



## Meeting Minutes

Date: May 3, 2017 Time: 7:00 to 8:40 p.m.

Location: ESD 101 Meeting Room, 4202 S. Regal

[www.southgatespokane.org](http://www.southgatespokane.org)

## PRESENTATIONS

### **KXLY Development Traffic Concerns - Rick Chase, SNC Resident**

- Worked at Albertson's at 44<sup>th</sup> & Regal when it opened 35+ years, then the Albertson's at 57 & Regal.
- He mentioned that the grocery tenant for the KXLY property will be Yokes
- Concern that Yokes is going in at KXLY and the traffic will increase, don't have capacity for more traffic.

#### DISCUSSION:

- The developments at Palouse and Regal have been in the works for nearly a decade.
- Neighborhood cannot stop development but can influence use of Regal to accommodate non-auto traffic.
- Options that city has brought back to be considered is the Ray Street Crossover that will go right through the softball field at Ferris. This shifts the load to Freya and then stacks up traffic at Freya and Palouse.
- SNC will request the city engineers present at the June meeting.
- Need to have the city look at the big picture of traffic and development rather than at one permitted project at a time.

### **City Council Update - Breean Beggs, District 2 Representative**

- Strategic planning in process with the mayor and the city council
- Budget for 2018
- Every neighborhood on the south hill has issues with traffic on north/south arterials
- Traffic squad is much smaller than previously
  - Officers are more visible, can talk with people
  - Traffic red light cameras help but not as much as officers
  - Would like to see four more traffic officers
- Encouraging administration to gather ideas from staff members. Example: the garbage service workers developed a much better plan than the consultants the city hired
- Snow removal plan – not finalized
  - Let voters decide how much they want to pay and determine amount of services
  - Fewer employees and less than equipment than previously

- Don't try to make a one-size-fits-all plan; need to individualize for various terrain, traffic, not waiting too late or waiting to see if the snow melts
- Error on the side of plowing rather than waiting
- Final stage of the update of Comprehensive Plan
  - Council hearings in June, needs to pass by the end of June
  - ShapingSpokane website ([www.shapingspokane.org](http://www.shapingspokane.org)) has draft plan to review
    - Draft is available as well as the original comp plan
  - **Please share your opinions!** [shapingspokane@spokanecity.org](mailto:shapingspokane@spokanecity.org)
- How did the unpermitted road building happen on the bluff?
  - How do we protect our city from the city not following its own rules? It seems like everyone felt that they could just move forward and beg for forgiveness later
  - Avista has committed to restore the road and will not use it
  - Regarding liabilities –
    - There are large penalties in the state of Washington
    - Three times the cost of the damage, the money will go to the city. If there is money left over, then the city hopes to purchase additional private land in the area.
  - The Parks Department gave a “conditional permit” based on obtaining the final permit. The contractor did not get the final permit.
  - The citizens were so outraged that the city moved quickly that the area will be protected.

## **NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS**

### **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

- Approve 12-0

### **Treasurer's Report - Andy Hoyer**

- \$22.36 in checking account
- \$3,000 in escrow account (money is to be used for a community plaza site which could be possible in the development at KXLY)
- Remember, your donations to SNC are now tax deductible.

### **Spokane Police Department Report - Captain Richards**

- Introduced Tracy Meidl as the new precinct captain for the south side
- Dave Richards is being transferred
- Handout of crime analysis of SNC and southern part of the county during the last two weeks
  - Mostly apartment home residents (unlocked garage burglaries)
  - Three arrests in the last several days, since then incidents have dropped in SNC

- Question: Do you think that using red light traffic funds to hire new traffic officers . Support the idea.
- Have requested a traffic-reader trailer for the precinct.
- Can coordinate with police department for placement of ONS traffic trailers.
- SpokanePolice.org – “Citizen” tab; “View Crime Map” to look up incidents in your neighborhood.

### **Community Assembly Report - Andy Hoye**

- ***Notes from May CA meeting are at end of minutes***
- \$500 from CA for promoting NC applications due on May 15
  - Refrigerator magnets (80 for \$500) so expensive that not worth it. Melissa Wittstruck (ONS rep) will look into an alternative source
  - Rack card much less expensive option.
  - Do need to develop a method of distribution.
  - Motion to move forward with less expensive magnets: 12 to 1

### **Waste Management Report – Andy Hoye**

- No new information
- Two city employees that were burned at the incinerator are now back at work. The city was fined.

### **Pedestrian, Trails, & Transportation Committee – Paul Kropp**

- Avista remediation for restoring the unauthorized road on the bluff, Paul will forward to Ted to distribute (see letter below attached to these minutes)
- Traffic Unit is responsible for all events and has attended PETT meetings for traffic focus for CA
- CM Beggs has attended to discuss levy to voters for sidewalk repair and infill. Asked the CA to consider taking his proposal to the neighborhoods. Request time on June SNC meeting to review proposal.
- Initiative to build a trail on the east side of Latah Creek
- Traffic Calming Applications submitted to city
  - 44<sup>th</sup> & Freya sight line improvements and speed reduction
  - Crosswalk at Thurston & Regal

### **Land Use Committee Update – Kerry Brooks/Ted Teske**

- Spokane Comprehensive Plan Update
  - Traffic chapter of proposed plan has dropped the language that planning should consider pedestrians ahead of automobile use. This could threaten our neighborhood plan which is based on the previous comp plan.
  - Land Use Committee can review the Traffic chapter and bring suggestions to next SNC meeting to develop input to share with the city council.
- KXLY SEPA and Traffic Study

- SEPA on hold due to agency comments including possible archeological/historical site concerns that will slow down the progress on the project. Identified as early settlers.
- No response from SNC comments about traffic numbers submitted
- Traffic counters on Regal for past few weeks. Seems odd that it was done while 37<sup>th</sup> construction being done and more traffic pushed onto Regal. SNC can request the resulting counts from the city. Should collect interesting data on alternative routes people are using.
- 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue Rehabilitation
  - Freya intersection will be open by the end of the week.
  - 37<sup>th</sup> will then be closed from 37<sup>th</sup> to Regal
  - No plans shown for pedestrian crossings at the intersections. Ted has requested from city.
- High Performance Transit (STA)
  - Being considered in on Regal with elevated platforms that will shorten the stop time. Discussing with KXLY to wire the area so it will be there when time to install. (Will run from Regal on Monroe to Indian Trail.)
- County Notice at 57<sup>th</sup> and Palouse Highway
  - 180 feet of sidewalk east from Palouse Highway to connect to path along 57<sup>th</sup> to Moran Prairie School.
  - Sidewalk along west side of Palouse Highway from 57th down toward 55th.
  - Comments due by Close of Business (COB) Wednesday, May 17th to Chad Coles, County Engineer, [ccoles@spokanecounty.org](mailto:ccoles@spokanecounty.org), 509-477-3600
- New businesses coming to the area (tentative)
  - Yokes will be grocery tenant at KLXY
  - Grocery Outlet in old Hastings store on 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Southeast Blvd.
  - Natural Grocers likely to be store on the Vaughn property

**ONS Representative – Melissa Wittstruck**

**Next meeting on June 7, 2017**

- Ray Street Crossover presentation by the city
- Comprehensive Plan update
- Sidewalk levy proposal

**Minutes submitted by  
Teresa Kafentzis, Secretary**

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- **May Community Assembly notes**
- **Avista Bluff Restoration Letter**

## Notes from CA Meeting May 5, 2017

22 Neighborhoods present

Jay Cousins is retiring from the CA after 22 years. Colleen Gardner will take the CA space at the City Council Meeting to talk about crime.

The Letter to Cathy McMorris-Rodgers regarding preserving CDBG will be re-written and mailed. Individual neighborhoods are encouraged to send their own letters.

We now have two representatives on the Citizens Advisory Committee for Urban Forestry, Karen Carburg and Carol Bryant.

Solid Waste Cleanup applications are due June 5 – send to [rminarik@spokanecity.org](mailto:rminarik@spokanecity.org).

Auto towing will involve putting a notice on cars 24 hours before removal – towed 600 in first quarter of 2017.

The District Model for projects has been very effective according to Heather Trautman – she present a quick overview and some of the projects were/are Safety at Lewis and Clark HS, Parking in Perry District, Safety at the Public Library, Library Workshops, Community Court adding another location in East Central, Connectivity plans for north-south arterials – more details to follow, after I get the whole list. She ran through it very fast.

Lisa Key and the Planning Department will be adding a review step (threshold test) for amendments to the Comp Plan. This is a “docket review.” If docketed, then there will be a \$500 fee, if not, it just goes away. On website under City Council, look for “changes to the comprehensive plan process.”

The CA Budget Committee will review the neighborhood applications for Parks Department co-sponsorship and fee waivers.

The Mayor’s Task Force on Housing is reviewing national standards and the International Properties Maintenance Code for updates to the City Code.

The CHHS is moving to a 5-year RFP for service programs like the Second Harvest Food Bank, rather than annual, and also will have rolling applications for other Federal pass-through funds like the HOME program, rather than annual. CDBG is looking at a 27% cut for 2018.

Brean Beggs is putting together a final plan for sidewalks – will amount to \$29 per \$100,000 per household...for large levy.

The CA partly approved a number of Annual Committee Goals.

## **South Hill Bluff Restoration Project Update**

On April 26, Avista hosted a pre-planning meeting to discuss the South Hill Bluff Restoration Project. The restoration project core team is comprised of Avista, City of Spokane, Washington Department of Ecology, Land Expressions and Anderson Environmental. The purpose of the meeting was to update interested stakeholders on the status of the restoration efforts, including the restoration plan and construction schedule. Attendees included representatives of Randall Bracher (landowner), the Friends of the Bluff, the Comstock Neighborhood Council, the Spokane River Forum, the Lands Council, and the Spokane Riverkeeper. The meeting sign-in sheet is attached.

The agreed focus of the Bluff Road Restoration Plan is to restore the areas damaged by the road cut on City parks' and private properties. Specifically, the plan is to restore the prior contours and slope, trail network, and the cover of native plants. It should be noted, this effort is not intended to be an enhancement of the existing public trail system and therefore does not include expanding or constructing new trails.

Based on input of the City Forester, the Restoration Plan will use downed trees that are larger than six inches in diameter as part of the restoration efforts and chip branches and smaller trees. Trees that are still standing but that have root or limb damage will be assessed and pruned as appropriate to remain in place. The Restoration Plan will also address public use during and after the restoration efforts, with a goal of protecting the restored areas and to prevent new trails from being established along the area in restoration.

The group agreed it is essential that effective communication occur as we move forward with the restoration effort. Specifically, it was requested that Avista and the City have common messages and increased outreach, possibly including a Facebook post that stakeholders can share with their groups.

April 27, 2017



## **The following items were discussed during the meeting.**

### **Current status of work:**

- During the week of April 17 erosion control measures were put in place along the road cut. This included silt fences and straw wattles that were strategically placed to prevent sediment from washing off the road during rain events. The Core Team will monitor the site throughout the process to ensure these measures remain effective.
- Avista completed a site survey on April 26 for use in the Restoration Plan.
- Signs were installed on April 22 to inform trail users of the restoration effort and request they avoid the disturbed area now, during, and after the restoration process.
- Aerial and drone photography were completed to assist with the Restoration Plan, and were provided to the landowners.
- The Spokane Tribe completed cultural field work and plans to provide a summary report by April 28. This report will be confidential.
- The gate to the access road off Highway 195 was locked to control unauthorized vehicular access to the site.
- Avista is working with the City and Ecology on permitting the restoration effort. The agencies discussed that while they are planning to issue emergency approvals, the full permitting schedules and reviews will apply. The dates for the permitting processes are not yet known, but will be shared when available. The permits include:
  - Shoreline Substantial Development Permit from the City;
  - State Environmental Policy Act Checklist from the City; and
  - General Stormwater Construction Permit from Ecology.
- Land Expressions and Anderson Environmental, with input and guidance from the Core Team, are developing the Restoration Plan.