



Neighborhood University

December 9, 2009

Neighborhood Plans

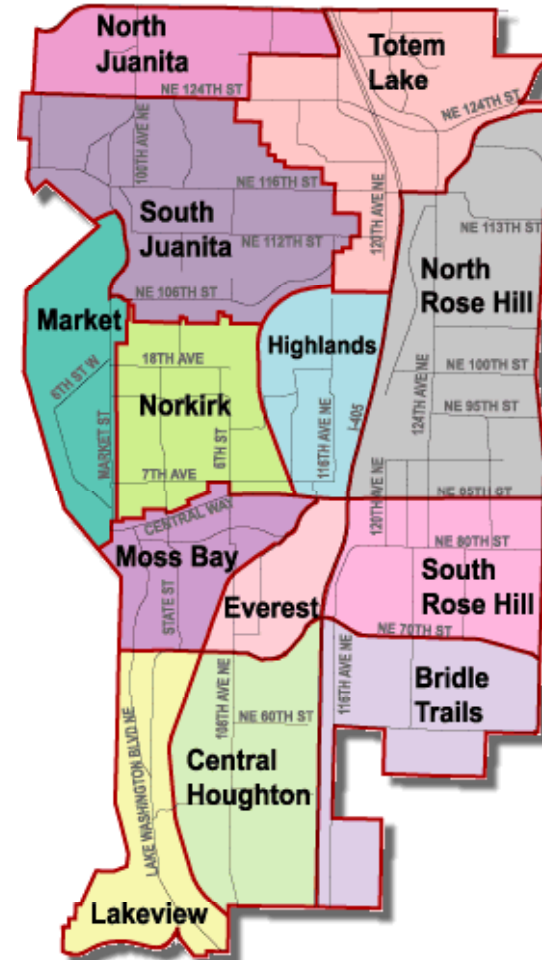
Agenda



- Questions/suggestions from last night
- What are Neighborhood Plans?
- Topics that make up each plan
- Neighborhood Plan update process
- Neighborhood Plan examples
- How can we encourage more effective public involvement

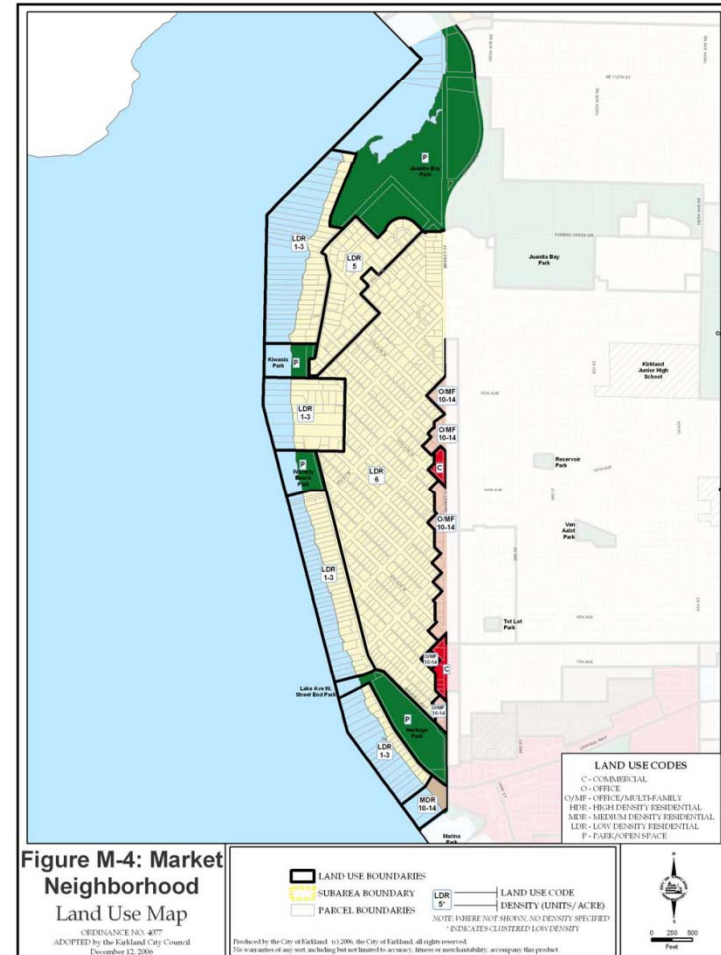
A Neighborhood Plan Describes...

- A neighborhood's unique identity
- Existing conditions
- Future vision
- Goals and policies for future development
- Policies to direct regulations or other City actions



Neighborhood Plans Contain

- Vision Statement
- Historic Context
- Natural Environment
- Land Use
- Transportation
- Open Space/Parks
- Public Services/facilities
- Urban Design



Changes to Neighborhood Plans



- Must be consistent with Comprehensive Plan general elements
- Generally focus on the specifics of the neighborhood
- Citizens can propose changes to citywide policies that impact their neighborhood
 - ▣ City Council considers whether to incorporate the proposal into the Comprehensive Plan

Citywide Issues



- Population and employment targets
- Environmentally sensitive areas – streams & wetlands
- Transportation Network (also regional) 520 & 405
- Level of Service standards (roads, sewer, water)
- Affordable housing

Typical Study Issues for Neighborhood Plans



- Unique vision for each neighborhood
- Land use changes to reflect existing conditions and desired updates
- Plans for commercial areas
- Balance between change and stability
- Preservation of historic structures

Typical Neighborhood Plan Study Issues

- Transition areas between residential and commercial uses
- New pedestrian and street connections
- Levels of service for parks and recreation
- Growth needs of institutional and government facilities

**Commercial areas may have different elements and more changes (for example Totem Lake)

Neighborhood Plan Process

- Public Participation: Citizen Advisory Committees, Advisory Groups, workshops, public hearings
 - Planning Commission/Houghton Community Council hold study sessions
 - Planning Commission/Houghton Community Council recommendation to City Council
 - City Council adopts final plan
 - Houghton Community Council has disapproval power if in their jurisdiction
- **Advisory groups advise/Planning Commission, Transportation Commission, Parks Board and HCC recommend...Council makes decision

Example: Market Neighborhood Plan

- Vision Statement – added to the plan
- Historic Context – new section was added including:
 - ▣ History of the neighborhood from Heritage Society
 - ▣ Incentives to encourage retention of historic buildings
- Natural Environment - section was updated to include:
 - ▣ Viewpoints and interpretive information around streams and wetlands
 - ▣ Water quality, urban forest and wildlife protection policies
 - ▣ Policy to ensure responsible development in landslide & erosion hazard areas.

Example: Market Neighborhood Plan



- Land Use – section was updated to include:
 - ▣ More housing choices in low-density areas (small houses on small lots, cottage housing, etc.)
 - ▣ Market Street Corridor Plan was developed as a separate chapter for the area along Market Street including a historic district at 7th and Market
- Transportation – section updated to include:
 - ▣ Policy to improve access to Market Street
 - ▣ Policy to enhance the pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure within the neighborhood

Example: Market Neighborhood Plan

- Open Space/Parks – section was updated to include:
 - ▣ Description of existing parks in the neighborhood
 - ▣ Desirable additions to the Market Neighborhood park system
- Public Services/Facilities – section was updated to address for public and private utility services for the neighborhood
- Urban Design – section was updated to include:
 - ▣ General policies relating to public view corridors and residential design
 - ▣ Updated neighborhood character/urban design map
 - ▣ Streetscape Design & Design Guidelines for Market Street Corridor Plan

Example: Central Houghton Neighborhood Plan

- Vision Statement – add to plan
- Historic Context – add to plan
- Natural Environment - update
- Land Use – update commercial & residential, include Living Environment, Planned Area 1: Northwest College, and Economic Activities sections of old plan

Example: Central Houghton Neighborhood Plan

- Transportation – add to plan, move applicable material from public services/facilities and parks sections in old plan (for example desired improvements to the system)
- Open Space/Parks - update
- Public Services/Facilities – update
- Urban Design – update and determine if any areas will be subject to design review

Plan Update Schedule



- Lakeview and Central Houghton 2009-2010
- Comprehensive Plan Update 2010-2011
- Bridle Trails and South Rose Hill 2012-2013
- Everest and Moss Bay 2014-2015
- North and South Juanita 2016-2017
- Totem Lake 2018

Public Notification Process



- Work with neighborhood associations
- Planning webpage
- Electronic list service announcements
- Conduct public meetings, hearings, open houses or workshops
- Web based opinion survey

Public Notification Process



- Notice boards at key places within neighborhood
- Postcards to property owners
- Distribute flyers at meetings and events
- City Update newspaper articles
- Cable TV Announcements
- Get information to Chamber of Commerce or Business Roundtable

How to participate in the plan amendment process



- Attend & testify at study sessions or public hearings
- Submit written letters or emails to decision makers
- Sign up for list serv announcements
- Be on an Advisory Group, Board or Commission
- Join the Neighborhood Association
- Stay involved - don't wait until the end of the process

Public participation

What will keep you involved in the process?

How can we increase public participation?

