



## Joint Boards & Commissions Meeting

### Vision Comments

October 7, 2013

In attendance:

*Kirkland Transportation Commission, Kirkland Park Board, Kirkland Design Review Board, Kirkland Planning Commission, City staff*

The following summarizes the questions and comments generated in group discussions.

#### **Where and how should growth occur in the City?**

- Disperse growth in commercial centers
- Totem Lake will become the City Center
- People will want to live & work within walking distance.
- Develop in existing planned commercial areas.
- Existing commercial districts with increased density and mixed use residential & commercial so that existing residential densities surrounding the centers can stay the same density as now. Reduce surface parking lots.
- Increase height at Bridle Trails shopping center (maintain views).
- Plan for viable commercial areas.
- Build smaller buildings in commercial areas.
- Provide pedestrian connections to neighborhood commercial centers.
- Spread out development with grid street patterns to help traffic and move people around the city.
- Plan for development around transit and transportation hubs.
- The CKC will connect residential neighborhoods and commercial centers.

#### **Housing – What types of housing should we encourage for the future?**

- Affordable, residential suites, mother-in-law, backyard cottages.
- Accessory dwelling units in existing single family areas.
- Smaller homes with common, shared spaces to retain trees.
- Duplexes or triplexes (save more trees).

- Balanced mix of housing types and style.
- Housing at street level in commercial areas and open common areas to allow for talking (like Juanita Village).
- Housing designed with transit.
- Housing with shared green open space.
- Rezone industrial areas to allow residential & commercial uses.

**Community Character – What does “small town feel” mean to you?**

- Know what’s going on.
- Walkable with pedestrian connections.
- Gathering places for people.
- Serene, relaxed, slow paced.
- Low rise – 5-6 stories.
- We are an urban city.
- Distinctive.
- Small town term is limiting.
- Comfortable.
- Look and feel of single family development.
- Get around the city easily.
- Feel safe.
- Green space.
- Welcoming to families.
- Concentrate growth for efficiency and where services are available.
- Public art.
- Pocket parks are not always maintained.

**Economic Development – What types of jobs & businesses should Kirkland try to attract?**

- High tech
- Aerospace
- Businesses that will bring development to Totem Lake
- Medical
- Provide local shops downtown
- Mix of jobs
- Arts jobs

- Match employers with the Lake Washington Technical College programs

**Economic Development – What do you think are the important qualities and community image that brings businesses to Kirkland ?**

- Arts
- Parks
- Livability
- Healthy image
- Cross-Kirkland Corridor
- Safe

**Economic Development- Is it important to you to have a local shopping center near you? If yes what types of shops and services?**

- Grocery stores within walking distance of home
- Department store
- Home improvement
- Restaurants and coffee shops

**What changes would you like to see in the local shopping center near you?**

- Starbucks without a drive thru
- Mixed use – vertical e.g. Juanita Village
- Larger grocery
- Neighborhood supported retail
- Focus on building design; not density of development

**Environmental Stewardship- What does it mean to be a green or sustainable community?**

- Environmentally & financially able to maintain the community
- Vehicle charging stations to meet demand
- Maintain tree canopy and buffers as we develop and redevelop
- A diversity of housing
- Less energy use by housing and transportation
- Kirkland needs to be a leader
- Self-sufficient community
- Minimize impacts on air & water quality

- Alternative modes of transportation that are easy to use and accessible for people
- Emergency preparedness for the big disasters

**Transportation- In your transportation vision for Kirkland in 2035 what would you see? Expect? What will it look like? Do you see much change?**

- 1 car for 2-people family
- Mixed use development to reduce trips in local shopping centers
- Family bikes from one area of the city to the other easily and safely.
- I-405 is changed to provide more connections across I-405, more bike trails, HOV-Bus lanes, smaller lanes for smaller vehicles, trucks limited on hours since they take so much space.
- Tolling and pricing to pay as you go
- NE 85<sup>th</sup> ST is bike friendly.
- Buses and facilities are designed to be more attractive and appealing to ride, efficient, faster, friendly and social to meet people (like Zurich) and increase in signs.
- City operates an inner and inter - city bus system separate from Metro (but may not pay for itself like old trolley).

**Post-discussion suggestions for improving vision sessions /comments from attendees:**

- Provide more background on the existing and growth projections for the city and each neighborhood would be helpful to orient residents.
- Begin to develop comprehensive 3D model of the entire city to allow and facilitate "visioning" by multiple stakeholders.
- Great idea to bring various boards/commissions together for visioning discussion; there needs to be more comprehensive sessions to build on the plan.