

# COUNCIL MINUTES

## Special Meeting February 18, 2003

Mayor Kenneth J. Kilroy called the special meeting of the Sammamish City Council to order at 7:30 pm

**Councilmembers present:** Mayor Kenneth J. Kilroy, Councilmembers Jack Barry, Don Gerend, Kathleen Huckabay, Michele Petitti and Troy Romero.

**Councilmembers absent:** Deputy Mayor Ron Haworth.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Romero moved to excuse Deputy Mayor Haworth. Councilmember Huckabay seconded. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

**Staff present:** City Manager Ben Yazici, Director of Public Works/Assistant City Manager John Cunningham, Director of Community Development Ray Gilmore, Senior Transportation Engineer Delora Kerber, Senior Planner Emily Arteche, Police Chief Richard Baranzini, City Attorney Bruce Disend and City Clerk Melonie Anderson.

### **Roll Call/Pledge**

Roll was called. Councilmember Huckabay led the pledge.

### **Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION:** Councilmember Huckabay moved to approve the agenda. Councilmember Petitti seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

### **PUBLIC HEARING:**

#### **Consideration of the Planning Advisory Board's Proposed Comprehensive Plan**

Mayor Kilroy opened the public hearing at 7:45. He gave a brief history of the development of the plan and then invited anyone interested to give public testimony.

#### **Public Comment**

Noreen Plath, 2961 22<sup>nd</sup> Place SE, She believes the Comprehensive Plan should include a tree ordinance that would prohibit the clear cutting o areas for new developments.

Don Sahl, Superintendent Lake Washington School District, 16712 NE 74<sup>th</sup> Redmond, He urged provisions for the development of affordable housing be part of the comprehensive plan. Affordable housing would allow for teaching staff to live in the communities they work in.

Doug Eglington 420 238<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Vice President Lake Washington School Board, He supported the comprehensive plan and encouraged Council to adopt the rezoning necessary to create affordable housing to be built on property owned by the School District. Beginning teachers earn only about \$30,000 a year and cannot afford housing on the plateau.

Linda Stevens, 10278 NE 27<sup>th</sup> Lane, Kirkland, She represents the teachers of Lake Washington School District. The District is having difficulty in attracting teachers because of the high cost of living on the eastside. The availability of the affordable rental housing project proposed by the district would allow teachers to live near the schools they teach in.

Christie Griffith 903 Bellevue Place E #205, Seattle, She teaches at Blackwell Elementary. She and her colleagues support the comprehensive plan. Being able to live in this community would be very valuable to her. Her current salary would not allow her to live in this community without the affordable rental housing development.

Christine Hayes, 20504 NE 5<sup>th</sup> Place, She spoke in support of the affordable rental housing project. She feels it will help recruit and maintain high quality teachers to teach children in Sammamish. It will also enhance the community. She urged Council to adopt the necessary rezoning necessary for this project to happen.

Nancy Behr, 20013 NE 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, She believes NE 42<sup>nd</sup> Street and NE 42<sup>nd</sup> Way are incorrectly labeled in the Comprehensive Plan as having “no deficiency”(Figure V-15). She believes the streets have permanent deficiencies because of the 20% grade and limited site distance. She also suggested installing an Opticom equipped gate at the SE 42<sup>nd</sup> Street barricade.

The following entries should be removed or corrected in the plan because they are inaccurate or irrelevant: Figure V-15 is labeled incorrectly as “No Deficiency”. Figure V-10 TAZ Boundaries are incorrect. Figure V-2, the traffic signal at 37<sup>th</sup> & Sahalee Way is in the wrong place. In Figure V-77, 192<sup>nd</sup> Way NE is currently not funded and should be removed.

Liz Blazek 19106 NE 51<sup>st</sup> Street, She supported the use of Opticom technology to improve emergency response time. She thinks there should be an overlay map developed which will show the current projects that have already been approved by King County (so called Pipe-line Projects.). The will help the City plan for future traffic. She also asked that each barricade in the City be considered independently. She thinks the NE 42<sup>nd</sup> Street barricade should be replaced by an Opticom gate.

Ray Spencer, 133 E Lake Sammamish Parkway NE, He does not support adding additional lanes to increase capacity of the Parkway. Expanding it to four lanes would increase capacity to 1800 vehicles per hour. Even with improvements, the intersection at SR 202 and the Parkway could only have an increased capacity of 1400 cars per hour. He does support adding turn-lanes where necessary.

Ador Yano, 20013 NE 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, He was very supportive of the Comprehensive Plan. He does not support the goal of connectivity within neighborhoods (Projects and policies that support this goal should be removed from the plan). He does not support the removal of the barricade at NE 42<sup>nd</sup> Street to connect Timberline with Waterbrook. Removing the barricades will change the character and integrity of the neighborhoods.

R. Neimeyer 1543 209<sup>th</sup>, He supported diverting traffic flow around the plateau, not over it.

Mare Saunders, 3228 E. Lake Sammamish Parkway NE, She is afraid that widening the parkway will increase the speed of traffic and change the character of the area. The street is very hard to cross or merge into traffic. She also feels the proposed trail will require space. Where will additional space for widening the parkway come from? She does support turn lanes.

KW Morovich, 24708 SE 14<sup>th</sup>, She felt the comprehensive plan should be adopted. She did question how the citizens could be involved in developing the regulations that will support the comprehensive plan. She was also supportive of the affordable rental housing project.

Tim Whalen, 20110 NE 28<sup>th</sup> Place, Spoke against widening the Parkway. It would be problematic to try to squeeze three or four lanes into the current right-of-way. He also believes there are too many driveways entering onto the parkway for a four-lane road.

Kathy Linderman, President, Issaquah Educational Association, 2046 Newport Way NW, Issaquah. She represents 800 teachers in the district and urged Council to adopt the planning policies, regulations and zoning necessary to support the development of affordable workforce housing in the City of Sammamish. Qualified teachers are leaving the area because they cannot afford to live here.

Peter Law, 21238 SE 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, He teaches at Skyline High School. He spoke in favor of the affordable workforce housing. Almost 1/3 of the teachers leave the Issaquah School District after five years. This is primarily due to the high cost of living on the Eastside. The Council would demonstrate leadership to the community and the state by supporting this project.

Leslie Austin, 3706 SE 274<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Represents the Issaquah School District Board of Directors. She spoke in support of the affordable workforce housing project. This would be the first project of its kind.

Janet Barry, Superintendent Issaquah School District, 3322 259<sup>th</sup> Place SE, She urged passage of the comprehensive plan and the adoption of the rezoning. She also expressed concern that the Planning Advisory Board is recommending removing the Impact Fee exemption for schools. Every other jurisdiction Issaquah School District operates in has this exemption. Schools do not create increased population, they are a response to it.

Claudia Berg, 18848 NE 49<sup>th</sup> Place, She opposes the PAB's \$31 million dollar expansion of the parkway to four lanes. Previous studies have documented that the current two lanes, with the addition of some turn lanes, will serve the projected capacity for the next 20 years.

Patricia Jeppeson, 4604 E. Lake Sammamish Parkway, She has lived in the area for 45 years. She believes widening the parkway will threaten the water quality of Lake Sammamish.

Don Marcy, 524 Second Avenue, Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98104, He spoke on behalf of the Kamp family. They own property located in the northeast quadrant of the city between 228<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE. This property has been designated in the plan as R-6. His client would like the property zoned R-18 or perhaps Community Business. It is close enough to the Pine Lake Shopping Center to extend the business area. The limited commercial property designated in the plan could potentially hurt the City by limiting retail sales tax income this type of property generates. He thinks it is unlikely any of the existing business centers would be redeveloped in the near future.

Ken Knott, 7144 55<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Seattle, His 15 acre property on East Lake Sammamish Parkway has been selected for down zoning. His property was originally R-4 and now will be R-1. His reasons for opposing the down zoning are listed in the document he submitted for the record.

Don Rembarger, 1302 W. Beaver Lake Dr. SE, Half of his property will be subject to down zoning proposed in the comprehensive plan. He is opposed to it. He would like to be able to subdivide his property so he will continue to be able to keep the property on the lake. He would also like to see paths around the lake instead of sidewalks.

Ben Sauero, 1442 242<sup>nd</sup> Place SE, He feels the comprehensive plan is allowing for too many additional units for the next 20 years. He is not in favor of the zoning necessary to support the affordable rental-housing program proposed by Lake Washington School District. He encouraged downsizing the number of units to be allowed in the future.

John Potter, 3611 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Represents owners of property that is adjacent to the proposed City Hall project. He believes this area should be designated mixed use/commercial business. It currently is not in the proposed plan. R-4 single-family zoning is incompatible with the area. He thinks it is wishful thinking that a subarea plan would be accomplished in the near future.

Bob Lynette, He owns property adjacent to the proposed City Hall. Zoning for this property should be changed to allow the necessary amenities to be close to the city center. The decision should be made now, as it will be impossible to change in a year and a half. Every city provides for adjacent services. This will reduce traffic and noise.

Rick Kuprewiez, 4643 192<sup>nd</sup> Drive NE, He supports the comprehensive plan. He supports expansion of roads leading in and out of the City. He encouraged the City to enter into interlocal agreements with other cities and jurisdictions to solve the problems at East Lake Sammamish and SR 202. There is an error in the NW TAZ Zone 2, 6 & 7 (Fig. 4-10). He wants to go on record that these errors will be problematic in addressing future detail issues that are beyond the scope of the plan

Mark Cross, 247 208<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Supports the transportation projects listed in the plan but requested language be added that if funding for the projects cannot be found, then the projects

will be deleted. If this language is not added land use will outrun transportation. He encouraged designating some mixed use west of 228<sup>th</sup>. He also supported the use of turn lanes where needed on East Lake Sammamish. A triangular area at the bottom of Thompson Hill Road should not be zoned R-6.

Earl Guttschmidt, 19532 SE 16<sup>th</sup>, His property is subject to potential down zoning from R-6 to R-1. They have been trying to short plat for many years. Their project was approved by King County. Now they may be subject to downzoning.

Recess from 9:05 pm to 9:20 pm

Jim McGraw, 2505 248<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, He does not feel the public has had enough opportunity to study the plan since it was only available four days before the hearing. He does not believe the plan provides for protecting existing neighborhoods. He was referring specifically to plans for 244<sup>th</sup>. He hopes that existing farms doing business will still be allowed under the new plan. Does not believe new high-pressure pipelines should be allowed in neighborhoods.

Greg Allan, 530 254<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, The plan has strong policies, but there are no regulations to back them up. He does not think the plan reflects what residents really want. He thinks growth allocation is too high. He advocated forming the Planning Commission before adopting the plan. The road budget is all allocated to projects that increase capacity so there are no funds for other improvements, like sidewalks and school access. The matching funds are overly optimistic.

Reid Brockway, 167 E. Lake Sammamish Shore Lane NE, Does not agree with the priorities of the transportation projects. It gives high priority to projects without addressing their feasibility or effectiveness. Believes the Parkway widening should be removed from the list until the “chokepoint” problems are solved.

Susan Brockway (same address as above), The process of adopting the comprehensive plan has been too short. The plan was released to the public too late. The public plan at the library was incomplete. The city should recognize it is asking the public to review a plan that is incomplete.

George Sutherland, 19616 NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Place, The State Road Improvement Board has already determined that the parkway should not be widened due to geographic constraints and lack of need. City staff does not recommend the widening. The cost estimate to widen the parkway is far too low.

Chris Brown, 9688 Rainier Avenue S. He is a transportation engineer and has studied the proposed comprehensive plan. Even with the improvements the DOT is proposing the intersection will not be able to handle the current volume of traffic passing through at East Lake Sammamish Parkway. He recommended consultants go back and recheck the modeling used to arrive at the numbers. He is also concerned with Figure V-6, 1,2, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 7. He believes that there is not enough space to widen the parkway to three lanes and include bike lanes and sidewalks.

Bob Hamilton, 393 East Lake Sammamish Parkway SE, He does not think widening the parkway will improve his commute and will add to the safety problems already existing.

Hank Klein, 643 E. Lake Sammamish Parkway NE, He does not feel the cost to widen the parkway is justified. He counted cars going down the parkway and at the intersection. The City of Redmond says about 840 - 960 cars per hour can move through the intersection. He estimated that 2,000 cars per hour already are going down the parkway. Adding capacity to the parkway will not solve the problem.

Pat Smith, 5011 E. Lake Sammamish Parkway NE, She was concerned about widening the parkway to four lanes. She cannot get out of her driveway now unless traffic slows to let her out. Widening the road to four lanes will make it impossible. The City of Redmond traffic engineer came out to assess the situation. The road is not big enough to widen to four lanes.

Irvine Massich, 22519 SE 4<sup>th</sup>, He feels there are too many roads going east to west. He believes both SE 4<sup>th</sup> and SE 20<sup>th</sup> need to be improved. School buses do not have enough room to pass each other on these streets.

Miles Smith 806 192<sup>nd</sup> Drive NE, As a resident of Hidden Ridge, he advocated that the barricade there not be removed. It is not a good access road to the neighborhood because it is steep and dangerous.

John Galvin, 432 248<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, The comprehensive plan sets out objectives consistent with the growth management act but at the same time blocks the way to achieving success. In the areas of reducing sprawl, encouraging transportation choices and offering an array of affordable housing choices and economic development the plan does not show the way. He advocated using the principles of "Smart Growth" and designating the area by proposed City Center as mixed use/commercial. Underdevelopment of this area will force growth outward.

Todd Thull, 2622 226<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, Several wetlands have been left off the list in the comprehensive plan. He has informed the PAB about these wetlands before but they still have not been added to the list. There is a class 2 wetland to the south between 27<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> that flows directly into Pine Lake and wetlands to the north, adjacent to the park that flows into Laughing Jacobs creek.

Helen Baxter, 723 216<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Spoke on behalf of the Heritage Society. The plan originally contained heritage language in the main part of the document. That has now been moved to the appendix. What is the difference between being in the main body of the plan and the appendix? What ordinances would need to be in place to protect historical buildings? She feels the PAB did not incorporate many of the suggestions the Heritage Society gave them.

Joyce McCallum, 159 E. Lake Sammamish, 10 years ago, King County studied widening the parkway and determined it might cost between \$40-60 million. If you put this information together with the comprehensive Trails, Bikeways and Pathways plan they will work at cross-purposes. The noise level along the parkway is already too high.

Nancy Whitten, Believes that growth control in the plan must be reassessed. She thinks Pine Lake is being threatened by the current development. Area in the drainage basin should be down zoned until a lake study can be completed. The area should be no higher than R-4.

Donald Marcy (spoke previously), Represents homeowners who own 10 acres on 196<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE. They are subject to the proposed down zone due to the SO180 overlay. This property is not subject to any erosion hazard. He requested the SO-180 designation be removed from this property. The owners have been paying assessments based on R-4 zoning.

Richard Granshaw, 4478 194<sup>th</sup> Way NE, He spoke against the removal of the NE barricades. He thinks this will turn neighborhood streets into connector streets and will increase safety concerns.

**Adjournment** – Mayor Kilroy adjourned the meeting at 10:15 pm

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Melonie Anderson, City Clerk

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Kenneth J. Kilroy, Mayor