



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: Eric Shields, Planning Director
Date: July 2, 2008
Subject: Letter from Maureen Kelly

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the mayor to sign the proposed response letter.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION

Ms. Kelly requests that the City Council consider providing live broadcasts of Planning Commission and Design Review Board meetings.

From: Maureen Kelly [mailto:mkelly@windermere.com]
Sent: Friday, June 27, 2008 9:56 AM
To: KirklandCouncil
Subject: Public Access - Live Feed

Please consider providing live feed for future Planning Commission sessions as well as Design Review Board meetings, particularly as they concern major projects that will have a lasting impact on our community. Not everyone is available to make the meetings and without live feed, it is not possible to speak up before decisions have been finalized. Timely access to the issues with broader based dialogue would result in greater understanding and equate to fewer appeals. I believe thoughtful public discourse results in a much improved end product. The internet is a great tool for public involvement and should be promoted as such.

Thank you for your consideration,

MAUREEN KELLY

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July 15, 2008

DRAFT

Maureen Kelly
3933 Lake Washington Blvd. NE
Kirkland, WA 98033

RE: Request for televised meetings

Dear Ms. Kelly:

Thank you for your letter suggesting that the City provide live broadcasts of Planning Commission and Design Review Board meetings. We agree that broadcasting additional meetings would provide a significant public benefit; however, there is a cost to providing this service. The City is currently facing serious budget challenges. Even so, we will keep your suggestion in mind and look for additional opportunities to broadcast future public meetings.

You may be aware that the agendas and staff reports for the Planning Commission and Design Review Board are posted to the City's website prior to each meeting. Additionally, the approved minutes and audio recordings of these advisory boards are available on line at www.ci.kirkland.wa.us (Select Departments/Boards & Commission).

The City Council meetings are broadcast live on KGOV (Comcast) Channel 21 and on the City's website on the first and third Monday of each month. Archived videos are available through the City's "on demand" via the City's website.

It is understandable that attending evening city meetings can be challenging. I hope that the alternative of obtaining information about the actions of the Planning Commission and Design Review Board from the website will be a valuable alternative to you in the mean time. Please contact the Planning Department at 425-587-3225 should you have further questions or concerns.

Sincerely
Kirkland City Council

By: James L. Lauinger, Mayor