



CITY OF KIRKLAND

City Manager's Office

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MEMORANDUM

To: Kirkland Transportation Commission

From: Marie Stake, Communications Program Manager
Kari Page, Neighborhood Services Coordinator

Date: April 23, 2010

Subject: Planning Process for Eastside Rail Corridor Public Participation

The Kirkland City Council and Kirkland Transportation Commission have expressed interest to initiate a public participation process to help identify Kirkland's interest in the future development of the Eastside Rail Corridor.

The City of Kirkland will initiate its own public participation process to

- provide balanced, accurate and current information about the current status of the corridor
- engage affected property and business owners, advocacy groups and other stakeholders in developing recommendations for Kirkland's vision for the portion of corridor that lies within Kirkland city limits
- inform appropriate decision makers, stakeholders and the community of Kirkland's public participation process and recommendations

City staff trained in the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) planning methods recommends to the Transportation Commission that a public participation plan be developed based upon IAP2's planning process as briefly described in Attachment A.

Step 1 of the IAP2 planning process is underway. As a step to gauge expectations and gain internal commitment for the process, staff conducted interviews with Chair Samdahl and Vice Chair Pfundt (Attachment B).

Step 2 is in progress. A preliminary list of internal and external stakeholders has been identified as have stakeholder questions (Attachment C). Some preliminary stakeholders were contacted in recent days and staff will report feedback at the April 28 Commission meeting. The list of stakeholders will be expanded as the public participation planning continues. It is expected that interviews will be complete by early May.

Step 3 will involve assessing stakeholders' expectations and selecting the appropriate level of participation: Inform, Consult, Involve, Collaborate, Empower. Once the level is identified, staff can make recommendations to the Transportation Commission on techniques (e.g. workshops, focus groups) at its May 19 meeting.

In Step 4, goals and objectives, timelines and actions and the responsibilities of participants and decision makers will be identified. Actual public participation activities will be conducted during Step 4. Summer time is a difficult time of year to host public participation activities. It would be recommended to schedule the events in early fall.

Staff will develop a basic public participation plan (Step 5) and submit it to the Transportation Commission at its June meeting.

Please contact Marie Stake, Communications Program Manager at 425-587-3021 or mstake@ci.kirkland.wa.us or Kari Page, Neighborhood Services Coordinator at 425-587-3011 or kpage@ci.kirkland.wa.us with any questions.

Attachments:

- A: IAP2 Planning Process & Spectrum
- B: Transportation Chair & Vice Chair interview
- C: Preliminary stakeholders' questions