

Neighborhood Plan Update Phase II Workshop with Members of the Somali Community

June 13, 2009

Part I: Places and Connections

Exercise to discuss gaps and opportunities for improving pedestrian, bike and transit connectivity. (Where do you live/work/shop and mode of travel)

Part II: Building a Great Town Center

Exercise to explore relationships between number of households, retail destinations, parks and walkability. (Creating a town center, housing density, building heights, etc)

- The city should consider building few 12 story building along the MLK to provide affordable higher rise-affordable rent. (High density)
- We propose to Increase high rise development by constructing buildings from 8 to 12 floors so that rent will decrease. (Increase supply)
- Likewise include in the plan green areas near the buildings.

Part III: Emerging Priorities and Opportunities

Capturing new ideas or major concepts (new themes and remaining issues)

- The train has already caused increased cost of living and traffic.
- We ask the city to consider including in the neighborhood plan low income family housing.
- We request from the City to negotiate employment and contracts for our community with Sound Transit.
- Increase safety for pedestrian along the train –build barriers
- We propose to the City elected officials to consider providing a building to preserve Somali culture with the interest of the youth in mind so that our youth to keep off the jail and to the work force- Somali Cultural Center
- We propose to the city to negotiate cleaning contracts with the Sound Transit.
- Provide underground parking in the building for the neighborhood residents and businesses.
- Include parks and recreation employment opportunity to the Somali community to increase participation of the Somali community in the parks program.
- Provide provisions for rent control or subsidies for new immigrants and refugees owned businesses in the new developments.
- Provide small or mini bus services that will pick passengers from the stations and to the neighborhoods also provide contracts of services to the Somali business community.
- Safety for pedestrians along the train – include barriers on the sides along MLK.
- We request Increase safety around the stations and the area of the train.

Neighborhood Plan Update Phase II Workshop with Members of the Somali Community

June 20, 2009

Part I: Places and Connections

Exercise to discuss gaps and opportunities for improving pedestrian, bike and transit connectivity. (Where do you live/work/shop and mode of travel)

- Eighty percent of the people will be walking to the train and buses include in the plan pedestrian safety.
- We suggest including light mini buses to shuttle people from the train to their residences.
- Include in the plan two buildings on both sides of the street exclusively for business with Sky Bridge.

Part II: Building a Great Town Center

Exercise to explore relationships between number of households, retail destinations, parks and walkability. (Creating a town center, housing density, building heights, etc)

- Include in the plan green areas near the buildings.
- We propose to the city leaders to construct buildings along the train station buildings not taller than 6 to 8 floors.

Part III: Emerging Priorities and Opportunities

Capturing new ideas or major concepts (new themes and remaining issues)

- Include in the plan gym and swimming pool for separate gender access.
- We request Winco grocery outlet in place of the Safeway because of its competitive lower prices.
- Include in the plan a large grocery store like Safeway in the first level of residential buildings and underground parking area.
- For safety reason increase the noise level of the train as it approaches neighborhoods including bright lights
- Include in the plan near Othello Station more green area with benches for people to rest.
- Rent control for the small business owners so that we can continue to buy ethnic foods and provide employment for our community with the Sound Transit considering the ratio of the Somali population in the area.
- Improve walking pedestrian safety along the road.
- For safety reason increase the noise level of the train as it approaches neighborhoods including bright lights