



November 18, 2013 Central Houghton/Everest Neighborhood

Vision Comments

The following are citizen comments received in group discussions at the Central Houghton/Everest Neighborhood Meeting. Discussion questions were about Land Use, Housing, Community Character, Economic Development, Environmental Stewardship, and Transportation.

Land Use -

Where and how should growth occur in the City? (Dispersed vs. concentrated?)

- Totem Lake for both housing & jobs
- More small neighborhood stores in all neighborhoods to be able to walk to like Highlands neighborhood
- Small scale neighborhood centers NOT like Juanita Village
- Preserve single family neighborhoods with residential uses
- Growth in villages
- Equally dispersed north & south
- Allow taller buildings in centralized areas (over 3 stories)
- Buffer zones and building height between residential & commercial uses
- Greater tree retention & vegetation
- In Totem Lake maintain industrial uses
- In Downtown need essential products e.g. hardware; with residential
- New development does build new infrastructure e.g. sidewalks but City should prioritize making sidewalk connections
- Downtown has a unique image; In Downtown paint buildings in different colors like Portofino
- Commercial centers centered and concentrated - CBD, TL, BT, ParMac
- Like idea of small neighborhood centers (nice to be able to walk)
- Integrate neighborhood businesses into neighborhoods
- Totem Lake can take a lot of housing and commercial
- Adequate parks and green spaces
- Park and grocery store nearby (small pockets in neighborhood)
- Pick up after your dog or get a fine
- Better bus lines (shuttle)
- Access trails to corridor from peoples' homes
- Like when single family home convert to office in commercial districts

Housing -

We may have up to 8,000 new housing units by 2035. In your neighborhood, what types of housing should we try to encourage?

- Townhouses but not tall apartment buildings
- Add more accessory dwelling units (ADU's)
- Small lot single family housing
- Cottage housing

- Variety of housing
- Not large homes on small lots
- Parking underground and more open space
- Low income housing locate near amenities & transit hubs
- Incentivize retaining existing housing stock

Community Character -

***The Vision Statement in the Comprehensive Plan refers to Kirkland as having a small town feel.
What does "small town feel" mean to you?***

(Characteristics to retain in future, how to grow gracefully while keeping small town feel?)

- Single family areas allow you to get to know their neighbors
- Amenities within short walking and driving distances
- Streets are human scale and comfortable
- Walkable town to see and visit with people
- Certain single family areas make it small town feel
- Density in certain locations
- Keep neighborhood character in neighborhoods
- "Kirkland's feel", NOT Bellevue
- Don't like Portsmouth building
- Like waterfront - don't block view!
- Central Business District is not good for walking; businesses struggle
- Don't like new development in Downtown like Crab Cracker, Chevron, etc
- Love my neighborhood!

Economic Development –

What types of jobs and businesses should Kirkland try to attract in the future?

(More high tech, retail, office? Other? Light manufacturing?)

- High technology
- Look at shopping demographics to see what we need to attract shopping (mini national chains like Target)
- In downtown provide more variety of businesses for essentials
- Need businesses for the elderly – e.g. physical therapy
- Need a conference center in Totem Lake or at Antique Mall site Downtown

Environmental Stewardship –

What does it mean to be a green or sustainable community?

(Energy efficiency? Recycling? Alternative transportation?)

- Energy efficient
- More green! Trees and plants!
- No flooding problems – provide more pervious surfaces
- Think about water shortage that may occur in future
- Environmental steward - important!
- Good job with recycling (except in the parks)
- Better signs for recycling (start with cans and bottles)
- More education about recycling

Transportation –

In your transportation vision for Kirkland in 2035, what would you see? What are your expectations? What will it look like? Describe as specifically as possible. Do you see much change from now?

(More frequent buses and route? Other new modes? Dedicated lanes for each mode? More bike lanes? Pedestrian paths?)

- People mover
- Monorail along Cross Kirkland Corridor (CKC)
- Pedestrian connections between blocks
- Increase parking in downtown (increase to 3 hrs e.g. Edmonds)
- Electric tram around Kirkland loop
- Have "no car" zones, pedestrian-only street
- Provide light rail on CKC
- Provide light rail connections to Seattle, Bellevue, Airport
- A ferry to Seattle from Kirkland
- More bike lanes
- Greenways
- Car congestion will increase
- More public transportation through neighborhoods
- More bus routes
- Ways for seniors to get around; Need drop-off area for seniors at Downtown transit center
- Electric busses on CKC
- Maybe smaller busses with more flexible routes and times
- More, safer sidewalks
- More pedestrian short cuts and trails through blocks
- Love light rail - it works!
- Need drastic changes - we're losing our bus services
- Feeder busses, maybe shuttles