

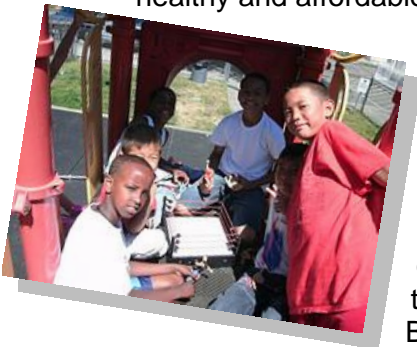
Making Rainier Beach Great! – A Call to Action

Rainier Beach Neighborhood Plan Update Action Plan

This Call to Action is a document that will change and be updated over time as the community and City accomplish the neighborhood plan work. The priorities below are a partial list of those contained in the plan. They represent plans that Rainier Beach can take action on during the next few years.

The Rainier Beach neighborhood is home to people from around the world, with over 60 languages spoken. There are more immigrants and refugees living here than in any other Seattle neighborhood, and more African Americans also choose to make Rainier Beach their home. Income diversity strengthens the neighborhood. Stores sell international goods, parks and marinas liven up the shore of Lake Washington, and trails explore the natural beauty of wooded hills and creeks. The neighborhood has a light rail station, a library and many schools.

A Place for Everyone – Rainier Beach residents, long-term and new, will all have access to safe, healthy and affordable housing; access to transit; and a variety of vibrant commercial centers.



Action 1 (example) – Decent and Affordable Housing for All: Develop and rehabilitate a range of housing options that provide safe, healthy and affordable options for all income levels to create an equitable neighborhood and significantly reduce displacement.

Action 2 (example) – Strong & Stable Cultural Commercial Districts at S. Rose Street, 57th Ave S., and Renton Ave. & Henderson: These districts are essential to their communities; they provide goods and services to a range of cultural communities and are susceptible to displacement. Business owners, community members and governmental agencies work

together to coordinate efforts to make these districts strong and stable.

Action 3 (example) – Develop a pilot Transit Shuttle/Connector Route between Light Rail, upper Rainier Beach and our three Business/Cultural Districts so that visitors and residents alike can better experience our neighborhood’s rich diversity.

Action 4 (example) – Improve student equity regarding transportation including reduced fares, safe and timely routes to school.

Life Long Learning – Rainier Beach is home to public and private educational institutions, with the capacity to provide formal and informal education to all 5,000 residents. Situated in the nation’s most diverse zip code, Rainier Beach residents represent an amazing wealth of cultural experiences. By intentionally welcoming the community into the schools, both the schools and the neighborhood can be uplifted.

Action 1 (example) – Successful Education for All Children: Parents, youth programs, community based organizations, culturally based organizations, and faith based organizations work together so that all Rainier Beach children can have bright futures.

Action 2 (example) – Create a Shared Multi-Cultural Center: A place where culturally based organizations can come together across cultural boundaries to provide services to their people and share concerns. This is also a place where people (youth through elders) from all backgrounds can highlight their heritage, strengthening themselves and informing others in ways that expand far beyond stereotypes.



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Growing Food to Develop Healthy Industry – Rainier Beach has a unique opportunity to combine its urban farms and light industrial zone to become a hub of food and agricultural production.

Action 1 (in progress) – The Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands project, over 10 acres located at the former Atlantic City Nursery, will provide multiple opportunities for food production, classes on organic gardening, cross-cultural food experiences, youth education and employment training.



Action 2 – Food creates jobs and links people: Develop an alternative food distribution system that creates jobs and celebrates our multi-cultural cooking heritage. Neighborhood residents will be educated in food production, origin and nutrition. New jobs and lots of good things to eat!

Action 3 – Rainier Beach is the center for farm product innovation for the future economy: The light industrial zoning along Martin Luther King Way South, coupled with easy access to light rail and I-5, makes this a feasible location to support innovation.

A Beautiful, Safe Place – Strengthening the neighborhood through beautification increases public activity by 72%, and once we are all out in the neighborhood together, we have the opportunity to get to know each other. This action plan would look at areas of the neighborhood that need physical improvements like street lighting, crosswalk markings and public art. These efforts would work in tandem with public safety initiatives.

Action 1 (in progress) – Touchstones: A Walking Tour of Rainier Beach will highlight existing places and reveals neighborhood history, culture and stories. It will also connect community members to information about the public processes that shape our neighborhood.

Action 2 (example) – Bring all of our neighborhood public safety advocates together to create an alliance that utilizes a comprehensive community plan to reduce crime by 20% in Rainier Beach

Action 3 (example) – Encourage sustainable building practices by easing the permit process with the City of Seattle for innovative structures and landscapes.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

On Rainier Beach Neighborhood Plan:

<http://www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/mpi/plans.htm> (Select your neighborhood in the window).

On Rainier Beach Neighborhood Plan Update:

[http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/Planning/Neighborhood Planning/NeighborhoodPlanUpdates/default.asp](http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/Planning/Neighborhood%20Planning/NeighborhoodPlanUpdates/default.asp)