



CITY OF KIRKLAND

Planning and Community Development Department
123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587-3225
www.ci.kirkland.wa.us

MEMORANDUM

To: David Ramsay, City Manager
From: Dorian Collins, Senior Planner
Date: March 25, 2008
Subject: Correspondence from Lori Isch Regarding South Kirkland Park and Ride

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the mayor to sign the enclosed letter to Lori Isch.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION

Ms. Isch contacted the City Council regarding her concerns about how commuters who use the South Kirkland Park and Ride would be accommodated if part of the site were redeveloped with housing. The draft letter in response to Ms. Isch describes the concept for Transit-Oriented-Development at the site, including the plan to make additional parking available for commuters if redevelopment occurs.

From: Lori Isch [mailto:lori.isch@usa.net]
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2008 6:07 PM
To: KirklandCouncil
Subject: Housing at S Kirkland P&R

I'm concerned about the proposed plans for building housing at this P&R. Currently, the parking lot is nearly always full with commuters. The proposal says nothing about how the existing (and growing) commuters will be accommodated if a large part of this property is turned into housing.

The concept is interesting, but please ensure that the people that are trying to do the right thing by riding the bus every day are not further inconvenienced with the proposed changes.

Metro's level of customer service and maintenance are already marginal.

Thanks!

Lori Isch
64th St resident
Lori.isch@usa.net
424 444 7321 (cell)

April 1, 2008

DRAFT

Lori Isch
10116 NE 64th St, #B
Kirkland, WA 98040

Dear Ms. Isch:

Thank you for your message concerning the conceptual ideas the City Council discussed in February regarding transit-oriented-development at the South Kirkland Park & Ride. Your note questioned how existing and future commuters would be accommodated if part of the site were redeveloped with housing.

As you may know, the site is owned by King County, and is located within the corporate limits of both Kirkland and Bellevue. King County has recently received a grant award for a number of transit improvements, including the expansion of the parking capacity at the South Kirkland Park & Ride. King County is interested in exploring the opportunity for transit-oriented-development (TOD) at the site, as it views the consolidation of housing at major transit facilities as an effective strategy to increase transit ridership and reduce the harmful effects of congestion and greenhouse gas emissions.

The County has approached the cities of Bellevue and Kirkland with the concept for the Park & Ride site, since changes to the Citys' Comprehensive Plans and Zoning Codes would be necessary to enable this type of project at the site. The City of Kirkland is interested in studying this idea, since the preliminary TOD concept includes a share of affordable housing units to be included in a mixed income housing development at the site. In any case, King County plans to expand the existing parking supply by at least 250 stalls to ensure that the facility continues to serve the significant commuter population that uses the South Kirkland Park & Ride.

The City Council appreciates your thoughts. Please feel free to contact Dorian Collins in the Planning Department at (425) 587-3249, or dcollins@ci.kirkland.wa.us if you have additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
KIRKLAND CITY COUNCIL

James L. Lauinger, Mayor