just don't fit with a residential community.

Bill and his allies have other tactics in store for the coming months.

Rene Soulard:

"Why is their confidentiality for a public project?" Thinks that we should be getting more from the Street Vacation process. Gave an example of a recently much smaller vacation that was rejected. "Why should we giving away streets for virtually nothing to a white developer?" Thinks city doesn't hold up its agreements. "Get it in writing!"

[Jill Moe: It's not the public process that was confidential. It was the negotiations with the developer, by mutual agreement. We talked a lot about this in our community meetings. On getting it in writing: We do have it in writing.]

[David West on why the negotiations were confidential: Fairly typical so it is not negotiated in the press.]

Nothing wrong with using the press to negotiate, because this is a public group. This is not a gated community.

Tony Ventura:

Has been for the project since he first heard about it. There are things that will be great about it, and things that will be a pain in the ass. Thanks the Board, and thanks Bill Bradburd.

Danny Tran:

The Vietnamese community is huge, and yes, there is some disagreement within it. Most of the opposition is from Olympia (although they may have local ties.)

Daniela McDonald:

Grateful to everyone who has put in the time. Knows that everyone cares. Her mother and grandmother were neighborhood activists. Feels that it is a bit of tail between the legs moment. She's an investigative reporter, and questions the source for facts and figures. There are whole websites devoted to shooting down community organization. Has neighbors that are very concerned about air quality, and the impact on the small Vietnamese neighbors.

As respectfully as possible, she will continue to fight this project. Thinks there are a lot of options left.

Tim Kennedy:

This is a missed opportunity for a potentially really

David West:

Until our signed agreement, we had no way of actually enforcing many of the provisions of the CBA. Thinks that we were able to get more than the City Council would have delivered, given the recent track record.

Labor was not willing to sign a final agreement without community support, even though they did get early agreements.

Doesn't think the City Council would oppose the Goodwill organization.

Jill Moe:

Other organizations have signed onto this, including Futurewise, an organization she respects. This had been a very difficult process, and welcomes future input.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm