



City of Seattle

Department of Planning and Development

Diane M. Sugimura, Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Councilmember Richard Conlin, Chair, PLUS
Councilmember Tim Burgess, Vice Chair
Councilmember Mike O'Brien, Member
Councilmember Sally Clark, Alternate

FROM: Marshall Foster (4-8413) and John Skelton (3-3883), DPD

DATE: December 30, 2013

SUBJECT: **Fourth Quarter Report on 2013 Workplan for DPD's City Planning Division**

This is the fourth quarter 2013 update on the City Planning Division's workplan in the Department of Planning and Development. This memo provides an update on our workplan, including the status of selected priority projects underway, and an updated summary of resources likely to flow from quarterly grant acceptance and supplemental budget ordinances or other sources.

Progress on 2013 Work Plan

Throughout the fourth quarter of this year we have been busy making progress on a number of our longer-term commitments including ongoing planning efforts in Rainier Beach, the Central Area, U District, Uptown, and Lake City. Other efforts include the major update of the Comprehensive Plan, new incentives for transit oriented development and other citywide incentive zoning programs. Highlights of our efforts include the following:

Shorelines. Seattle's new Shoreline Master Program continues to occupy our time as the State Department of Ecology continues their review of Seattle's new program. Having held a public hearing, Ecology has transmitted the 76 comment letters they received to DPD for the City's response. We also continue to work closely with Council, DPD Code Compliance staff, and the Law Department toward resolution of the residences over water issue.

Comprehensive Plan Update. We continue to make progress towards updating the Comprehensive Plan. We have released a background report that highlights key trends and changes in Seattle since the last major update in 2004. We are continuing to develop a Public Engagement Plan. We have also convened an interdepartmental team after meeting with City departments to discuss their desired Comprehensive Plan policy changes and are holding working sessions with the Planning Commission. We have begun evaluating consultant proposals submitted in response to our RFP for preparation of the environmental impact statement.



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Implementing Transit Oriented Development (TOD). We have made good progress with Sound Transit for development of one of their sites at the Othello station area. They will issue a request for proposals (RFP) in January 2014, in conjunction with the Office of Housing's Equitable TOD Loan Acquisition fund. This provides an opportunity for Sound Transit and the City to collaborate on how best to facilitate financially feasible TOD in an economically challenged market.

Duwamish M/IC/ Stadium Area Studies: In November, we published the study of industrial issues, particularly in the Duwamish Manufacturing/Industrial Center, as well as the findings and recommendations of the Stadium District Study. The recommendations for amendments to the Comp Plan were included in this year's annual Comp Plan amendment ordinance, which Council will consider in the first quarter of 2014.

Pedestrian Zone Mapping Project. We are now fully engaged in reaching out to involved communities and coordinating district-based meetings. Four community meetings are scheduled in January. The documents outlining preliminary analysis and recommendations for discussion will be posted on the project webpage in the next few weeks. After the holidays, we will send out an announcement to all community and business contacts. We remain committed to getting recommendations to Council for all areas by Q3 of 2014.

Citywide Incentive Zoning Programs Update. Staff continue to work with the Advisory Committee on Affordable Housing Incentives. Additionally, we have put together a proposal for convening a working group to discuss non-housing incentives, to be convened in January 2014. At that time we will also be contracting with a consultant to work with us on open space and childcare bonus issues. Staff are also finalizing background data on past use of zoning incentives and TDR prices to support the update and inform Council's consultants.

Living Building and Seattle Deep Green Pilot Program. We continue to work on proposed revisions to the City's Living Building and Seattle Deep Green Pilot Program. Initially, we are preparing legislation to modify the existing pilot program and will publish a SEPA decision soon after the holidays. We continue to work with the Living Building and Deep Green Technical Advisory Group (TAG).

University District. We conducted a public scoping process for the Draft EIS in September and October, and are moving forward with analysis of three zoning scenarios for 2015 to 2035. We anticipate the Draft EIS will be available for public review in spring 2014. We have also begun early work on code development and green street concept plans, and are participating in an ongoing community discussion about options for new open space in the neighborhood.

Broadview/Bitter Lake/Haller Lake. DPD has finalized draft legislation and will publish a SEPA determination for land use amendments developed in response to the Broadview/Bitter Lake/Haller Lake Neighborhood Plan Update soon after the holidays. The legislation will promote a walkable "town center" along Linden Avenue N. by encouraging infill multifamily and mixed-use development.

23rd and Union/Cherry/Jackson Action Plan. Over 600 participants through four phases of community engagement helped to create an Action Plan, amendments to Goals and Policies for the Neighborhood Planning Element of the Comprehensive Plan, rezone recommendations, and a change to the Future Land Use Map. The 23rd Ave Union/Cherry/Jackson Advisory Core Team (ACT) provided guidance

through the process. DPD is moving forward with its implementation and anticipate having urban design guidance and rezone legislation completed by Q2 2014.

Rainier Beach: We continue to address the community's priorities of Growing Food to Develop Healthy Industry, Lifelong Learning' and Place for Everyone through the formation of the Food Innovation Partners and development of a building program for the Food Innovation Center. The City has submitted to HUD a proposal for Rainier Valley South – Fulfilling the Promise, for a Promise Zone designation. The support for this proposal was overwhelming – from elected leadership at the federal, state and local levels to community members working to create positive change. In addition, we expect to complete the rezone and text amendments for the Rainier Beach station area by Q1 2014.

Ballard. Planning for the Ballard Hub Urban Village has begun. We have begun meeting with people throughout the community and are scoping a combined project with SDOT to plan for three potential transportation focus areas/station areas for multi-modal transportation. These include the possibility of light rail through ST3. We are also coordinating with the Ballard Chamber of Commerce and other agencies who have projects in the neighborhood. A draft Urban Design Framework that looks at future development, public spaces, private/public investments and community health should be available in late 2014.

Uptown. DPD held a highly successful open house in late November 2013 where the community identified their issues and concerns. We are completing a background report, and will initiate a community stakeholder planning process in early 2014. A key opportunity in the Uptown neighborhood involves coordinating public/private investments in the area above the existing tunnel portal where the street grid will be re-knit. We are coordinating with SDOT, community stakeholders, and with Belltown planning to the south.

Lake City. Lake City, the “little neighborhood that could” was successful in its application for an OED “Only in Seattle” grant. We have been working with community stakeholders and an advisory committee since early 2013, and will continue to do so in 2014, to identify directions for future development and streetscapes. We will coordinate closely with SDOT's Lake City Way corridor project, and with the Washington State DOT to integrate community planning along Lake City Way with roadway investments. We anticipate completion of a draft Urban Design Framework in late 2014, with rezone proposals following in 2015.

Other Land Use Code Amendments. We continue to await resolution of the appeal of our SEPA determination on the revised regulations for micro-housing. The appeal hearing is scheduled for January, 2014. We will also be submitting legislation to amend rules for small lot development in Single Family zones before the end of this year. We have begun evaluating issues raised regarding Lowrise 3 development standards.

Attachments: City Planning Division Workplan 2013-2015 (Revised)
2013 Grant Sources Summary Table