



## Community Planning Day Citizen Responses

June 8, 2013

### **Comprehensive Plan Update Station-**

#### ***Share Your Thoughts Comment Cards:***

- Shift terminology or “how we think” of Downtown Kirkland from a business center to more of an “Old Town” feel. Emphasis on living, dining, tourism/Marina. Our Business center, our Economic engine, our Center of Kirkland is Totem Lake Urban Center and Yarrow Bay Business District. That is where we work. ---Lisa McConnell, [kirby994@frontier.com](mailto:kirby994@frontier.com)
- More detailed planning & zoning, more mixed use & better way finding needed in Totem Lake Zone. Better ped. & bike connections throughout – shortcut & interconnections. ---Susan Jensen, [sjensen@triadassociates.net](mailto:sjensen@triadassociates.net)
- Start local area discussion group? ---Susan Jensen, [sjensen@triadassociates.net](mailto:sjensen@triadassociates.net)
- Businesses @ Bridal Trails Shopping Center are interested in redeveloping the site – How can this be included in the new Comp Plan? --- Anonymous
- Allow for brewing in Light Industrial Zones. See Hales in Ballard, Black Raven in Redmond and accessory brew pub, Elliot Bay in Lake City Way. ---D Jean Guth, [djguth@yahoo.com](mailto:djguth@yahoo.com)
- Old Albertsons – Improve pedestrian connections through property and would like to see it developed ---Anonymous
- Finn Hill – Pedestrian pathways needed to and from Juanita Dr. Beach Park ---same Anonymous as Old Albertsons comment

### **Visioning Walls- What ISSUES do you hope your city focuses on as it plans for the year 2035?**

- Concerns regarding gentrification and cost of housing/living on fixed incomes:
  - affordable housing
  - making sure Kirkland isn't just for the mega-rich

- Kids:
  - Metro routes to schools
  - Easy access to Ballfields & Parks
  - Daycare facility goals in urban development
  - Regulations for gambling, liquor sales, and marijuana growth & sale
  - Sidewalks to places kids go to
  - Smoking huts in designated locations
  - Heavy ticketing and enforcement on underage drinking
  
- Allow small stores in residential zoned areas. Like grocery stores with apartments above.
  
- BIKE/PED TRANSPORTATION:
  - Use the CKC as a spine for Bike/Ped Transportation and connect the rest of the city w/East-West pedestrian/biker streets – safe for people of all ages.
  - Accountability.
  - Provide Bike/Pedestrian focused throughways.
  - DRIVERS need to learn how to drive with cyclists!
  - BIKERS – Get out of the ROAD!
  - There should be a biking education class.
  - Provide bike paths separated by planting strips from traffic.
  - X-K Corridor monorail w/bike & pedestrian path below.
  - Find some way to generate revenue to fund Bike Lanes from those who ride Bikes! License? Fees?
  - Tax what you don't want, i.e. cars, traffic jams, congestion, rather than what you do want!
  - There should be a bus transportation system on Holmes Pt. that connects ppl to Kenmore P&R.
  - Converting low-rise shopping centers into more efficient (in terms of land-use) communities.

**Visioning Walls- What is your BIG IDEA for Kirkland in the year 2035?**

- What about Local Improvement Districts to pool sidewalk developments instead of lot by lot.
- Limit "Big Ideas" to what "small taxes" will support.
- More sidewalks.
- More mixed use developments – like Juanita Village.
- Increase intergenerational opportunities.
- Passenger ferry(ies) – Kirkland to U dist/Madrona/? & Juanita Bay!
  - That would be sweet!
  - Drop off near downtown transit/streetcars
- Personal Responsibility.
- Consolidate Pub works/Pub utility ops with neighboring small cities & districts.
  - Agree with this idea!
- Pedestrians need far more attention at cross walks. And on any sidewalk. Cut back all vegetation to sidewalk width.
- More playgrounds

**Town Hall Conversation -Ideas for "Making Business Districts Work for You"**

- Accessible to neighborhood – by foot, bike, auto
- Mix of businesses that meet needs of neighborhood so don't need to travel to get services
- Pedestrian access
- Parking is adequate
- Coalesce Totem Lake micro-businesses
- Daycare facilities – parents have to drive to get to school/daycare – need daycare where people work

- Historical district – maintain character of Kirkland by keeping historic buildings
- Parking or transportation system to accommodate transit
- Ensure compatibility of neighborhood business design with neighborhoods adjacent
- Local shuttle between business districts to cut down on traffic
- Green spaces in business districts to eat, walk
- Light rail on Kirkland Corridor (priority)
- Space to relax, sit, meet
- Totem Lake (the Lake) as a visible attraction
- Village character – some streets with no cars, just for walking
- Commitment to public gathering spaces – events, place to connect
- View corridors to natural habitat
- Trolley (like South Lake Union & Portland)
- Juanita Village is good model
- Connect to nearby parks – flow

### **Town Hall Conversation - Mixed Use**

- Mixed-use not always compatible with neighborhood or business district that is there
- Each business district has a unique character
- Don't be too rigid on ground floor commercial – more flexibility about what can go there
- Size of some mixed-use is a concern
- What kind of housing will be needed to accommodate growth? Affordability.
- Mixed-use should have transit incorporated to be successful – include along corridor

- Don't want a whole neighborhood of mixed-use – need variety to create character
- Mixed-use built before recession are not full but may be more successful as economy improves
- More flexibility on ground floor uses
- Each neighborhood has unique needs – mixed-use developments are still in a neighborhood
- Transit needed
- Parking with mixed-use – shared uses between commercial & residential
- Parking needs to be adequate
- Businesses serve neighbors and visitors
- Last trolley didn't work
- Park & Ride creates traffic
- Transit oriented development works
- “Live above work” – e.g. artist studio w/housing on top
- Housing units need to be affordable and accessible to people with all special needs
- Need open spaces in between and nearby mixed-use
- Mixed-use can be designed in a variety of ways e.g. not just small business below
- There are limited number of businesses that want to go into small ground floor spaces
- What fits Kirkland today? May not be same as in the past

**Town Hall Conversation - What should business district do to accommodate growth?**

- Assume fossil fuel will not always be available
- Have larger destinations (theater, Home Depot) in Kirkland and clustered

- Separate people from motorized vehicles (more pedestrian-oriented facilities)
- Totem Lake would become a wellness mall – includes assisted living residential
- Small hardware store back!
- Housing for middle class – need affordable
- Support smaller businesses
- Totem Lake to develop like a European village
- Kirkland as a destination city for tourism (not just in summer)
- Put character in building design - more interesting architecture – e.g. gargoyles
- Fred Meyer has a hardware store one-stop shopping
- People who are over 60 need light – LEED (green building) doesn't encourage enough lighting
- Need designated smoking places
- Multi-family will be needed to accommodate growth – it needs to go into business districts because they won't fit in neighborhoods
- Why do we have to have 8,000 new households?
- Where are 20,000 jobs going? (large employers?)
- Find a way to piggyback on winery traffic
- Housing – innovative ways to do (not just Multi-family or Single-family) – ADU's (affordable dwelling unit), duplex/triplex, infill, redevelopment
- Need office space (large campuses) to attract large businesses
- Be cautious with infill development in neighborhoods - if too close, ruins single family home. Minimum set-backs
- Character of neighborhood is what makes Kirkland unique
- Be cautious with speculators from outside Kirkland
- Keep in mind larger Puget Sound businesses – Kirkland as incubator for small startups
- Traffic jams are a problem

- Lots of potential in Kingsgate area - mixed-use would be good option – offices, gathering spaces, apartment homes, but fit in with neighborhood
- Plan more community centers (places where people can meet without having to pay)
- Indoor community meeting places
- Kirkland is cut in half by freeway and traffic – need to connect Kirkland to Kirkland across freeway
- Need transportation to get people around Kirkland (trolley, streetcar)
- Totem Lake used to have all the right elements when it first opened – what went wrong – know what that is before we fix it.

### **Town Hall Conversation – Themes**

- Character
- Compatible
- Flexible
- Connection
- Transportation
- Historic
- Gathering
- All weather
- Health
- Safety
- Architecture
- Accessibility
- Friendly
- Kirkland has many successes, things that work well.