

*Central Houghton Neighborhood Association (CHNA) Meeting Notes
Tuesday March 9, 2021, 7:00 PM
Zoom Virtual Meeting*

1. Introductions/ Comments from the Audience

Larry Toedtli, CHNA President, opened the virtual meeting. Meeting attendees introduced themselves.

2. Police Resource Officer Trombley



Officer Trombley has been an officer for 13 years, 11 years in Kirkland, and the City's Neighborhood Resource Officer since August of 2020. She is the liaison between the Police Department and the neighborhoods. Duties of the neighborhood resource officer include attending neighborhood meetings, teaching children and adults about safety, conducting safety assessments of resident's property, assisting with homeless outreach, and coordinating events such as National Night Out and the Community Academy. You can contact her, anytime, at: Officer Tiffany Trombley TTrombley@kirklandwa.gov, 425-587-3427.

For current information about crimes in our or any neighborhood in Kirkland, please see the City's Neighborhood [Crime Mapping Website](#).

3. 108th Avenue NE Sewer and Water Main Project –

Marshbank Construction will return as early as April to complete Kirkland's upgrade of water and sewer systems along 108th Avenue NE. The schedule will depend on weather and temperatures warm enough to place asphalt and concrete. This project replaced and upgraded old sewer and water mains that run under the center of 108th Avenue NE, from NE 53rd Street to NE 68th Street. Expect to have closures and significant delays as the final stage of this project is finished. We will let you know if we get a firm date on the start of repaving and a schedule for delays and lane closures.

You can visit the project web site at this link - [108th Avenue Sewer and Water Main Project Web Page](#). The City's project contacts are:

Patrick Herbig, Senior Project Engineer pherbig@kirklandwa.gov 425-587-3840

Christian Knight, Senior Neighborhood Services Coordinator cknight@kirklandwa.gov
[425-587-3831](tel:425-587-3831)

4. Schools Are Back in Session – Please Drive Safely

The Lake Washington School District returned kindergarten and first grade students to in-person instruction on Thursday, February 18, 2021.

The timeline for returning students in grades 2-5 is as follows:

- Second and Third Grade Implementation: **March 18-19**
- Fourth and Fifth Grade Implementation: **March 29-30**

Based on the Governor’s announcement on March 12, all secondary students will need to be offered an in-person model by **April 19, 2021**.

Your questions about return to school and other Covid related issues can be found at the Lake Washington School District Pathway Forward site: <https://www.lwsd.org/pathway-forward>.

5. Neighborhood Safety Program (NSP) 2021

CHNA submitted a preliminary application based on request by neighbor for a 4-way stop at the intersection of NE 53rd Street and 106th Avenue NE, adjacent to the main entrance to Carillon Woods Park. There is an obvious safety need for children and people crossing 106th Avenue NE to this extremely popular park, as it regularly has speeding traffic and poor sightlines, such that drivers rarely see or stop for



pedestrians, even though it is required by Washington state law. City engineers determined that this intersection did not have the traffic or pedestrian volumes, nor vehicles traveling enough over the speed limit (on average), to warrant additional stop signs on 106th Avenue NE.

As an alternative, the City engineers proposed adding painted crosswalks on the north and west legs of the intersection. We hope that at least a marked intersection crosswalk would help make the crossing more visible and result in drivers stopping for people attempting to cross the intersection. The addition of the two crosswalks and associated improvements was the project CHNA formally submitted for review and scoring as part of the 2021 NSP. After the NSP panel discussion and ratings, our project did to rank high enough to receive funding for this year’s program.

Moving forward, CHNA would love to discuss with the City and our neighbors some possible redesigns of our more problematic intersections, such as this one and others on our

residential streets, especially ones that may help to slow vehicles and make our streets safer and more enjoyable to walk on. To find out more about the Neighborhood Safety Program, please visit: <https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Government/City-Managers-Office/NSP>

Please share ideas for pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicle safety issues/projects throughout the year to centralhoughton@gmail.com. This will allow us to get a head start on projects for the 2022 NSP.

6. Neighborhood Matching Grant Program

Chair Larry Toedtli submitted our 2021-2022 Matching Grant application based on input from our January meeting (see [January meeting notes](#) for details). The application was due to the City by January 31. Based on the discussion, the CHNA Matching Grant submittal included four projects related to 1) continuing the CHNA web site; 2) completing the neighborhood mailer/brochure; 3) hosting a Relaunch/Get to Know Your Neighbors and Neighborhood Association post COVID Celebration; 4) Developing ideas/planning for a historical marker/sense of place for Central Houghton (or for the old Town of Houghton).

7. NE 85th Street Station Area Plan

At the January 7, 2021 Community Workshop, staff and their consultant team presented the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) for the NE 85th Street Station Area Plan. The following links connect you to the City's web page and full Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact statement. You can sign up for [email notices about the project](#) at the City's project web page link.

- [City Project Web Page](#)
- [Full Draft Supplemental EIS](#)

This is a large and complicated look at the possible future development (and rezone) of the area around I-405 and NE 85th Street, from 6th Street on the west to 128th Avenue NE on the east. Although the project is not within the Central Houghton neighborhood, we encourage everyone to review and provide comments on the project since it will affect the entire city.

The City is in the process of preparing their "preferred alternative". The "preferred alternative" will be presented at another Community Workshop planned for April 2021 (the exact date is not yet listed on the web page). Adoption of the Station Area Plan by the City Council is planned for June 2021 (per the project web page).

The Kirkland City Council schedule shows that they will be briefed on the Station Area Plan at their **April 6** meeting. The City's Planning Commission is scheduled to discuss the Station Area Plan at their **April 22** meeting. Please review the City's web site and City Council and

Planning Commission meeting agendas since the meeting dates are subject to change. We also encourage you to make your opinion and thoughts known to the Kirkland Planning Commission and City Council in advance or at the meetings. See <https://www.kirklandwa.gov/Government/City-Council> for group or individual contact information of the City Council and the Mayor.

Questions and comments can be sent the planner for the project Allison Zike, AICP, Senior Planner 425-587-3259 azike@kirklandwa.gov.

8. Northeast Recycling and Transfer Station Siting Project (King County)

King County Solid Waste is conducting a siting study for a new Recycling and Waste Transfer Station to serve Northeast King County (Kirkland, Redmond, Woodinville, Sammamish, and surrounding unincorporated areas). The new Recycling and Transfer Station will replace the existing Houghton Transfer Station, located on NE 60th Street, east of 116th Avenue NE. The new facility will be enclosed and will incorporate upgraded environmental standards and expanded recycling opportunities (metals, paper, wood, yard waste, glass, plastics, and others). Trash will be compacted to reduce the number of truck loads taken to the Cedar Hills landfill. The new facility is planned to open in 2027.

The project web site can be accessed from this link: [Northeast Recycling & Transfer Station project - King County](#). You can also sign up for notices on the project from the web site.

The County has conducted preliminary site screening studies for locations throughout Northeast King County based on size, shape, environmental conditions, and zoning. Based on the screening process, they have selected four sites for more detailed review and scoring. The four sites include two in Kirkland, one in Redmond, and one in Woodinville. A minimum of two and a maximum of four of the sites will be moved forward to a Draft Environment Impact Statement.

The two Kirkland sites include the existing Houghton Transfer Station and the Houghton Park-and-Ride lot (at NE 70th Street/116th Avenue NE). The Redmond site is the southwest quadrant of NE 124th Street/Willows Road and the Woodinville site is on SR 202 at approximately 161st Street.

The Houghton Community Council (HCC) was briefed on the project at their February 22 meeting. The HCC established a subcommittee to keep abreast of the siting project and environmental review, as it relates to the two Kirkland sites (which are within the HCC boundaries).

9. Tech City Bowl Redevelopment

The owners of the Tech City Bowl in Bridle Trails have submitted a rezone request to allow them to redevelop the site with up to five story buildings. At the time of our March 9 meeting the Planning Commission (PC) was scheduled to discuss the project at their March 11 meeting, which was then cancelled. The Planning Commission discussed the project at their March 25 meeting (see [Bridle Trails PC March 25 packet](#)). The Kirkland City Council is scheduled to discuss the Tech City Bowl proposal at its April 6 meeting.

The property owners web site for the project can be accessed with this link - <https://tcbrezone.com>

The City staff contact is Scott Guter, Senior Planner, 425-587-3247 or sguter@kirklandwa.gov.

10. Other Topics

The City Council is scheduled to discuss the Urban Forestry Six Year Work Plan at its April 6 meeting. The Urban Forestry Work plan web site can be accessed [here](#).

11. CHNA Business Items

1. **Meeting Schedule** – The South Rose Hill/ Bridle Trails Neighborhood Association meeting also occurs on the second Tuesday of alternate months. This results in a conflict if both neighborhood associations want to use the City’s new Neighborhood Association Zoom account. The South Rose Hill/ Bridle Trails Neighborhood Association has sign boards printed with their meeting days, so we decided that CHNA would review options for other meeting options. After discussing several alternatives, we decided not to change CHNA meeting days. Instead of using the City Zoom account, we will continue to use a personal own Zoom account. Larry has contacted the City and they agreed that we could use the Matching Grant funds to cover the approximate \$16/month cost of the Zoom license for the months we meet virtually.
2. **Open Officer Positions** - Treasurer and Vice President Board positions still remain open. Please contact us at centralhoughton@gmail.com if you would like to join the team and get involved with your neighborhood.

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

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

3. **Next Regular Meeting – Tuesday May 11**

Adjourn