



CITY OF KIRKLAND

City Manager's Office

123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3001

www.ci.kirkland.wa.us

MEMORANDUM

To: Dave Ramsay, City Manager
From: Kari Page, Neighborhood Services Coordinator
Date: October 22, 2009
Subject: City Council Meeting with the Highlands Neighborhood

RECOMMENDATION:

City Council assigns topic areas for the upcoming neighborhood Council meeting with the Highlands Neighborhood.

BACKGROUND:

As part of the City Council's continuing effort to remain in touch with the interests and needs of the community, the Council will meet with the Highlands Neighborhood on Wednesday, November 18, 2009. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. at the Maintenance Center (915 8th Street). Staff will continue to structure the format of the meeting and invitations the same as the past, unless instructed by Council to change.

Potential topic areas suggested by the Highlands Neighborhood Association Board include:

1. Budget:
 - a. Sales tax is too volatile for the city budget. Is the city doing anything to encourage the State to adopt alternative taxing mechanisms (like an income tax)? What can citizens do to further this cause?
 - b. Status of the City's budget. How will the outcome of the utility tax measure impact the City's budget? How can citizens help fill the gaps, perhaps through expanded volunteer opportunities?
2. Parks: Status of the railroad trail, and can we make improvements to the railroad crossing by Cotton Hill Park for the junior high kids?
3. Planning:
 - a. Status of Parkplace redevelopment, opportunities for citizen input, and timeline for completion.
 - b. Status of downtown redevelopments and timeline for completion.
4. Police: Crime statistics. Are crime rates rising? What can citizens do?
5. City Manager's Office:
 - a. Status of neighborhood matching grant funds.
 - b. If the Annexation vote passed, what's next? If it didn't pass, what happens?

Council has invited three questions after each Council presentation/topic to break up the “lecture style” format and involve the audience more. Time is reserved at the end for the remaining questions and answers. The proposed agenda follows this same format.

- 7:00-7:05 p.m. I. Greeting and Introduction—Mayor James Lauinger
- 7:05-7:10 p.m. II. Comments from the Neighborhood Association—Chair Karen Story
- 7:10-8:15 p.m. III. Comments, Questions and Discussion—Neighborhood and City Council
 - A. Budget Update—Mayor James Lauinger
 - B. Key Issues Update—City Councilmembers
- 8:15-8:45 p.m. General Discussion and Questions from Audience
- 8:45 p.m. IV. Adjourn

The schedule below outlines the timeline for receiving the questions and answers in advance of the meeting. If you have any suggestions or changes to this schedule, please let us know.

	Task	Highlands
	Council Meeting (assign topics)	November 2
	Residents receive mailing and submit questions	October 16–31
	Directors answer questions	November 2–11
	City Council receives questions and answers	November 12
	Meeting date	November 18

October						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						