



# City of Seattle Seattle Planning Commission

Josh Brower, Chair  
Barbara Wilson, Executive Director

## SEATTLE PLANNING COMMISSION JULY 22, 2010 APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

### **COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Vice Chair – Leslie Miller, David Cutler, Chris Fiori, Colie Hough-Beck, Mark Johnson, Kay Knapton, Amalia Leighton, Kevin McDonald, Christopher Persons, Amanda Sparr

### **COMMISSION STAFF**

Barbara Wilson-Director, Katie Sheehy-Planning Analyst, Robin Magonegil-Administrative Specialist, Diana Canzoneri-Demographer

### **COMMISSIONERS ABSENT**

Chair – Josh Brower, Catherine Benotto, Martin Kaplan, Radhika Nair, Matt Roewe

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Jeanne Krikawa, Chris Provenzano, Wilson Cancino, Jennifer Wieland, SDOT

*Please Note: Seattle Planning Commission meeting minutes are not an exact transcript but instead represent key points and the basis of the discussion.*

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Commission Vice-Chair Leslie Miller called the meeting to order at 7:32 am.

### **COMMISSION BUSINESS**

#### ▪ **Chair's Report**

Vice Chair Miller introduced Jeanne Krikawa, who will be confirmed to the Commission next week. Ms. Krikawa served one term with the Commission a few years ago and Vice Chair Miller noted that it is great to have her return! Ms. Krikawa said that she is an architect who currently spends more time working on transportation planning. She noted that she has a private practice and is currently working on the high capacity transit alignment from Northgate to Lynnwood.

Vice Chair Miller reviewed the upcoming meetings: Executive Committee Tuesday, August 3; HNUC Committee Tuesday, August 10; Full Commission Thursday, August 12; LUT Committee Tuesday, August 19.

Vice Chair Miller noted that COBE will continue their review of the proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments next Wednesday, July 28. She also noted that Ms. Magonegil recently received a promotion; congratulations to Robin! Vice Chair Miller reminded the Commissioners about the Governor's Smart Growth Award and Commissioners passed the award around the room.

## **BRIEFING & DISCUSSION:**

### ▪ **Seattle Transit Communities Report**

#### **Disclosures and Recusals:**

- Vice Chair Miller disclosed that she is a voting member of the Southeast District Council, a steering committee member of the Othello Station Community Advisory Committee, represents ROSA on the South Precinct Advisory Committee and is a steering committee member of Othello Park Now.
- Commissioner Mark Johnson disclosed that his firm, ESA Adolfson, works on multiple planning projects for the City, including at Northgate.
- Commissioner Colie Hough-Beck disclosed that her firm, HBB, works on infrastructure and transportation projects throughout Seattle.
- Commissioner Kay Knapton disclosed that she is on the steering committee of Friends of Lower Kinnear Park.
- Commissioner David Cutler disclosed that his firm, GGLO, is working on projects at the planned Roosevelt station and North Rainier Station.
- Commissioner Amalia Leighton disclosed that her firm, SvR Design, is on the Nelson Nygard team that will update the Transit Plan.
- Commissioner Amanda Sparr disclosed that her firm, EnviroIssues, has a contract with Sound Transit for public outreach and frequently works on other transit projects throughout the city.

Ms. Wilson reviewed the history of the Commission's Seattle Transit Communities report and noted that the introduction and typologies sections have already been approved. She explained that staff from DPD and SDOT had asked the Commission to categorize and prioritize Seattle's 'transit connections' which was accomplished in two work sessions with Commissioners and City staff. The guidelines for determining near-term priorities are listed below.

#### **Land Use Readiness**

- How important is this community in supporting our Urban Village strategy?
- How desirable is the development environment (development pressure, market visibility)?
- Is zoning well aligned with opportunities for place-making?
- Have recent or current planning efforts paved way for taking necessary actions to enhance this as a high priority transit community?
- How much development capacity exists?

#### **Transit Readiness**

- Is transit in place? When will it come online?
- What is the level of service? (# of transit routes, headways?)

- What are the opportunities based on mode? (development typically has a stronger response to fixed modes)

### **Balancing Considerations**

- Are there greater leveraging opportunities?
- Is there other funding available? (grants, contributions)
- Is there community support for planning and implementation?
- Has the City made existing commitments?
- How do we balance social and geographic equity?

Commissioner McDonald explained the four typologies of Seattle Transit Communities: Mixed Use Center, Mixed Use Neighborhood, Special District, and Industrial Job Center. He noted that the LUT committee started with many more typologies and narrowed them down to four.

Commissioner Hough-Beck indicated that some of the transit connections are hybrids of two typologies such as Uptown, which is both a Mixed Use Center and a Special District, and Interbay, which is a Mixed Use Neighborhood and an Industrial Jobs Center. Ms. Wilson noted that the LUT committee would confirm the categorization of the transit communities.

Ms. Wilson asked the Commissioners to turn their attention to the DRAFT recommendations. She noted that this work builds on the Commission's recommendations about future Neighborhood Plan updates, which encourage the City to use other planning tools than just neighborhood planning. She asked the Commissioners to identify what is missing and/or needed in each of the neighborhoods.

Commissioner Fiori asked if the Commission intended to make recommendations about appropriate transit levels of service (LOS). Ms. Wilson noted that LOS is touched on briefly in the typologies section, and added that it could be made more explicit. She explained that Commissioners have gone back and forth on the issue of making LOS recommendations, but have ultimately decided that the main focus of the report should be about land use and essential components for livability rather than LOS.

Commissioner Johnson urged caution about changing Commercial1 zoning, which helps provide a location for employment.

Commissioners discussed the necessary and essential components of Capitol Hill and Broadview. Ms. Wilson noted that 13 neighborhoods still need to be discussed and said she would send out information via email so that Commissioners could continue working on identifying the gaps in these neighborhoods online.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

*Submitted via email from Bob Corwin (Capitol Hill)*

To: the Planning Commission, for the **Transit-Oriented-Community**:

In walking distance of light rail -

100's of parking stalls in new development are being permitted.

Broadway wants to be a Transit-Oriented-Community To welcome walkers, it needs fewer cars, fewer permanent parking stalls (which raise housing costs and walker conflict).

PLEASE reduce allowable parking in new development in the transit neighborhood.

GREATNESS is to go ahead of the curve, please get those City silos to talk to each other and act together.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Vice-Chair Leslie Miller adjourned the meeting at 9:00 am.