

Northeast Tacoma Neighborhood Council Meeting

Thursday, September 21, 2017

6:05 PM – 8:15 PM

Sharon Wilhelm, Observer

Content:

- Proposed Tideflat Interim Regulations with Q&A Report.
Speaker Steve Atkinson, Tacoma Planning & Development Services.
Discussion of Sub-area Plan with buffer, interim regulations, council resolution, use & development of tideflats. Sub-area Plan due Oct 4, Council will hear Oct 17. Public notification has expanded 2500 feet from center of proposed site. Should be adopted by late November. Hillside on Marine View Drive will be buffer, will include pause on heavy industrial use and residential use. No building permits, no platting but will allow for one unit per parcel. Non-industrial uses are on pause, ex: seaplane airport or arena. Heavy use includes high risk, hazard, earthquake risk or other types of heavy industrial uses. Puyallup Tribe contributed money and is participating in the Plan; Pierce County has been invited. The Plan should be approved by end 2017, scoping will begin in January 2018.
- Metro Parks Report
Bob Houston, Center at Norpoint
Construction begun on Eastside Community Center. Norpoint has new sauna, SPARKS middle school age children will use center daily. Friday night dances begin at Norpoint, expect up to 150 – 200 teens as year progresses.
- Kobetich Library
Lisa Bitney, Manager
Kobetich Library finished 2nd out of 8 Tacoma Libraries for the summer reading program. Kobetich is 7th in size. Tacoma Public School student ID cards also function as library card, no fines for overdue books. New inside wall mural will begin Oct 1, and there will be an open house to view it on October 21 at 2:00. New roof expected soon but no date yet.
- Tacoma Fire Department
(Name, title inaudible)
Disaster preparedness discussed. Recommend supplies of food & water for 14 days minimum, first aid kit, batteries. Storage of supplies discussed; fire department will assist people getting to their store of supplies if building damage prevents access. Tacoma website has full recommendations. Fire department responded to 871 incidents in August. Lengthy questions from audience and discussion of liquid natural gas (LNG) plant, audience members report that construction has already begun even though all permits are not yet in place. Tonight's fire department representative will take audience concerns about LNG back to Fire Chief Duggan.
- Tacoma Public Schools
Cass Tang, TPS PMO Director
All jobs currently frozen except for classroom, due to Legislation concerning budget. Summer programs will suffer, funds will be shifted. SAMI opens Oct 4. New facility 30,100 sq.ft, will house 450 to 500 students. \$31 million projected for Browns Point Elementary.

Receiving many calls re: DACA. TPS goal: all graduating students will be career-ready. All students receive passes to Metro Park programs.

- Legislative Report

Laurie Jinkins, Representative District 27

Just completed longest legislative session in WA history. Jinkins serves on 3 most active committees: Judicial, Healthcare & Wellness, Appropriations. Passed budget of \$7.4 billion for education; TPS reporting that it receives less money than under prior budget. Jinkins will meet with TPS administration to look at numbers, believes it is difference in counting, not in actual funding. Money primarily from property taxes but expected to drop in 2019. Mental health will move toward community care, reducing load on Western St. Hospital (largest in US); beds will stay in communities. New Department of Children and Family Services will provide services for highest risk. Paid family leave will be the best program in US, payroll taxes will fund it beginning 2020. Transportation budget, operating budget both passed. Capital budget did not pass because some legislators wanted to include water drilling. Water rights are complex problem, stopped budget process because of difficulty in agreeing. Car tabs discussed, state cannot bond if Kelly Blue Book figures are used. Jinkins will hold office hours around district, beginning soon.

- Public Comment

Noah Davis spoke against LNG plant, announced he is running for Port Commissioner. Because unusual to allow candidates to campaign during NETNC meetings, Board president allowed the other two candidates in audience, John McCarthy Port Commission and Phillip (inaudible) Council District #2 to speak also. Lengthy discussion of LNG plant.

- Announcements

- Pierce Transit representative (name not announced) reported that express service to WA ST Fair is available at 3 county locations. Pilot project downloading passes online will run for one year, then evaluate.
- City scheduled to replace street lights with LED lights next year. The 25th anniversary of neighborhood councils will be held at STAR center Sept 28 from 5:30 to 8:00. Free trees available to neighborhoods where minimum 3 families agree to plant and water them for the first year. Rebuild South Sound Together available to provide minor home repairs to elderly and disabled persons at no charge. NETNC needs co-chair to lead Neighborhood Clean Up Day in May, 2018.

- Next Meeting

Executive Board Meeting October 5. Board elections to be held November 16.