

[NOTE: this message is emailed to team members and advisors as text and duplicated as an attachment. It is also posted online at the N-PUT section of the Roosevelt Neighborhood website. Go to: <http://rooseveltneighborhoodseattle.org> and follow the link into the Neighborhood Planning section of the site. We send these messages in multiple formats because many people find a printed out, complete document easier to read and refer to than scrolling through the text of an email.]

ROOSEVELT NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN UPDATE TEAM (N-PUT)
MID-MAY UPDATE

16 May 2006

From: Andy Reay-Ellers

Hello Plan Update Team Members & Advisors—

With the project in its final phase, the work we now do is of utmost importance -- but its relatively simple to understand.

I longer need to send out full-page ‘tasklists’ with different sub-groups taking on lots of different efforts. There are a few smaller items which some of us need to take care of, and a few small projects which need some attention. The majority of our efforts need to now concentrate on two tasks:

- #1. Refining and complete the working draft of the plan update.
- #2. Community outreach to review and comment on our work.

Item #1. WORKING DRAFT COMPLETION:

Some of our members did some masterful work at a special session and produced a rough but nearly complete document. This draft addressed the comments which have been made so far, and the conflicts which have arisen between different aspects of the plan. Our urban designer, Greg Waddell then took two passes through the document editing and amending to address some outstanding concerns and to bring us closer into line with the city's comprehensive plan.

This document been posted in the planning area of the Roosevelt website. [goto: <http://rooseveltneighborhoodseattle.org/>]

We need everyone to review this work and comment on its contents. A few comments on comments:

1. email your comments to Greg Waddell or send them via the comment section of the Neighborhood Plan section of the website.
2. please make your comments specific (i.e. identify by code and number exactly what goal/policy/strategy you're addressing) and constructive.
3. we know that some formatting and stylistic snafus remain. These will be cleaned up in the final draft. It is much more important to concentrate on substantive issues at this point.
4. try and discover items which have not been included, or have been "lost" along the way. We're still at the point where its easy to incorporate new ideas, but this is virtually the last chance.

Periodically Greg may submit a new version of the document and Randy will post this new edition on the site. Furthermore, there will again be a special work session to go over the content on work on the 'hard issues'. This will be on Thursday, May 25th at 7pm at the CCA church.

I simply can't stress too much how important it is that everyone review the current draft and make comments. I realize that the document now runs 25+ pages and seems a bit intimidating, but we need EVERYONE's input, and again this is virtually the last chance for any final modifications or additions. Please send your input, and do so by the morning of next Tuesday May 23rd so that those comments can be made a part of the next draft and/or can be addressed at the work session on May 25th.

Item #2. COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

Our outreach work takes several forms:

SURVEY:

the neighborhood survey which is already complete (currently being tabulated, a detailed report to follow).

OPEN PROCESS:

Through articles in the newsletter, announcements at RNA general meetings, etc. residents are being directed to attend our meetings, view our current draft reports and documents at the website, and submit comments to the team.

COMMUNITY FORUM:

A Community Planning Open House & Forum, will be staged at the CCA church to present to our neighbors a description of our Plan Update Project and the highlights of what's new in the updated plan. Comments will be encouraged at that time, and people will be directed to the draft document online.

PRESENTATION of PLAN UPDATE:

At the June RNA General Meeting there will be a presentation of the Plan Update Final Working Draft. This presentation will open a final comment period which will last into mid-july.

The "Community Outreach" item which requires the most immediate attention is the Community Planning Open House & Forum. We will be holding a special work session on the evening of June 1st to organize and plan this event.

Additional Items:

(things not as high-priority right now as the two listed above, but they do need attention)

“Missing Pieces”

Greg created a list of things still missing from the current draft text of the updated plan. This ranges from some ‘plan elements’ which do not yet have an introductory section written, to the need for an introduction to the updated plan which describes the process we’ve gone through to update the plan. A list of these “missing pieces” is posted at the website.

Perhaps the most important item(s) to be thinking about are “integrated strategies”. These are typically included in neighborhood plans to describe 3 – 5 big projects which the neighborhood should be focusing on to achieve its “Vision”. They are called “integrated strategies” because they are often broad projects which can’t be listed within a single plan element. As an example, the existing plan designated the creation of a ‘town center’ as a “key strategy”. An idea like this touches on the elements of economic development, land use, urban village, human development, transportation, etc. etc.

Anyway, the inclusion of a couple integrated “key” strategies can be a powerful and effective addition to a neighborhood plan. We should all be thinking about what “big picture” projects would best meet the most goals.

“Zoning Report”

The report from the workgroup that considered possible re-zones is still not 100% complete, but what remains to be done is simply some formatting and work on the illustrations.

The content was modified from the previous draft to reflect comments which were received and a recognition that the report simply needed to be more clear considering that this will be read and discussed by people unfamiliar with zoning codes, etc.

There were enough changes to the document that I feel compelled to accept any additional comments people would now like to make. Again, this document is posted on the website. Remember that zoning is probably the ‘tool’ which will make the biggest impact (positive or negative) on our neighborhood -- and it is also the item which is bound to be the most contentious within the community. For that reason I ask that everyone review this document and make comments as to what is good, bad, and which proposals should be our highest priority.

SUMMARY:

Please participate, we need each of you to help. First and foremost, review the draft plan update and submit comments to Greg.

Please attend our upcoming meetings: the content work session on May 25th, the Community Forum planning session on June 1st, the community forum itself on June 6th, and our next N-PUT meeting on June 8th.

Below is a calendar with all of these meetings and events listed. Please mark your calendars and support these final efforts.

Regards—

Andy Reay-Ellers

N-PUT
CALENDAR for MAY – JUNE 2006

(all meetings at CCA church unless otherwise noted)

ongoing: review current draft of Plan Update content (on website)
make comments to Greg Waddell.

23 May 10am – Deadline for comments on current Draft of Plan Update.
Please send your input by this time so that these comments can be made part of
the next draft and/or can be addressed at the work session on May 25th.

23 May 7:30 -- RNA General Meeting.
brief report to community on project,
announce & advertise “Community Forum” scheduled for Tues. June 6th.

25 May 7:00 – N-PUT Working session.
Plan Update Content
Review latest changes & comments on current draft.
Work on solving remaining issues/conflicts.

1 June 7:00 -- N-PUT Working Session
Plan and organize for Community Planning Open House & Forum.

6 June 5:30-8:30 -- Community Planning Open House & Forum, coordinated w/Art Walk.

8 June 7:00 -- N-PUT full-team meeting.
Debrief from Community Open House.
Make final assignments of what is needed to complete Final Working Draft.

27 June 7:30 -- RNA General Meeting:
Presentation of Plan Update Final Working Draft.

27 June to Mid-July -- comment period on Proposed Plan Update Working Draft.