



**CITY OF KIRKLAND**  
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**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Kurt Triplett, City Manager

**From:** Marilynne Beard, Deputy City Manager  
Marie Jensen, Communications Program Manager

**Date:** May 7, 2014

**Subject:** KIRKLAND 2035 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT UPDATE #13

**RECOMMENDATION:**

City Council receives an update on public involvement activities and progress on plan updates related to Kirkland 2035 (K2035) initiative.

**BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:**

This is the thirteenth in a series of updates to the City Council about Kirkland 2035 initiatives.

**Comprehensive Plan Update**

Staff is working on updating the various chapters of the Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Commission has begun to review the Land Use, Economic Development and Housing Elements. The scoping for the Environment Impact Statement (EIS) has begun with comments due by June 20, 2014. To that end, private requests for land use changes will need to be identified in order to be evaluated with the EIS. The following table was included in the prior K2035 update memo, but bears repeating so that the public is aware of the deadline for private land use requests which is June 20, 2014. The schedule allows for numerous public comment opportunities. During the upcoming neighborhood plan meetings, staff will present any citizen requests submitted as of the meeting.

<b>Event/Deadline</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	<b>Description/Opportunities for Public Comment</b>
Neighborhood Plan Meetings Session #2	May/June 2014	Land use change requests received as of the meeting dates will be provided to participants. Staff will discuss the process and timeline for consideration. <b>Participants will be able to see submitted requests at the meeting.</b>
Deadline for citizen requests for land use changes	June 20, 2014	This deadline is recommended in order for requests to be reviewed and included in the EIS.
Planning Commission review of requests for land use	July 2014	The Planning Commission will make a determination whether all or some of the land

changes		use change requests are consistent with the vision and guiding principles and whether they should be considered and incorporated in the EIS. <b>The public can comment on proposed land use change requests during the public comment period of the Planning Commission meetings or submit written comments.</b>
Preparation of Draft Environmental Impact Statement	May 2014- May 2015	The EIS will evaluate the impacts of plan update and any proposed land use change requests. <b>Public comment can be provided at any Planning Commission meeting and specific hearings will be scheduled in 2015 on the Draft EIS.</b>

The second session of neighborhood plan meetings began on May 13 and will continue in June (see table below for a complete schedule).

<b>Date</b>	<b>Neighborhoods</b>	<b>Location</b>
Tuesday, May 13	Houghton, Everest, Lakeview	City Hall
Wednesday, June 4	S Rose Hill, N Rose Hill, Bridle Trails, Totem Lake	Lake Washington High School
Thursday, June 5	Highlands, Norkirk, Market, Moss Bay	City Hall
Tuesday, June 10	Finn Hill, Juanita, Kingsgate	Kirkland Stake Center

The format for the meetings will be somewhat changed from the first set of meetings based on the comments received. The meetings will again be facilitated by Penny Mabie of EnviroIssues. The meetings will include the following elements:

- Staff will present the draft vision statement and guiding principles that were developed since the last set of meetings. The vision and principle become the basis for evaluating all elements of the Comprehensive Plan and any changes proposed.
- Next, a summary of comments heard during the first meeting set and that apply citywide will be presented including a response from staff about how those issues will be addressed. At that time, private land use change requests received to date will also be presented.
- At that point, the audience will be invited to view wall displays showing the results of the previous meeting set for their neighborhoods. The comments will be displayed as those pertinent to the neighborhood plan, specific transportation issues that will be addressed through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) or the Transportation Master Plan and neighborhood comments that need further clarification.
- The group will be called back together to focus on business districts. Comments from the previous meetings will be shared, an introduction to the “10 minute neighborhoods” concept will be presented.

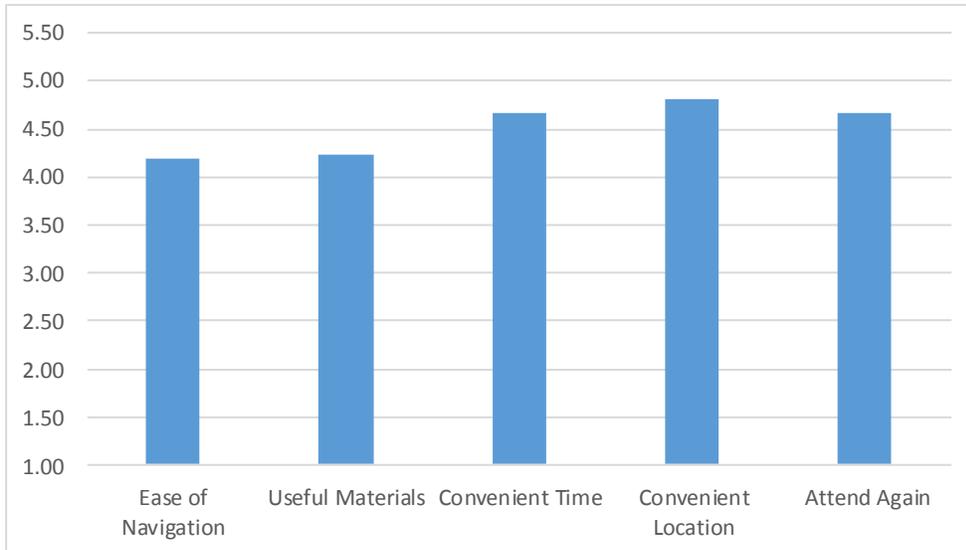
- The final activity will be a discussion about neighborhood-level comments that need further clarification or reconciliation of conflicting comments.

Staff will work to incorporate as many changes to neighborhood chapters as possible into the Comprehensive Plan update. Outstanding issues will be added to the Planning Work Program as will development of the neighborhood plans for new neighborhoods. The Finn Hill Neighborhood Alliance is actively working toward developing a neighborhood plan. Although it may not be completed at the same time as the Comprehensive Plan adoption, significant progress will have been made.

### **Community Future Day**

Community Future Day was held on Saturday, April 26, 2014 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Kirkland City Hall. The general open house format was used and participants were able to drop in any time during the four-hour period. Approximately 125 participants attended the event. All participants were asked to rate the event and 44 response cards were received. Participants were asked to rate the event in five areas on a scale of one to five. The chart and table below summarize the results of the comment cards:

<b>Future Day Event Feedback</b>	<b>Average Rating</b>
Ease of Navigation	4.18
Usefulness of Materials	4.23
Convenient Time	4.67
Convenient Location	4.82
Would you attend again?	4.66



A 90-minute Neighborhood University (“Neighborhood U”) session on land use planning and transportation was held and included brief presentations by Mark Hallenbeck, Director of the Washington State Transportation Center at the University of Washington and David Godfrey, Kirkland’s Traffic Engineering Manager. A panel of experts were then available to answer and comment on audience questions. Anecdotal feedback from the session was very positive. The session can be viewed [on the City’s website](#) from the K2035 website ([www.kirklandwa.gov/kirkland2035](http://www.kirklandwa.gov/kirkland2035)) or [On-Demand page](#). Approximately 50 people attended.

Participants visited a variety of displays and talked with staff about the topic areas including the Comprehensive Plan Update and the Capital Improvement Program. Displays for the Park Lane Enhancement, Juanita Drive Corridor Study and the NE 85<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor projects were also available.

Participants were then invited to “Build a Better Kirkland” on the lower level of City Hall. They were first directed to displays to learn about the major plans under development.

- Cross Kirkland Corridor (CKC) Master Plan
- Transportation Master Plan
- Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan
- Surface Water Master Plan

After visiting the plan displays, participants went to the “Kirkland 2035 Bank” to receive “Kirkland Bucks” to allocate among the many projects planned for Kirkland’s future. This exercise simulated the allocation of limited and restricted funds to the capital needs of the City. Participants were able to indicate their preferred level of investment in major plans currently in development. Over 60 people participated in the exercise.

Each participant was given an envelope with \$240 million to be allocated for twenty years’ worth of projects. Since the exercise was a self-selected group of participants and the exercise

was not an exact exercise in project funding, it would be difficult to characterize the results as a reflection of the general population's preferences. Nonetheless, a few trends emerged:

### General spending trends

Participants chose to redistribute significant funds to spend on the Cross Kirkland Corridor (CKC), with a mix of transportation, general fund, and parks money being spent on corridor projects. Parks had the largest percentage of funding redirected to the CKC, while Transportation dollars made up most of the CKC funding.

### Preferences within Transportation

The majority of transportation funds were spent on transportation, but 15% was moved to the CKC. Spending choices on transportation projects were mostly balanced between the four major transportation modes – Autos (21%), Bikes (26%), Pedestrian (26%) and Transit (27%).

### Preferences within Parks

Spending on parks projects revealed preferences for open space and forest restoration (33%), community and waterfront parks (25%), while other projects received less of the funding with neighborhood park renovations collecting 20%, new neighborhood parks taking in 15% and new sports fields finishing with 7% of the parks spending.

### Preferences within Surface Water

Participants spent all of the surface water funds that they were allocated within surface water since it could not be spent anywhere else, with the final tally revealing preferences to spend more on water quality (33%) and infrastructure replacement (28%), while fish habitat (21%) and flooding (18%) received fewer project dollars.

### Preferences within the Cross Kirkland Corridor

The CKC was a popular spending choice among participants, drawing funds from transportation, parks, and general purpose dollars. The CKC spending options offered a choice between building the fully developed "Character Zones" along the corridor or simply paving the corridor. "Character Zones" received 60% of the funding dollars while the other 40% were for the paving project.

Less than half of the participants went to the "bank" for a bond measure for an aquatic/recreation center, but those who did preferred to build an aquatic center and recreation center as opposed to just an aquatic center.

A graphical depiction of the results will be provided at the May 20 City Council meeting.

## **Status of Plan Updates**

A number of plan updates have been provided to the City Council in the past five months and further updates and plan adoptions are scheduled for the next two months.

May 20	Cross Kirkland Corridor Master Plan Update
June 3	Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Update Parks Levy Accountability Report Transfer of Development Rights
June 17	Cross Kirkland Corridor Master Plan Update Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan Adoption
July 1	Surface Water Master Plan Update

The next Kirkland 2035 update will be presented at the June 17, 2014 City Council meeting.