

## Neighborhood Plan Update Phase II Workshop with Members of Oromiffa-Speaking (Ethiopian) Community

June 28, 2009

Oromo Community Organization

### **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)

- Separate dwelling from businesses
- Businesses are very busy and congested; this is undesirable for families
- Include grocery stores
- Build 8 story buildings with Bank of America
- Larger buildings will make Seattle very nice city
- Buildings should be the same height
- Make residential and business buildings alike and all buildings should be consulted with the neighborhood

### **Part III: Emerging Priorities and Opportunities**

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

- We need improved and more local metro access that will link to the Link Light Rail
- Parking garages at the Link Light Rail so locals can take advantage of the light train and free parking access
- Park and ride
- What protective programs are there for local small businesses to protect them from crashing by possible new bigger businesses?
- How local businesses are affected by the expansion of more businesses to the neighborhood?
- What happens to them?
- How locals will start small business if the neighborhoods are dominated by larger companies?
- Find ways to force national companies to deal with local small businesses to help them grow rather crash
- How do you deal with job losses resulted from lost small businesses?
- Concerns about safety, security and crime while walking to the Link Light Rail
- Retain East African shops, mosques, restaurants and others to make the neighborhood diverse
- Rainier street is unsafe
- Concerned about non-locals filling up parking spaces around the rail
- Have security cameras at stations for security reasons
- Security should be available for riders at location where there is security concern