



RE: PSHA Public Hearing Follow Up

Jay Arnold <JArnold@kirklandwa.gov>

Thu, Jan 19, 2023 at 4:54 PM

To: "centralhoughton@gmail.com" <centralhoughton@gmail.com>

Cc: Kurt Triplett <KTriplett@kirklandwa.gov>, James Lopez <JLopez@kirklandwa.gov>

[removing other Councilmembers to prevent violations of open public meetings act]

CHNA board members,

Thank you for your email and involvement on this important issue. I can confirm that we did receive your email on Tuesday. While staff and other Councilmembers may also respond individually to this email and your Tuesday letter, I wanted to respond quickly to a couple of things.

As someone that made a comment during Tuesday's Council meeting referencing the letter from Eastside Prep, my intention was in getting a response to some of their suggested modifications to language in the screening criteria and code of conduct. Their letter (attached) was helpful in providing markup and specific language. Some of their suggestions I may be able to support as is and wanted staff evaluation to see if there were things that I missed, or if they had further suggestions on revision language.

Your letter also brings up important issues but is more general. Council does review and consider your feedback in our decisionmaking. Some of your asks are for information from staff which they may not be able to accommodate. Depending on the policy, I may develop amendments or provide direction for changes. For example, your feedback on background checks and out-of-state offenses is something that I will want to follow up on; this already may be covered given the detailed process in the city-proposed screening process. For some, I may feel like it is sufficiently covered under existing language. (For example, the quarterly meetings envisioned under the good neighbor agreement provide the function of the formal Community Advisory Board you mention.) For others, I may disagree with CHNA's position.

I appreciate your concerns with the short amount of time available to review documents from their release to public meeting. (Council itself is reviewing documents in that same time period.) While the public hearing is closed, we will continue to receive further feedback via email or Our Kirkland.

Jim Lopez mentioned in his remarks how the negotiations with the County are very dynamic. I believe the County is converging with the city's position given Council direction in R-5522. Since the versions that we reviewed at the study session on November 15th, we have a greater level of detail in the screening process, and the good neighbor agreement, code of conduct, and other example documents are now part of the agreement for city approval. These are all encouraging steps. I will continue to ask whether materials can be published before the traditional Friday packet release for the February 21st Council meeting, but I also want to accommodate any last minute changes that support the city's interests.

Jay

Jay Arnold

Kirkland Deputy Mayor