

**Southgate Neighborhood Council**  
<http://southgate.spokaneneighborhoods.org>  
**Meeting Minutes – Corrected**

DATE: April 11, 2012

TIME: 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

LOCATION: ESD 101 Meeting Room, 4201 S. Regal

Special Guests Attending: Councilman Jon Snyder

**7:00 PRESENTATION**

44th Avenue between Regal and Freya Update  
Ray Wright, Traffic Engineer, City of Spokane

“A lot has gone on, but nothing has gone on.”

Recap: Last time there was a discussion on pushing 44<sup>th</sup> through to Freya from Regal and connecting Ray St. between 44<sup>th</sup> and 42<sup>nd</sup>.

Delay on 44<sup>th</sup> is starting to inhibit occupancy on Inland’s Project. Fire code requires an exit to the north. So regardless of what the city is doing Inland has to finish the portion of 44<sup>th</sup> leading into Apollo and Achilles. Inland doesn’t want to send the traffic there, they want to do more and make the connection between Regal and Freya.

Ray met with section heads, James Richmond, city attorney, Sheldon Brown, and Theresa Saunders. Theresa said the administration is committed, but funding remains an issue.

One way to get the money is to change the designation of 44<sup>th</sup> from a local access road to an arterial (like it is in the SGNC Connectivity Plan).

Ray’s design for the street was based on the assumption that the road was local access. His complete street design elements might not work with an arterial designation. However, the state language doesn’t explicitly say that it can’t.

\$127,000 is Inland Group’s impact fee for mitigation which would pay for them completing 44<sup>th</sup> in front of their property and feed traffic onto Apollo and Achilles. Ray estimates the whole project done by outside contractor would cost \$1.1M. Inland said they would bid on the project if the city put it out for bid. Inland thinks they could do it for about \$827,000.

Ray mentioned that there was \$700K that was pulled out of city maintenance funds and put into a pot and might still be available for use on projects. Combine this money with the Inland mitigation funds and you could fund the project. (Councilman Snyder didn’t know about this potential funding source).

Ray says it makes sense to do all the work at once. Neighbors agree (cited Julie). Cannot complete the entire street without the right of way (ROW) deeded to the city from the Clarehouse project. Cannot even bid the project without the ROW.

Questions:

Neighbor on 44<sup>th</sup> asked, "What is this road going to look like?" Is it going to be a freeway or can it be a complete street? Answer: Serpentine design, 25' wide, bump outs on curbs by Apollo and Achilles. No raised intersections, maintenance department killed that idea. 10' multi-use trail will be on the North side of the road.

Neighbor asked about timeframe. Answer: Trying to get it done this summer.

Neighbor asked about results of the drilling on the basalt at 44<sup>th</sup> and Freya. Answer: Drilled 2 holes 40' deep in two hours. The test holes show that they can remove it with heavy equipment, not blasting.

What kind of traffic control will be at the intersection. Answer: Stop sign on 44<sup>th</sup> at Freya.

Neighbor thinks people will use Apollo and Achilles to come out at 42<sup>nd</sup>. Asked if there anything we can do to promote upgrading the intersection to a stop light or something? Ray thinks the city needs to stay involved with the project after the road goes through. Ray says the city needs to monitor it and see if something needs to change. Kerry Brooks pointed out that you needed arterial designation to ever have them consider a stoplight. Traffic study says a stop sign is all you need.

Neighbor on 44<sup>th</sup> says 42<sup>nd</sup> and Freya has had accidents because people coming North are rear ending people waiting to turn left onto 42<sup>nd</sup>. He asks if a 3-way stop could be considered at 44<sup>th</sup> and Freya. Answer: If you change the designation of 44<sup>th</sup> to arterial you can add a 3-way stop and maybe eventually a stoplight.

Neighbor asked if there will be any meetings with the people directly impacted with back yards up against 44<sup>th</sup>? Answer: Ray has had informal meetings with people if they ask. Ray said we can definitely plan something if the project gets the green light.

Julie Hope asked if the Ray connector between 44<sup>th</sup> and 42nd was separate from the 44<sup>th</sup> completion. Answer: Ray said if the whole project happens it will be combined. If only the frontage on Inland's property is completed Ray may not happen, depends on city budget.

Council Snyder said the 44<sup>th</sup> completion is not going to cure all the connectivity issues in the neighborhood, it is the first step, other connectivity issues need to be addressed in the future. He came to the meeting to get the update from Ray. He said that the council may move to make a Comp Plan amendment to change the road designation to arterial soon.

Councilman Snyder said his take away is that the neighborhood wants Ray's plan for the 44<sup>th</sup> connection from a design standpoint, but that the neighbors are still concerned about traffic issues. Ray says the traffic stuff is resolved from a policy and design standpoint citing the traffic study completed earlier, but a few neighbor's uneasy feelings about the intersection remain. Note: Paul Kropp brought up later that there are other mechanisms to deal with traffic issues through the Community Assembly that can be done after the 44<sup>th</sup> project is completed.

#### 7:30 NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS

- Approval of Minutes – please refer to website for posted minutes.

Minutes were approved.

- Treasurer's Report Approval

SGNC approved reimbursement to Ray Tansy of non-profit registration fee of \$10

- Community Assembly (CA) Report – Shelly O'Rourke

ONS website will start having the CA info packet online for everyone to see.

73 traffic calming applications put in, they are being reviewed. If you need help applying for traffic calming, there is money for the mailing to engage neighbors.

Speed feedback signs are being vandalized

April 23<sup>rd</sup> – Entertainment ordinance is being changed on Friday and Saturday's from 10PM to Midnight. Contact your council person if you have issues.

CA Retreat is Sat Aril 21<sup>st</sup>. Shelly is attending.

Community Assembly Training 101 – Intro to CA is April 30<sup>th</sup>

Next Meet and Eat is May 31<sup>st</sup> sponsored by Manito/Cannon Hill and will feature Kristin Griffin, Historic Homes person, RSVP to ONS

Parks and Rec -

Leroy Eadie Spoke. Riverfront Park Master Plan is moving forward, Leroy will be presenting the plan to CA at next meeting.

Restrooms going in by the community fountain.

Grant is being pursued for whitewater park in the gorge. Parks and Rec is trying to get the funding.

Multi-family Development Tax Exemption – Had a sunset clause after 10 years. Looking at how the exemption has affected development. Open houses are planned. May 22nd @ 3:30PM is one. CA member asked of those projects had to go to design review board in the future? Important that SGNC looks at this tax exemption continuing because of consequences in neighborhood. (Inland Group and Clarehouse projects are property tax exempt as a result of this ordinance.)

Comp Plan Amendments – One at North Indian Trail (some of the neighborhoods had concerns about amount of land changing designation. Wanted to scale back the amount involved) and one other at 1230 and 1229 West Boone. (STA Wants to add additional buildings below REI on the old railway right of way).

April 25<sup>th</sup> - Meeting on Infill Housing, Kerry will give more info later tonight.  
APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup> at West Central Community Center, meeting about pedestrian plan.

There was an e-mail regarding completion of downtown streets having bicycle/care sharrows added. Shelley will send the e-mail to Ray Tansy and he will send it out to SGNC mailing list.

Jim Bakke wanted neighborhoods to know that neighborhood councils can't be involved in lawsuits because WA law does not recognize neighborhood councils. Suits have to be brought by neighbors, not a council. A way around that is to register as a 501c3, which SGNC is.

- Pedestrian & Trails (PeTT Committee) – Paul Kropp

Received briefing on the first phase of the pedestrian priority study. City is going to prioritize (if financially feasible) to start building sidewalks and other people friendly structures in high activity areas. Hazel's Creek is not included, but it should be. This committee has traffic calming funds and power, so 44<sup>th</sup> and Freya can be included in there. Traffic Safety week coming in June.

The committee has also been challenged to recommend how arterials, especially in neighborhoods, can be improved with pedestrian/bike facilities when upgraded. SGNC's Connectivity Plan shows standard sections for many different streets. Paul will present it to the committee. Paul gave the example of the upcoming 37<sup>th</sup> improvements from Regal to Cuba as a prime example of where this could apply.

There is a real need for the CA Land Use Committee to have a person from SGNC. 100 days are over and things are going to start happening. Andy Hoy volunteered to attend them (4<sup>th</sup> Thurs of the month at 6pm at City Hall)

- Spokane Police Resource Officer

Lt. Rex Olson was here, our resource officer Tim Ottman wasn't. Wanted to hand out information.

Spokane Police do investigate property crimes despite reports to the contrary. Patrol Anti-crime Teams: Plain clothes officers that work the neighborhoods looking at repeat offenders. Judges and Prosecutors are onboard identifying RO and Judges are raising bail amounts.

Targeted Crimes Unit – get info on specific types of crimes, work with PAC. ROP people are targeted for rapid arrest once warrants are issued.

Jerry Boyd asked what can we do to help? Answer: If you see something suspicious call.

Always feel free to call, better to err on the side of caution. Call 911, so response is immediate. For example, graffiti is a 911 call. He said he was surprised police don't get more calls.

Warned that with the weather getting nicer you need to remember to keep garage door closed when working in the yard, lock your front door if you are working in the back yard.

- Neighborhood Planning Update

Land Use Committee – Developer's Agreement Amendment  
Met March 13<sup>th</sup>. Lots of new members. Ray gave status on 44<sup>th</sup> for new members. Our charge from February was to look at the DA amendment for Clearwater. We sent our comments to the developer through to Rich Eichstadt, our attorney,

There were not many changes based on what was proposed to the SGNC in February. They will maintain pedestrian access through the property and will deed the section of 44<sup>th</sup> to the city (Ray Wright and Kerry said the developers signed the amendment today).

The committee also discussed how we wanted to see 44<sup>th</sup> be handled in front each property. We wanted them developed together.

Question: Neighbor doesn't agree with item three, thinks the job should go out to bid. Ray and Kerry reassured neighbor that it should go to bid and that Inland's bid should be considered.

- Announcements

Rick Eichstadt is from the Center for Justice and he has worked 90-100 hours at \$175 to \$300 per hour pro bono on our behalf. Maybe we could take a collection for the center for justice. Consider for next meeting.

Infill Housing infor form Kerry – Planning Commission is changing ideas. Planned Unit Development agreement change would allow multi-family in single-family areas. There is going to be some additional outreach to the CA and neighborhood councils so they can weigh in on that. When the public hearing is scheduled people should show up if they have an opinion.

Paul Kropp added – CA land use committee will be the one acting on this. So we should have someone in the room.

## 8:00 PRESENTATION

“Staying Competitive, Creating Jobs” Initiative on Ballot

Johnna Boxley – Director of Convention Center/INB Performing Arts Center

Matt Gibson – with the Spokane Arena

## Spokane Public Facilities District

Not city employees, they are a state corporation charged with upkeep of facilities and encouraging people to visit Spokane.

### 3 Proposed Projects

#### 1. Convention Center Completion

During latest upgrade construction costs were higher than expected so meeting spaces weren't completed in original construction. Consultants recently advised adding meeting space and expanding exhibit hall. Users have echoed this assessment.

Adding 17-18000sqft of meeting space, 25000 sqft of meeting space, 91000 sqft total.

Will make Spokane a better destination for major conventions and sporting events.  
This is the vote for Measure 1

#### 2. Shoreline Enhancements

Centennial Trail Improvements: fix eroded riverbank, control geese chasing joggers

#### 3. Arena Seating Upgrades

Add 750 Seats: This is increasing our ability to host men's NCAA basketball events. We are currently 300 seats short based on current count. Could host 360 degree concerts, would make more seats available for Chiefs hockey and Shock football

#### Retain Existing Events

Better customer experience: Absolut Grill and Limerick Pub keep things interesting for return visitors.

\$173M in annual economic impact from Spokane Public Facilities District  
800 New Jobs with expansion to the 2200 already here for PFD

June 3<sup>rd</sup> and June 20<sup>th</sup> – Summer Parkways for Spokane

8:30 Adjourn

### **2012 Officers:**

- Teresa Kafentzis, Chair
- Ted Teske, Vice Chair and Secretary
- Ray Tansy, Treasurer
- Shelly O'Rourke, Community Assembly Representative