

Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council Meeting -draft minutes

January 17, 2023

6-7:30 pm

Southside Community Center

Welcome

Chair, Carol Tomsic, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Carol presented Sally Phillips and Marilyn Lloyd with the Community Assembly Good Neighbor Award. She stated she couldn't do what she did without Sally and Marilyn.

Attendees introduced themselves.

Attendance

Guests – Terry Preuninger, Kevin Freibott, Angela Richardson, Charlie Schmidt

Officers – Carol Tomsic, Marilyn Lloyd, Sally Phillips

Attendees – Marcia Tunik, Marilyn Reimann, Henry Reimann, Carol Landa-McVicker, Marcia Milani, Chuck Milani, Donovan Arnold/Deleon, Hadley Marlow,

Approve Minutes

November and December minutes were approved.

Motioned by Marilyn Lloyd, Charles Milani, and Hank Reimann.

Lieutenant Terry Preuninger, South Precinct Update

Lt. Terry Preuninger introduced himself. He has been with the Spokane Police Department since 1982. This was his first neighborhood council meeting. He has been a detective and member of

the SWAT team. He works at the South Precinct, currently at the former site of the East Central library, 524 S. Stone. He said there is a conflict on use of the site and we should stand by and wait to see what happens. He said he has a criminal justice degree and is embedded in the community. He said we lost one neighborhood resource officer in the restructuring but now have 60 specific officers in the southside area. Terry answered questions. He said the C.O.P.S shops will stay and function. His goal is to have a C.O.P.S shop volunteer at the precinct. He said most calls to the police are 3 am in the morning and there were only 10 officers for the entire city of half million people. He said the reorganization will have more officers throughout the day. He will have the officers on day, swing and graveyard. He said the officers will respond to calls for service and are not traffic cops. He said calls spiked in July. He said there were 30 calls in holding one time. He said they are grossly understaffed in the southside. The area covered is a 20-minute drive, from Airway Heights to Havana. He said they do contract out and cited traffic collisions and mental health community outreach as examples. He said there is a budget for hiring, but trouble finding officers. He said there 14,000 applicants when he took the test and less than 15 applicants at the last test. Terry said to reach out to the precinct. He will respond to emails. His email address is tpreuninger@spokanepolice.org

Council Member Lori Kinnear – City Council Update via Email

Carol Tomsic read the update (and commented)

Last month, Council received a proposed budget from the Mayor. However, it was not balanced leaving public safety capital (fire apparatus, vehicles, etc.) unfunded. Council made necessary changes to create a budget that meets our public safety needs. Our amended budget passed Council 7-0. Even so, the Mayor has refused to sign it.

Fire and police have been given more resources than ever in this Council's amended budget. We have increased positions for fire and provided critical position reallocations for police based on strategy changes that were identified by SPD leadership as necessary to reduce their overall overtime costs.

On top of these structural changes, we have more than doubled both Fire and Police uniform overtime budgets from last year.

- *We increased Fire's overtime budget from \$1.7M to \$4.8M*
- *We increased Police's overtime budget from \$1M to \$2.4M*

There should be no requests for overtime funding from our public safety apparatus this next fiscal year. Any overages next year would be the result of management gaps, not due to lack of allocated resources or budgetary planning.

Council also funded 9 additional traffic officer positions. Speeding and inattentive driving has been a neighborhood concern across the City. These positions will give SPD the resources to start increasing enforcement. Even so, recruitment for SPD vacancies has been challenging. The first priority is always going to be violent crimes and property crimes.

In addition to the budget, the Cliff/Cannon Neighborhood exceeded their vote count for historic designation and will be coming before Council for final approval next month.

Lastly, Council deferred a vote on landlord-tenant legislation. I asked for the deferral so that additional input from tenants and landlords could be considered. Council will re-consider legislation on January 23rd.

As always, if you have questions or concerns feel free to call or email.

Kevin Freibott, Associate Planner, Building Opportunities for Housing

Kevin introduced himself. He said the Building Opportunities for Housing was a follow-up to the interim ordinance, Building Opportunities and Choices for All, approved by city council in July. It allows duplexes and triplexes less than 10 units city-wide. Kevin said there was a lot of interest and over 100 predevelopment meetings. The next six months the ducks will be in a row because the interim ordinance will expire. Kevin said there is still a server housing need. There is also a continued growth in the county, and we still need to make changes. Missing Middle housing, a duplex and triplex, will be targeted. The plan commission will look at the city's comprehensive plan. The 'big plan of everything.' He said it is 100-page document/vision for the city. He turned a 19-page report into a one page paper for us. Kevin talked about the comprehensive plan and housing choice. He said the increased diversity and choice is everywhere in the plan. He said there is a need for design requirements and housing types that work together and it is in the plan. Kevin said it is not all or nothing. It's not supposed to be black or white. It should be gray. A tapestry of choices. He said there will be survey and asked everyone to fill it out. Kevin said there is a single email account for any questions or comments. There are five people that will answer on the email, including Kevin. It is developcode@spokanecity.org. More information on all housing policy efforts, including the Housing Action Plan and ADU (Accessory Dwelling Units) changes can be found at www.shapingspokanehousing.com. Kevin answered questions. He said our neighborhood was missing housing diversity. Our city had a climb in single family and apartments but maybe six duplexes or triplexes a year. He said the city is learning from the mistakes and success of other cities, like Tacoma. He said the state legislature is looking at the missing middle. He talked about YIMBE (Yes In My Back Yard) and NIMBY (Not In My Back Yard). He said BANANA was worse (Build Absolutely Nothing Anywhere Near Anything). Kevin said the city is working out the process to make permitting easier so we can fill in the missing middle gap. He said an ADU is not much different than a duplex, but the process is different, the permitting is different, and the inspection is different. It is an area the city will focus on. The advantages of ADUs were discussed, including less expensive, family members can live in them and they do not create urban sprawl. He said developers are interested. Those with one to three lots. Not the large tract home developers. He explained 'trickle-up housing'. A homeowner in a one-bedroom house cannot move up to a 5-bedroom house because of a lack of missing middle housing for the homeowners of the 5-bedroom house. One-level housing for seniors and high condo fees was discussed. An increased of parking was discussed. Kevin said we have to choose cars on the street or people having a home. It is challenging. He said people

don't own the parking spot on the street in front of their home. He said we had a high population growth in Spokane that far exceeded the average growth expected due to some people moving here from out of state, babies, not as many deaths, and migration. It's an ongoing conversation. The pilot ends in July. Historic districts have a shot at the housing too, but the pilot does not touch any deed restrictions and homeowner associations.

Kevin also asked everyone to respond to his questions to ponder: How do you define a 'home?' Has your definition of home changed throughout your life? And. Why do you think the Comprehensive Plan favors "single-family residential" as a use that should be "protected," from other uses? And, think of your favorite hangout as a child. What did that space have that made it attractive beyond just houses (if there were any)? How about where you rode bikes or played with your friends? And. How would you reconcile the conflicts between LU 1.3 and LU 1.4 if you had the opportunity to do so? How does your method impact those seeking a home in Spokane? Kevin's email is kfreibott@spokanecity.org

Charlie Schmidt, 'Resident Spotlight'

Carol introduced Charlie as the artist who designed our logo and is interested in helping us with our street mural.

Charlie suggested we change the quail in our logo to a coyote so we could raise awareness of our neighborhood coyote problem. He said he likes to elicit change with his art. Charlie said he likes to make people laugh. He believes in absurdity. He said it was first time he worked on a project in his neighborhood. His upcoming project was a YouTube video during the Super Bowl. He said he has worked in 30 countries with his cats and his nose. Illusion murals were discussed. Charlie suggested a 'pothole' street mural. It was good trouble, and it would get attention.

Angela Richardson, Southside Library Update

Angela introduced herself. She said she was the Southside Library manager. She has worked for the Spokane Library for 17 years. She said the Southside Library would likely open early Spring. The shelving is being installed. The main construction is done. The books are being put back. Angela answered questions. She said nothing has changed with the parking codes. She said the construction was just internal renovations. The Bad Seed, a restaurant in the old Hillyard public library, was discussed. Angela said the finishing touches to the children's area are being done and it is adorable. The library mascot is a turkey. Our neighborhood turkey population was discussed. Angela said there will be two study/meeting rooms and a lot more space in the library. She said a lot of creativity was used.

Vote on Park Speed Cameras Resolutions

The three resolutions were discussed. Park photo speed cameras on 37th, at Hamblen Park. Park photo speed cameras on Ray Street, at Thornton Murphy Park and 27th, at Thornton Murphy Park. Park photo speed cameras on SE Blvd, at Upper Lincoln Park and 17th, at Lower Lincoln Park.

Hadley Morrow motioned. Motion included voting all three resolutions together. Marilyn Lloyd seconded. All three resolutions were approved unanimously.

The three resolutions will be signed, dated, and emailed to Jeff Gunn, a city council legislative assistant.

Annie Deasy, Office of Neighborhood Services – Traffic Calming Update

Annie said there were ‘neighbors drive 25’ yard signs available. She brought a few of the signs to the meeting. She said the 2023 mobile speed feedback sign program had started. She said there will be a traffic study of the Altamont Loop and a continuation of the Thor/Freya project will cause intermittent closures. She said the city was in the process of hiring a council neighborhood connectivity manager that will oversee the traffic calming program. She said there may be an alternate arrangement of a survey monkey so more residents could vote and participate in the outcome of the upcoming traffic calming program workshop. She said there will be four years of projects and on the third year another set of four years of projects will be decided. Annie said the upcoming Altamont Loop study will figure out good solutions. She said to call 509-625-4150 for speeding issues and 911 for emergencies.

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting 2/21/23 on Zoom

Email Updates

Our council has a secretary vacancy. If you are interested let us know!

The 2023 Mobile Speed Feedback application is open. Trailers are placed 5/1/23 thru 10/2/23. Our council can request three locations for mobile speed feedback trailers that collect data. We can also request mobile speed feedback trailers that do not collect data. We already have two requests: 11th/Fiske and 29th, east of Cuba. Let us know if there is a location you think would

benefit from the placement of a mobile speed feedback trailer. We will finalize our application at our March in-person meeting. The deadline is 4/7/2023.

Here is a link to the results of our 2022 Mobile Feedback placements. <https://static.spokanecity.org/documents/neighborhoods/programs/mobilespeedfeedback/2022-mobile-speed-feedback-report.pdf>

The hearing examiner approved the Hamblen Water Tower on 1/6/2023. The school district agreed to give the city an easement to build and maintain the water tank on the northeast corner of the Hamblen Elementary School site.

Congratulation to Hadley Morrow. She was chosen to participate in the Spokane Neighborhood Leadership Academy.

Here is an update on the revised traffic calming program. The city is reviewing applications for an Initiative Manager for Transportation and Connectivity. The traffic engineering firm hired by the city is working on draft concept plans for the concerns identified at our district workshop. There will be a neighborhood refinement workshop this winter. Our council will keep you updated.

If you see a pothole report it to the City's Pothole Hotline at 311. Street Maintenance crews are proactive in looking for potholes and getting them repaired.

The City Council voted in favor of a resolution establishing a process for the lease of the former east central library and continuing neighborhood police precinct. The city will request proposals from organizations that previously expressed an interest in the space to provide much needed neighborhood services and fund upgraded office space for the police precinct officers with the rental income.

Karen Mobley has started a grassroots group called the Lincoln Park Interest Group. The group is advocating for the protection of natural areas, including Upper Lincoln Park and Underhill Park. If you are interested in joining contact Karen at karen@karenmobley.com

The 2022 digital (dump) pass program has expended available funding and the passes are no longer available this year. Residents may still redeem passes they have within 30 days and printed passes within the listed expiration date. The forms and passes will be available again in February of 2023.

The 'Neighbors Drive 25' yard signs are still available at City Hall and C.O.P.S locations on a first-come, first-served basis. Our C.O.P.S location is in the Lincoln Heights Shopping Center and is not open all the time, so call first 509-625-3326.

Park Speed Cameras Resolutions

A Resolution of the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council

For parks photo speed cameras on SE Blvd, at Upper Lincoln Park and 17th, at Lower Lincoln Park

Whereas, Council President Breean Beggs invited neighborhood councils to propose speed cameras at their neighborhood parks during his presentation at the 11/3/22 Community Assembly meeting.

Whereas, Lincoln Park is bordered by two arterials, Upper Lincoln Park, at SE Blvd and Lower Lincoln Park, at 17th. The Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council is asking for the speed cameras at both SE Blvd, at Upper Lincoln Park and 17th, at Lower Lincoln Park.

Whereas, the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council voted to approve this resolution asking for parks speed radar cameras to be installed on SE Blvd, at Upper Lincoln Park and 17th, at Lower Lincoln Park at their 01/17/2023 meeting.

Whereas, pedestrian safety and speeding traffic on SE Blvd, at Upper Lincoln Park and 17th, at Lower Lincoln Park, are a concern with neighborhood residents and has been cited but not addressed in the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program.

Whereas, a priority neighborhood concern at the traffic calming District 2 workshop was high speeds and visibility concerns on 17th. Franklin Elementary students walk on 17th at and in the vicinity of Lower Lincoln Park. Speeding traffic is a concern on 17th, at Lower Lincoln Park.

Whereas, a priority at the traffic calming District 2 workshop was SE Blvd walkability, pedestrian safety and pedestrian crossing facilities to Upper Lincoln Park. A marked crosswalk on SE Blvd, at the entrance to Upper Lincoln Park, was funded in the Cycle 9 (2019) Traffic Calming Program projects. Speeding traffic is a concern, on SE Blvd, at Upper Lincoln Park.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council request the City Council to install parks photo speed radar cameras on SE Blvd, at Upper Lincoln Park and 17th, at Lower Lincoln Park.

Carol Tomsic, Chair of the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council

01/17/2023

A resolution of the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council

For parks photo speed cameras on Ray Street, at Thornton Murphy Park and 27th, at Thornton Murphy Park

Whereas, Council President Breean Beggs invited neighborhood councils to propose speed cameras at their neighborhood parks during his presentation at the 11/3/22 Community Assembly meeting.

Whereas, Thornton Murphy Park is bordered by two arterials, Ray Street and 27th. The Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council is asking for the speed cameras at both Ray Street, at Thornton Murphy Park and 27th, at Thornton Murphy Park.

Whereas, the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council voted to approve this resolution asking for parks photo speed radar cameras to be installed on Ray Street, at Thornton Murphy Park and 27th, at Thornton Murphy Park, at their 01/17/2023 meeting.

Whereas, 27th, at Fiske Street, is an entrance to Thornton Murphy Park and a school bus stop. Numerous complaints on speeding and other traffic concerns during drop off and pick up of students at the school bus stop has been cited but not adequately addressed in the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program. The entrance to Southside Community Center is at Thornton Murphy Park, on 27th. Speeding is a concern on 27th, at Thornton Murphy Park.

Whereas, speeding and safe pedestrian and bicycle crossings on Ray Street, at Thornton Murphy Park, was a concern with neighborhood residents and has been cited but not addressed in the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council request the City Council to install parks photo speed radar cameras on Ray Street, at Thornton Murphy Park and 27th, at Thornton Murphy Park.

A Joint Resolution of the
Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council and Southgate Neighborhood Council
For park photo speed cameras on 37th, at Hamblen Park

Whereas, Council President Breean Beggs invited neighborhood councils to propose speed cameras at their neighborhood parks during his presentation at the 11/3/22 Community Assembly meeting.

Whereas, Hamblen Park is on the border of the Southgate Neighborhood Council and the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council

Whereas, the Southgate Neighborhood Council voted at their 11/9/22 meeting to approve their board work with the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council on a joint resolution for park photo speed radar cameras to be installed on 37th, at Hamblen Park.

Whereas, the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council voted at their 01/17/2023 meeting to approve a joint resolution with the Southgate Neighborhood Council for park photo speed radar cameras to be installed on 37th, at Hamblen Park.

Whereas, pedestrian safety and speeding traffic on 37th, at Hamblen Park, are a concern with residents in both neighborhoods and has been cited but not addressed in the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program.

Whereas, Hamblen Elementary School is on the south border of Hamblen Park. The boundary of the elementary school extends past 37th. Therefore, speeding traffic on 37th is a safety concern for students playing in the park and walking or bicycling to school.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council and the Southgate Neighborhood Council request the City Council to install parks photo speed radar cameras on 37th, at Hamblen Park

Carol Tomsic, Chair of the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council

01/17/2023

Rita Conner, Chair of the Southgate Neighborhood Council

01/17/2023