

# PRCC Board Meeting Minutes

## July 2 2013

**Minutes Prepared and Submitted:** Jan Satterthwaite

**Board Members Present:** Jan Satterthwaite, Marylou Reslock

Irene Wall, Diane Duthweiler, Susan Wagner, Ted Holden, Ron Siegle, Annie Davis

**Guest Speakers:** David Canthy, King County Metro and Jonathan Dong, SDOT

### New Business

- Cycle Track Plan:  
SDOT has published the new Bicycle Master plan that includes a proposed cycle track along Greenwood and Phinney from north of 80th St. Irene explained the concept of the cycle Track Plan—lanes that will separate traffic from bicyclists. They differ from greenways in promoting longer commuting routes vs. local traffic routes. The concern of implementing cycle tracks is over the loss of parking for local business access and by zoo goers. SDOT suggests (in email) that the community recommend an alternate route for bikes if a Greenwood-Phinney track is not favored. Participants asked if SDOT has studied alternate transit separation models such as allowing vehicles on one street and pedestrians/bikes on another street. A visiting Greenwood resident felt we should keep an open mind about the concept until we get more information.
- Aurora Corridor Improvements: Ted advised that it's better to submit comments early on city projects before they get too firm up to be changed.  
David Canthy (King County Metro) and Jonathon Dong (SDOT) presented the BAT lane initiative. To maintain the reliability of Rapid ride, SDOT will employ synchronized lights and BAT lanes, giving transit a priority lane during peak hours. One of the residents voiced concerns over lost parking. Jonathan discussed parking utilization studies which found sufficient side street parking would absorb most of the bat lane loss of parking. Some areas would need further study to determine if additional parking strategies would be needed. A traffic analysis was also conducted and the worst case scenario shows some traffic displacement to I5 and a 9% increase in traffic on Phinney both in the AM and PM. Engineers determined that Phinney is capable of absorbing the addition. Traffic engineers would like to make Aurora as efficient as possible to minimize cars from using side streets. Signal optimization would detect and adjust light duration on both Aurora and the east/west streets. David talked about Rapid ride being an enabler of moving larger quantities of people. The goal is to increase ridership by 50%, with service on the E line beginning Feb 2014. Residents expressed a concern over the lack of stops between 65th and 45th street on Aurora. David reminded the group of a community process which supported the current plan, specifically the reconfigured stops around 68<sup>th</sup> and Aurora. Diane mentioned the zoo will support the building of a stop on Aurora and 50th. This stop will service a large neighborhood group including Phinney, Green Lake and Wallingford neighborhoods.
- Night Out PRCC magnets:  
Ted applied for the Small Sparks grant to create magnets with the PRCC logo and contact information to distribute to residents at night out.

### Old Business

- Zoo Parking: Irene contacted Sally Bagshaws office and was told city funding (\$2M) for the parking lot expansion project is not on the next two meeting agendas.
- 5555 Phinney project: DPD published a notice for SEPA comments deadline on this 8 unit townhome project. Irene has contacted the DPD reviewer for this project to inquire about how the

developer had responded to the January 2013 streamline design review comments. She found no new drawings of the site posted on the DPD website. SEPA comments such as tree preservation and driveway safety were a neighborhood concern. Other neighborhood concerns include storm water management strategies, detailed landscaping plan, and architectural character that fits with the neighborhood. The community has until 7/10 to comment on the plan. If neighbors want to submit comments via PRCC they should email them to Ted by 7/8/2013.

- New PRCC officers: Ted Holden, President, Susan Wagner, Vice President, Jan Satterthwaite, Secretary, Irene Wall, Treasurer.
- PRCC website:  
Angela Marshall has agreed to keep posts up to date.
- Meeting Time & Place Change Request:  
There was a move to change the monthly meeting time to 7:00, but the group voted to keep the time and place at 7:30 @ the Phinney Neighborhood Center.
- Proposed Bus Stop on Aurora:  
Ron discussed the proposed new E line stop at 50<sup>th</sup> & Aurora. The zoo is supporting and sponsoring a stop project, and have already created an accessible design and cost estimate (\$1,955,000). Ted will contact the zoo to see where they are at with this proposal. Diane felt with increased population density in our neighborhood we should not get squeezed out of transit opportunities and this stop would be a huge benefit to several neighborhoods.
- DPD Building Code Land Use concerns:  
DPD recently released new draft regulations on micro-housing and “backyard” lot developments – land use issues generating controversy citywide. Irene provided brief background on the issues and described a recent meeting of the City Neighborhood Council neighborhood planning committee which focused on fire safety for micro-housing projects that can be 5 stories and have only one exit, and no fire escapes. Dozens of micro-housing projects are in the permit pipeline. DPD building code specialists claim they meet safety requirements. Others have challenged this. The City Council will be adopting new regulations for both types of projects by the end of summer. PRCC Council agreed to keep an eye on these developments.

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday August 13th @ 7:30pm.