



## Joint Senior Council & Human Services Council Meeting

### Vision Comments

October 8, 2013

City staff met with the Senior Council and Human Services Council to conduct a visioning exercise.

The following summarizes questions and comments generated in group discussions.

#### **What do you see as the top 3 issues for Kirkland citizens over the next 20 years?**

- Growth, economy, population
- Importance of non-auto public transportation, bikes, walking
- Increase the amount of electric charging stations for cars
- Increase open space to accommodate growth (for children, flowers...)
- Provide schools near where people live
- Accessibility for people with limited mobility – sidewalks (wide) & trails
- Access to local shopping
- Live affordably in Kirkland
- Reuse unused school facilities for other purposes and concerns about funding schools as population shifts

#### **How can the City improve the quality of life for Kirkland citizens over the next 20 years?**

- Avoid zoning that decreases quality of life
- Allow height increases where they do not damage environment
- Provide open space
- Provide healthful activities such as classes
- Provide activities for seniors during the day instead of evening
- Provide parking signed for elderly
- Encourage shopping areas within walking distance of home
- Provide a safe environment – traffic – crosswalks

#### **As Kirkland becomes more culturally diverse and the spoken language, how do we plan for the differences?**

- Encourage adult education, especially language
- Encourage cultural events to raise awareness of multiple cultures
- Provide Kiosk for access to translation and information

#### **Housing: What types of housing should be available?**

- Low income or fixed income
- Apartment complexes that are handicap accessible
- Small complexes that do not increase traffic
- Small single family houses

- Cottages with shared community areas and affordable
- Single Room Occupancy housing (even for seniors)
- "Boarding houses" (old idea that works)
- A mix of housing and ages
- Balance housing density with adequate traffic circulation
- Houseboats

**Neighborhood Business Districts: How do you envision them?**

- No high rises – limit height
- Develop Totem Lake district
- Provide "basic needs" & services
- Focus on other Business Districts (Too much concentration on Downtown – charming, but not enough services)
- Provide basic needs – drugstore, hardware store, Target
- Don't like condos w/retail below (mixed use doesn't work)
- Totem Lake Mall could be designed like Crossroads Mall

**Parks and Recreation : what will Kirkland need?**

- Increase park land acquisition
- Increase parks as population grows
- Increase open space!
- Locate a multi use community center in Rose Hill or Totem Lake
- Increase pedestrian and bike connections and paths
- Keep rails on Cross-Kirkland Corridor
- Keep what we have
- Provide restrooms on Cross Kirkland Corridor