



CITY OF KIRKLAND
City Manager's Office
123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3001
www.kirklandwa.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager
From: Marilynne Beard, Deputy City Manager
Date: November 10, 2013
Subject: KIRKLAND 2035 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLANNING UPDATE #8

RECOMMENDATION

City Council receives an update on recent and upcoming public outreach and communication efforts related to the Kirkland 2035 plan updates.

BACKGROUND

This report is the eighth in a series monthly updates to keep City Council and the public informed about the results of recent public involvement activities and upcoming opportunities to get involved.

Comprehensive Plan Visioning Process

The Comprehensive Plan visioning process has continued since September and is still underway. Staff will be conducting the exercise at a series of neighborhood meetings that will supplement the sessions already completed.

Visioning sessions were or will be held for:

- Business Round Table
- Joint Planning Commission, Design Review Board, Transportation Commission and Park Board
- Senior Council and Human Services Advisory Committee
- Community Planning Day (two sessions)
- Youth Council
- City of Kirkland Employees (two sessions)
- South Rose Hill and Bridle Trails Neighborhood Associations (11/12)
- Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods (11/13)
- North Rose Hill and Evergreen Hill Neighborhood Associations (11/18)
- Moss Bay and Lakeview Neighborhood Associations (11/18)
- Everest and Central Houghton Neighborhood Associations (11/19)
- Market Street Neighborhood Association (11/20)

The detailed comments are being transcribed and summarized and the cumulative "wordle" that reflects the composite themes from all of the sessions is updated with each session. The most recent wordle will be presented to Council at the November 19 meeting.

Staff has also included [follow-up questions on the Kirkland Ideas Forum site](#) to gain a better understanding of descriptors such as “livable” and “green” that were common themes during the visioning process.

Most of the group sessions will be completed in November and the Planning and Community Development Staff will be preparing a report on the results of the public input and developing a draft update to the vision statement for presentation to the Planning Commission. Once the Planning Commission has reviewed the report and draft vision statement, staff will provide an update to the City Council.

Kirkland Ideas Forum

An updated series of questions and topics were posted to the Kirkland Ideas Forum and several hundred cards have been distributed at events and at City facilities to encourage participation. A poster is being developed that can be displayed at community gathering places in Kirkland with a “Question of the Week” and a QR code link to the website. The questions may be open-ended or involve a short survey. The City Council is encouraged to follow participant comments on the site.

Recent Public Involvement Activities

Fall Community Planning Day – October 19

The second Community Planning Day was held on Saturday, October 19 at the Peter Kirk Community Center. Participants were able to attend two different group sessions on visioning and the Cross Kirkland Corridor. Approximately 150 individuals attended the event. In addition to the group sessions, participants were asked to provide feedback on the Totem Lake Park proposed master plan, early results on the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan and provide early input on the Transportation Master Plan.

The Community Planning day was marketed through posters, a direct mail postcard, City Update and advertisements in the City’s Parks Brochure and Kirkland Reporter. Participant feedback rated the event organization, materials and venue a 4.6 on a scale of 1-5 with about 30% of participants returning comment cards.

The next Community Planning Day will be held during the first quarter of 2014. A date will be set when staff has a better idea about when the most information will be available on the most plans.

Cross Kirkland Corridor Community Walk and Interim Zoning

The community was able to celebrate the removal of the rails with a Community Walk on October 27. Approximately 200 individuals participated in the ribbon cutting and walk. Many participants walked the entire corridor and received a spike salvaged from the rail removal project to commemorate the event.

A public hearing on proposed interim zoning along the corridor was held on October 15 and continued on November 6 when interim regulations were adopted by the City Council.

Kirkland 2035 Update to Kirkland Conversations

The City Manager provided an update on Kirkland 2035 activities at their October 27 meeting.

Status of Plan Updates

Comprehensive Plan

Early work on the Comprehensive Plan continues. As mentioned earlier, the public involvement portion of the vision update is nearly complete with Planning Commission and City Council review coming up. The draft of the Community Profile will be presented to the Planning Commission next. The capacity analysis is continuing with additional work to reduce the capacity information to match the targets at the traffic analysis zone level. Recent iterations of the capacity analysis confirm that sufficient capacity exists to accommodate the City's growth targets under the current zoning.

The Comprehensive Plan update will continue through 2014 and into 2015. Based on recent community feedback, staff is considering ways that updates to the neighborhood plan chapters could be incorporated in the overall update process. A draft approach is being developed and will be presented to KAN for feedback. The process would include updates to existing neighborhood plans and elements that should be added to the Comprehensive Plan. Staff is also considering ways to begin an abbreviated neighborhood plan process with the new neighborhoods in order to capture the current and envisioned plan for their area. The City Council will be updated on this new approach as it is developed.

Transportation Master Plan

The Transportation Master Plan is early in the development phase with the current focus on existing conditions and goals. At the community planning day, participants were asked to identify their greatest priorities and indicate their current practices and barriers to change. The Transportation Commission is actively involved in the development of goals and a check-in with the City Council is planned for January 2014. Ultimately, the plan will include updated goals and strategies with specific projects that help move the transportation system toward the adopted goals. Questions (and responses) have been recently added to the [Ideas Forum](#).

Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS)

The random telephone survey was completed in September and an on-line survey was conducted in October. Nearly 800 responses were received to the on-line survey. The Park Board has held multiple workshops to consider public input and priorities. Project options will be developed for the park system and public feedback and prioritization will be solicited on the proposed projects. The PROS plan is scheduled for City Council review during the second quarter of 2014.

Totem Lake Park Master Plan

After multiple on-site workshops, meetings with the Park Board and Totem Lake businesses, a preferred option for the park was unveiled at the October 19 Community Planning Day. Participants were asked to provide comments about the preferred option which was developed in coordination with the Cross Kirkland Corridor Master Plan. The proposed design has been posted to the [Ideas Forum site](#). The City Council is scheduled to review the preferred option at the November 19 meeting.

Surface Water Master Plan

Early input was obtained from the public including a meeting with the Finn Hill Neighborhood Alliance. Draft recommendations and projects are currently under review. An open house is

planned for Spring 2014 when the public will be able to comment on the proposed plan and projects.

Cross Kirkland Corridor Master Plan

The City's project consultants have developed a schematic design for the basic "backbone" of the corridor. The schematic describes the types of activities that could occur on different areas of the corridor based on their adjacency to neighborhoods, parks and business areas. Additional detail about the overall plan is being prepared with a preferred layout presented to the City Council in February 2014. In the meantime, staff is continuing to work with SRM Development on the Google segment of the corridor as they begin their expansion of the campus.

The City launched a Cross Kirkland Corridor Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/crosskirklandcorridor>) account which is currently being managed by Stepherson & Associates. As of November 12, 2013, there are 160 people who "like" the page.

Staff is working to post the character zones on the Ideas Forum website to seek additional comments.

Juanita Drive Corridor Study

After multiple community workshops, Citizen Advisory Group meetings and Transportation Commission meetings, the project consultants have developed 20 recommended project options for the corridor. The Citizen Advisory Group and Transportation Commission will now focus on locations for different treatments on the corridor. Draft recommendations will be presented to the City Council in January 2014.

Streets Levy

The 2013 Slurry Seal and Overlay projects are complete. Based on community concerns expressed about the slurry seal process, staff is conducting additional outreach with neighborhoods that received slurry seal over the past two years to determine how the process can address their concerns.

Phase one of the flashing crosswalk installations is complete and phase two is beginning. Staff is developing an accountability report for the public that will be released early in 2014, one year following the implementation of the levy.

Transfer of Development Rights

The first draft of the consultant study discussing the potential for transfer of development rights in the Totem Lake neighborhood was completed as was a market study of Totem Lake. The market study and TDR report together will inform the City of the feasibility of using transfer of development rights as a means of catalyzing redevelopment.

The next comprehensive Kirkland 2035 update will be presented in January 2014 with the possibility of more information on the neighborhood planning process presented in December.