

# Central Houghton Neighborhood Association (CHNA)

## Tuesday, November 8, 2022, 7 p.m.

### Meeting Notes

#### 1. Introductions/ Comments from the Audience

Larry Toedtli, President of CHNA, welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were approximately 15 people attending this zoom event. Each attendee introduced themselves.

#### 2. La Quinta Permanent Supportive Housing and Health Through Housing Initiative

Larry Toedtli said that he had reached out to Deputy City Manager Jim Lopez to join us at our meeting. Mr. Lopez is the contact person for the City of Kirkland on this King County Housing project to convert the former La Quinta Inn into permanent supportive housing. Mr. Lopez was unable to attend our meeting; he will be making a presentation to the City Council at its November 15 Study Session. At the study session, Mr. Lopez will be seeking direction on the development of binding agreements between King County, Kirkland, and the future operator of the facility.

Mr. Lopez stated he would be willing to meet with the Central Houghton Neighborhood Association at some point after November 15, if we desired. Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, Larry suggested targeting the last week of November or first week of December. Attendees suggested that both Central Houghton and Lakeview neighborhoods should be invited to such a meeting with the city. Discussion favored an in-person meeting. Mr. Toedtli offered to orchestrate this meeting; John Tymczyszyn offered to assist in planning the meeting with the city.



Rex Rempel said he has direct experience supervising counselors at permanent supportive housing projects and is happy to share information or answer questions. If you would like to connect with him, please email us at [centralhoughton@gmail.com](mailto:centralhoughton@gmail.com).

Larry recommended members interested in this topic to attend or watch the November 15 City Council Study session. The City's project web site can be accessed [here](#). You can also watch the [November 15 City Council study session](#) (item 3b).

### 3. Houghton Village (Old PCC site)

Mr. Toedtli reported that the City hasn't provided any specifics on their intent for developing the Houghton Village shopping center which they purchased last spring. The City also has not specified the schedule or process for engaging with the community, except that it would likely start in early 2023. Larry noted that interested people should make comments to the City Council, sharing their thoughts on types of land uses and any concerns, like traffic or views.

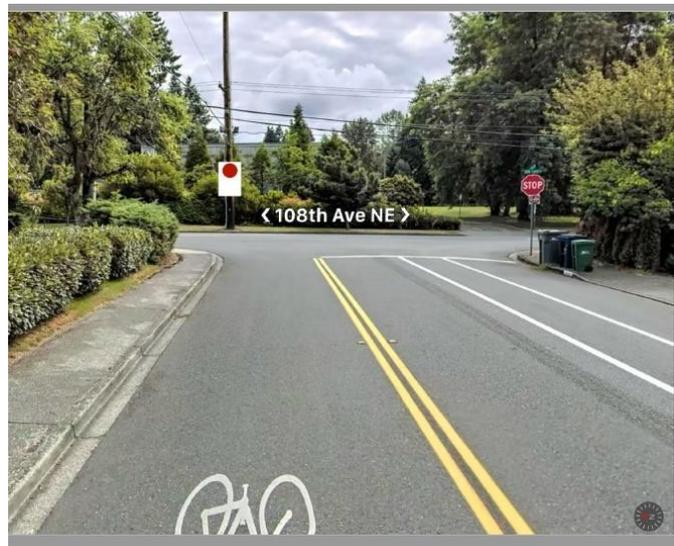
Lisa McConnell offered to find out more about the zoning at the old PCC site which was established during the Houghton Everest Neighborhood Center (HENC) neighborhood planning process in January 2018. She stated the CHNA would be well served to give more feedback on this location to the City Council. Interested citizens can speak about this issue at City Council meetings during the "items from the audience" agenda item. Our discussion indicated a desire to include places for activities or classes for youth in south Kirkland. These would help replace the dancing and kick boxing studios lost when Google expanded.

Larry noted that the notes for our October meeting included contacts /email addresses for submitting comments. These are repeated below:

- City Council Website – [Kirkland City Council](#)
- Email all City Council Members – [CityCouncil@kirklandwa.gov](mailto:CityCouncil@kirklandwa.gov)
- Email Councilmember Kelli Curtis – [kcurtis@kirklandwa.gov](mailto:kcurtis@kirklandwa.gov)
- Email Councilmember Neal Black – [nblack@kirklandwa.gov](mailto:nblack@kirklandwa.gov)
- Email City Manager Kurt Triplett – [ktriplett@kirklandwa.gov](mailto:ktriplett@kirklandwa.gov)
- Email Planning and Building Director Adam Weinstein – [aweinstein@kirklandwa.gov](mailto:aweinstein@kirklandwa.gov)

### 4. 2023 Neighborhood Safety Program (NSP)

Lisa McConnell discussed the Neighborhood Safety Program proposals, which are due to the City by December 2. CHNA can submit up to four (4) projects for the 2023 program, with a maximum cost of \$100,000. The higher cost allowance reflects that the 2022 NSP did not get implemented due to staffing issues. Each project submitted by each of the Kirkland neighborhood associations will be evaluated, including cost estimates. Selected safety projects will be presented to the City Council for approval by April 2023. This schedule will allow some of the projects to be constructed next summer.



Suggested CHNA projects include:

- Installation of school speed zone signs/flashers for cars going east on NE 52<sup>nd</sup> Street approaching 108<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE (near Emerson, North Star and Adventist schools).
- Installing a flashing crosswalk at the corner of 106<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE and NE 68<sup>th</sup> Street, just east of Lakeview Elementary. This project is also being considered as part of the Transportation Benefit District (TBD) program being evaluated by the City Council.
- Sidewalks are needed on 111<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE between NE 62<sup>nd</sup> and NE 60<sup>th</sup> Streets for school children walking to and from the Community and International schools.
- Issues with the Community School traffic patterns and the need for some sort of traffic management plan to keep parents picking up children from blocking driveways and streets. Lisa McConnell will check on a prior study that was underway when Covid resulted in schools being closed in spring 2020.
- To slow traffic on 108<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, it was suggested that radar speed zone signs be installed, especially for northbound traffic.
- Adding radar speed zone signs and reducing the speed limit for westbound NE 68<sup>th</sup> Street near 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE. This could be a joint project with the Everest Neighborhood Association. Lisa will contact the Everest neighborhood about pursuing a joint application for this location.

Lisa McConnell will develop the application for CHNA for submittal by December 2.

We also discussed some other projects related to parking issues, curb painting, and trees blocking sight distances. We decided that these projects should be handled through maintenance or code enforcement. These should be submitted as a service request through the [Our Kirkland](#) portal.

#### 5. **Central Houghton Neighborhood Association Moving Forward**

The sunseting of the Houghton Community Council by the state legislature (as requested by the Kirkland City Council) this past summer provides a great opportunity to revisit the purpose and goals of CHNA. Larry opened the discussion by reviewing the Central Houghton Neighborhood Goals as listed on our [houghtonlives.com](http://houghtonlives.com) web site.

Larry then discussed the need for good communications about what is happening in Houghton. He noted that Haris Husain, our vice president, is looking at using survey tools to get input on meeting topics and specific issues in the neighborhood. Larry believes that it is very important for the Neighborhood Association to keep residents informed and provide a forum for exchanging ideas and opinions on various topics of interest.

As an example, the City Council has zoned its residential neighborhoods to allow triplexes, duplexes, and apartments as well as single family homes. This zoning will start being applied to Houghton on January 1, 2023. There are reduced parking requirements if these residences are

near transit, which could result in more on-street parking, which can hinder traffic and pedestrian travel on some of the narrower streets in Houghton.

**Central Houghton**  
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

**About CHNA:**  
The Central Houghton Neighborhood Association (CHNA) was formed in 1990 with the primary purpose to preserve and enhance our broader community. That purpose continues today. We focus on getting information out to our neighbors so they are aware of & can successfully participate in decisions affecting:

- Planning & development projects
- All modes of transportation
- Public safety & crime prevention

**Transportation**  
CHNA participates in transportation projects and planning to help ensure that our local neighborhood issues are understood and addressed. Connect with us if you have questions or concerns related to specific transportation issues.

**Land Use**  
Have a question about what's the latest in housing, parks, or at the Met Market center? CHNA is up to date on development projects, zoning, and comprehensive plan activities.

**Neighborhood Enhancement**  
CHNA receives grants from the City that allows us to implement projects that enhance our community. These can include upgraded crosswalks and community events.

**PUBLIC SAFETY**  
*Did you know?*  
Fire Station 22 is being renovated and is scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2023.

@CentralHoughton  
CentralHoughton@gmail.com  
Central Houghton Neighborhood

Join our email list by scanning the QR code or visiting [HoughtonLives.com](http://HoughtonLives.com)

There was discussion of the bylaws and officers and how other neighborhood associations are organized. Larry noted that we can set CHNA up however we want through modifying our bylaws. He noted that we added a Youth Member board position last spring as a way to incorporate more diversity of viewpoints. Larry stated the need for more participation if we want to fully represent the neighborhood in working with the City on a full range of topics. It is Larry's intent to step down as president in May 2023.

There are five officer positions on the Neighborhood Association:

- President: Larry Toedtli
- Vice President: Haris Husain
- Secretary: Susan Harris-Huether
- Treasurer: Mr. Toedtli is acting
- Youth Member – vacant

## 6. Other Topics

- **Parks 2023 Ballot Measure Initiative:** Susan Harris-Huether  
Susan recommended members to review the Parks Ballot Initiative website at [Kirkland Parks 2023 Ballot Measure](#). The "PFEC Updates" section has meeting updates. She reported that there were several initiatives being evaluated for the bond measure, including a possible aquatic center to provide year-round swimming and swim lessons,

upgrading fields to turf to allow more year-round sports activity, and other park improvements. Attendees voiced concerns about an aquatic center when the last ballot measure concerning aquatics was not approved.

Attendees asked about getting additional maintenance of the Carillon Woods Park. The possible addition of restrooms along the CKC to make the trail more inclusive for all Kirkland residents was brought up. As a minimum, there is a desire for better signage along the trail directing people to nearby restroom facilities.

- **Northeast Recycling and Transfer Station Siting**

Larry directed members to the King County web page ([NERTS Web Page](#)) for information about the formal environmental impact statement scoping process. From the County's web site:

*"During scoping, the public will be able to tell the project team what should be studied in an environmental impact statement (EIS). People can comment on the proposed siting alternatives and the potential environmental and community impacts and propose mitigation to reduce or avoid impacts."*

The scoping process runs from November 3, 2022, to January 17, 2023. Larry noted that there is an online open house and three public meetings (two in person and one virtual) where people can find out more about the project (see below). Three sites are being studied for the proposed modern recycling and transfer station to serve northeast King County. Two sites are in Kirkland, including the current Houghton Transfer Station and the Houghton Park-and-Ride lot. The third site is located along SR 202 in Woodinville.



**EIS Scoping Public Input Opportunities**

- ✓ EIS Scoping Online Open House Available for use by Community: November 3
- ✓ Scoping Meeting #1 (in-person): December 1  
Lake Washington High School, Kirkland
- ✓ Scoping Meeting #2 (virtual): December 7  
via Zoom
- ✓ Scoping Meeting #3 (in-person): December 8  
Brightwater Center, Woodinville
- ✓ Public Input and Scoping Period:  
November 3, 2022 - January 17, 2023

**Service area and potential alternatives**



The map shows the service area for the proposed recycling and transfer station, covering parts of Bothell, Woodinville, Kenmore, Cottage Lake, Kirkland, Redmond, Union Hill/Novelty Hill, Sammamish, and Bellevue. Three potential sites are highlighted with orange markers: one in Woodinville, one in Kirkland, and one in Redmond. Major roads like SR 202 and SR 520 are also shown.

- **2023/2024 City Matching Grant Initial Ideas**

Larry reminded everyone to be thinking about possible projects/events that CHNA could fund using City Matching Grant funds. The City has not identified a schedule or the amount of potential grant funding that would be available. Larry noted that since we only meet every other month, we need to be thinking about it now and we will likely address formally at our January 10, 2023, meeting. Larry noted that the costs associated with the hosting of our web page and our zoom license have been covered by the grant. In addition, the 2021-2022 grant was used to fund the postcard mailer and 2022 Labor Day celebration. It was suggested that we consider the Historical Marker/Sense of Place project that we started discussing for the 2021-2022 program but tabled so we could transfer funding to the Labor Day event.

The meeting adjourned shortly after 9 pm.

**Our next regular meeting will be held virtually on Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 7 pm.** Please let us know if you have ideas for possible topics for this or other future meetings; email us at [centralhoughton@gmail.com](mailto:centralhoughton@gmail.com).

**If you have any questions,  
comments, or suggestions,  
please contact us at:**  
[centralhoughton@gmail.com](mailto:centralhoughton@gmail.com)

**Our web site is:**  
<http://www.houghtonlives.com/>

[Nextdoor – Central Houghton](#)