

Central Houghton Neighborhood Association (CHNA)

Meeting notes

Tuesday September 10, 2019, 7:00 PM

Fire Station 22 on 108th Avenue NE

1. Introductions/ Comments from the Audience

We did introductions of the half dozen or so people in attendance (Thank you for coming!) There was some roundtable discussion about development, specifically Google, and that they should have contributed more to multimodal transportation improvements on 6th Street. There was also concern that we will finish with all that road construction and the next development on 6th will just dig it all up.

2. Neighborhood Safety Program & Transportation Project Updates

- a. Flashing Beacon at Phyllis Needy Park Update – Kari Page is working on possibly securing some extra funding for the 2019 Neighborhood Safety Program (NSP) by the end of the year to move this project ahead. Additional funding may be available if bid costs for other NSP projects come in favorable. For project details please see:
<https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Assets/CMO/Neighborhoods/Rapid+Flashing+Beacon+on+108th+Ave+at+NE+46th+Street.pdf>
Larry noted that we will be tracking the status and keep people informed on how they can assist in getting the project funded.
- b. School Zone Safety Camera Pilot Program – Rosehill Elementary and Kamiakin/Muir started the School Zone Safety cameras and speed enforcement on September 3rd. **In the first two weeks of the pilot 2376 violations were recorded.** SLOW IT DOWN, FOLKS! For more info:
https://www.kirklandwa.gov/depart/PD/FAQ/School_Zone_Speed_Enforcement_FAQ.htm
The City will use monies collected through fines to offset the cost of the program. Any additional funds will be invested in traffic safety personnel, and transportation improvements related to Safer Routes to Schools, the NSP, and pedestrian/bicycle safety improvements.
- c. 6th Street Paving – Night work will continue with grinding, resurfacing and paving into October. As of this writing, the new intersection light at 9th Avenue S was installed but not yet live. (for project details:
https://www.kirklandwa.gov/depart/Public_Works/Construction_Projects/Capital_Improvements/Google_Vicinity_Projects.htm)

- d. Submit a project idea - Do you have an idea for a project you'd like to see happen in our neighborhood or elsewhere in the City? **Suggest-A-Project** is how we let the City know which projects need to be done and how we get our project list for the Neighborhood Safety Project (see next item). Please note, the projects can be related to walking, biking, transit, roadways, safety, maintenance, parks, ADA barriers, or other types of projects – not just transportation capital projects.

You can use a “web form” or an interactive map to submit your project ideas. Here's the link –

https://www.kirklandwa.gov/depart/Public_Works/Construction_Projects/Capital_Improvements/Suggest_a_CIP_Project.htm

- e. 2020 Neighborhood Safety Program – Neighborhood Association project ideas for 2020 are due December 2nd! We will discuss and rate the CHNA projects at our November 12 meeting. We would appreciate getting your ideas in advance of that meeting. If not, bring them to the meeting!

https://www.kirklandwa.gov/depart/CMO/Neighborhood_Services/NSP.htm

You can submit either through Suggest a Project (see above) or to us at CHNA (centralhoughton@gmail.com) or through our webpage -

<http://www.houghtonlives.com/>

- f. Citywide Transportation Connections - The City Council directed staff to create a single, citywide transportation connections map that shows all the potential street and pathway connections, and to create the map in consultation with Kirkland's residents, businesses, and other stakeholders. Find the map and details here:

https://www.kirklandwa.gov/depart/CMO/Neighborhood_Services/City-wide_Connections.htm

3. **2019-2020 Neighborhood Matching Grant Project**

CHNA was awarded a City Matching grant for 2019/2020. The grant requires a match through volunteer time or financial contributions to the various projects. The grant funds will be applied to the following activities:

- a. Web Site Hosting
- b. Postal Service Mailer/Other CHNA Communication Programs – We hopefully will be taking our flyer/handout from the Crossing Kirkland event and sending out an informative mailer to all Houghton residents soon. Other communication items we have is the flyer and a “business card” that has all our social media, website, and contact information.
- c. Crossing Kirkland Event participation in 2019 and 2020.

4. **September 7 2019 Crossing Kirkland Event Report** – Huge success and lots of fun. CHNA had a tent with face painting, braiding bracelets/key chains, and games near the Google campus section of the CKC. Hopefully will get some pictures up on web page soon. Big thanks to the wonderful and hard-working student volunteers from the International Community School who helped us out all day. Also thanks to Jan Young and others for planning, organizing and implementing the event. It would not have been possible without all of the support.

If you have ideas or would like to volunteer for the 2020 event please let us know – we would LOVE to hear from you. Email us at centralhoughton@gmail.com.

5. Other Announcements and Discussion Items

- a. **Tree Code Revisions** – Upcoming Meetings (note these have been updated after the September 10 CHNA meeting and subject to change) – for more information please see City’s web page:
https://www.kirklandwa.gov/depart/planning/Code_Updates/Projects/Tree_Code_Updates.htm
- October 1, 2019 (6:00 PM) Joint Planning Commission/City Council Study Session
 - November 5, 2019 (7:00 PM) Joint Planning Commission and Houghton Community Council Meeting
 - Public Hearing – To Be Scheduled
- b. **Middle Housing and Accessory Dwelling Unit Codes** – The City is looking at ways to provide more housing choices and affordability. Staff is exploring ideas related to allowing duplexes and triplexes in single family neighborhoods, more cottage units, and changes to the accessory dwelling units (ADU), which could allow up to two ADU on a single family lot.

Packets from the Houghton Community Council August 26, 2019 meeting include the latest published materials:

Middle Housing

<https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Assets/Planning/Planning+PDFs/Houghton+Community+Council/Missing+Middle+Housing+-+CAM19-00152.pdf>

Accessory Dwelling Units

<https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Assets/Planning/Planning+PDFs/Houghton+Community+Council/Accessory+Dwelling+Units+-+CAM19-00282.pdf>

- c. **Rooftop Appurtenances** – City staff also are exploring possible changes to the code related to rooftop appurtenances primarily for multi-family and commercial developments. These could change the allowed heights and setbacks on roofs for mechanical or other uses. This topic was presented at the September 26 Planning Commission meeting (see link). The Houghton Community Council is scheduled for a presentation at its October 28 meeting.

https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Assets/Planning/Planning+PDFs/Planning+Commission/Rooftop+Appurtenances+09_26_19+PC+Meeting+Packet+WEB+-+CAM19-00502.pdf

- d. **Northwest University Master Plan Hearing and Schedule** – Master Plan Hearing was completed August 15. The SEPA appeal hearing was concluded on August 27

(https://www.kirklandwa.gov/depart/planning/Boards_and_Commissions/Hearing_Examiner_Meeting_Information.htm and

[https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Assets/Planning/Planning+PDFs/Hearing+Examiner/NW+University+Master+Plan+HE\\$!2bHCC+Packet.pdf](https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Assets/Planning/Planning+PDFs/Hearing+Examiner/NW+University+Master+Plan+HE$!2bHCC+Packet.pdf))

On September 19, the Hearing Examiner issued her recommendations on the Master Plan and concurred with the recommendations of the Houghton Community Council. The City has not posted the recommendations on the Northwest University Master Plan web page. You can download the HE recommendations from our web site at:

<http://www.houghtonlives.com/home/northwest-university-master-plan-hearing-examiner-recommendations>

The Hearing Examiner and Houghton Community Council recommendations will go to the City Council for final action within 45 days. Following the City Council decision, the Houghton Community Council can either approve or disapprove the City Council's decision at a future meeting.

- e. **Downtown Kirkland Urban Center Designation** – The City Council has been discussing pursuing a designation of downtown Kirkland as a “Regional Greater Downtown Urban Center” by the Puget Sound Regional Council. That designation would better position the City to receive transportation funding, while not committing the City to any additional growth. The City prepared a video on the possible designation.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ynkdS3X92YI>

- f. **City Council Candidates** – Three candidates running for City Council dropped by the CHNA meeting after the candidates forum at the South Rose Hill Neighborhood Association meeting that evening. These included David Schwartz, Neal Black, and Amy Falcone. Each candidate briefly introduced themselves and described why they are running for City Council.

Please review these and other candidates' backgrounds and positions, as well as other races and ballot issues to get informed and then VOTE in the November 5 election.

6. CHNA Business Items

- a. Board Reports
- b. Open Officer Positions – Larry noted that the CHNA Board has openings for Vice President and Treasurer. These positions do not require much time, but provide a good way for you to help enhance our Central Houghton neighborhood.
- c. *Next Regular Meeting – November 12*
- i. *As appropriate, we will have updates on the above topics.*
 - ii. *Please let us know if you have any other items that would be of interest to you.*

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

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

7. Adjourn

Potential future agenda items include – *Communication Strategies, Welcoming week, Transportation, transit, Pedestrian and Bicycle Programs/Projects, Planning Staff – plan development and/or development review, Fire Marshall/ Emergency Services*
Other Ideas?