

PUGET NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

January, 2010

Updates from the Puget neighborhood

www.pugetneighborhood.org

E-mail: info@pugetneighborhood.org

NEWS FLASH!

PUBLIC HEARING FOR PUGET NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN

Planning Commission

Thursday, January 21 – City Council chambers 7:00pm

Deadline for written comments – January 19

Now is the time for your attendance and letters of support to the Planning Commission. We are requesting that the Planning Commission recommend to the City Council that our Plan revision be part of the City staff work plan for 2010 (officially known as “docketing”).

Your letter of support could include a message similar to the following:

— The purpose of this Neighborhood Plan revision is to be as forward-looking and prepared for the future as possible. We believe it is important to articulate the vision in the Neighborhood Plan in anticipation of development* that will significantly affect the present infrastructure. Gaining approval of these revisions now is in the best long-term interests of the Neighborhood and the City.

* Developments in the planning stages include

- Increased capacity and build-out of the Lincoln Creek Park & Ride
- Proposed development to mixed-use commercial/residential in the 23 acres south of Fred Meyer
- Reconfiguration of I-5 including the Lakeway access ramps

View the Plan revision at the Puget website: www.pugetneighborhood.org

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nds the PNA update to the Council for docketing (staff work plan for 2010), then there will be another Public Hearing with the City Council.

As City Council member Barry Buchanan noted at our PNA meeting, both of these hearings are where Puget neighbors need to show up & speak up with our support.

Information on this topic will be available in the Planning and Community Development Department and at <http://www.cob.org/web/commsnl.nsf>.

Staff Contact: Greg Aucutt, Senior Planner (360)778-8344 or aucutt@cob.org

Thank you to our Police and Firefighters

After the tragic events in the past few months, Barbara Boothly, one of our signboard volunteers, suggested we let the City Public Safety crews know our gratitude for their dedication and commitment.



Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Committee (MNAC)

Report from December 16, 2009 meeting – *Andrea Haas, PNA representative*

Contact Andrea at 733-3163 or email andrea_haas@comcast.net

Walking & Biking Mobility – To open The Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Commission meeting of December 16th was our own Therese Kelliher, newly appointed to the Transportation Commission, who presented a detailed report from the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) identifying neighborhood barriers to mobility. The report is available by request.

Residential Stormwater Management – Kym Fedale discussed Project DX, a new web-based program for residents who want to access information about stormwater management. (See below.) Please contact me for more information on the project and the sessions on Jan 26th.

2010 Census – coming soon! The importance of our participation, when the forms arrive in March, was stressed. There is a direct impact on federal dollars that come back to the community, our representation and elected officials. We hope to top the 64% participation rate for Whatcom County in the 2000 census. Our speakers, Leverage Lamoureux and Bob Putich from the US Census Bureau, will also be happy to attend neighborhood meetings and present information.

Bellingham Budget – On a gloomier note, the City budget was approved on December 14, 2009. Neighborhood funding has been reduced by half. Please consider this a good time to pay your Puget Neighborhood Association dues for 2010. (See details at end of newsletter.)

Update on Missing French Hen

As you may recall, severe winds in November knocked over Laurel Cook's chicken coop. Marie Antoinette lost life and limb to a raccoon. Jeanne D'Arc was rescued, however, Edith Piaf was still missing.

Happily, in the late afternoon, Edith Piaf wandered out of the woods on Puget Street, crossed the road, (She really did—there are eyewitnesses.) walked up the hill, into the coop and laid an egg!

Have you biked or walked on the trails in the Puget Neighborhood? New Bellingham and Whatcom County Bike Maps Available

There is a great new trail along Whatcom Creek, a trail to Carl Cozier behind the ball fields and more! To see the locations of trails, and suggested bike routes, check out everybodyBIKE's new bike map. An online version is available here:

<http://www.everybodybike.com/resources.aspx>, or contact PNA Board member, and everybodyBIKE event coordinator, Mary Anderson to find out how to get a paper copy. **360-676-6974** or **mary@everybodyBIKE.com**

Residential Stormwater Management

January 26 4:00 to 5:30pm OR 6:00 to 7:30 pm

**City of Bellingham Computer Training Room
625 Halleck St. (next to the Municipal Court)**

Join us for a 90 minute hands on intro to Project DX. We are looking for input on the program and what type of incentives would motivate you.

Project DX empowers residents to make changes on their property to improve water quality throughout our community. Project DX is web-based, one-stop resource that provides property specific information, project options and local resources and incentives.

Project DX has launched in Portland and Seattle. Help make Bellingham the first small community to launch this innovative program.

If you are interested in joining us, to learn more about Project DX and to provide input, please **contact Kym Fedale at 360-778-7970 or email kfedale@cob.org**.

Please respond by January 18.

Puget Neighborhood Association

How to Be a Part of the Action...Learn the Inside Scoop...Meet Exciting People...All neighbors welcome!

Meet us at the next

1) Puget Neighborhood General Meeting – Tuesday, February 9th, 2010 at 7pm.

Community Room at Moles Family Funeral Home
(corner of Lakeway & Woburn)

2) Join the Board – 5 meetings/year

Discussion and Planning for the Puget Neighborhood
Learn about lots more than you will read in the newspaper!

Next PNA BOARD MEETING January 19th, 2010 – 7pm at Moles

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| • Nick Powell (President) | • Scott Dorough |
| • Greg McKinney (Vice-President) | • Andrea Haas |
| • Bill Radock (Treasurer) | • Cliff Haas |
| • Jeff Haggan (Secretary) | • Jeff Latta |
| • Mary Anderson | • Neelam Sharma |
| • Lee Brown | |

PLEASE THANK OUR BUSINESS SPONSORS

- **Moles Funeral Home** (no charge for meeting room)
- **Copy Source** (discount on PNA copying)

MEMBERSHIP

Remember to renew your membership or ask a neighbor to join. The more neighbors we have, the more we can keep you updated with what is going on in the neighborhood.

Dues are minimal: Household \$15; Renters/low income \$5; Business \$50-\$500.

Send your check made out to:

- Puget Neighborhood Association, PO Box 28418, Bellingham, WA 98228-0418.

Include the following information: name, address, phone and email address.

For More Information, go to the website: [**www.pugetneighborhood.org**](http://www.pugetneighborhood.org).

- Do you have news to share?
- Do you want to know about something in the neighborhood?
- Send your message now!

Email Therese Kelliher, Newsletter Editor: [**info@pugetneighborhood.org**](mailto:info@pugetneighborhood.org).

Puget News will be sent 6 times a year alternating with PNA General Meetings.

*If you would prefer to be removed from this mailing list, please let us know:
[**info@pugetneighborhood.org**](mailto:info@pugetneighborhood.org).*

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

BELLINGHAM PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Thursday, **January 21, 2010** at 7:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, 210 Lottie St.

Information on this topic will be available in the Planning and Community Development Department and at <http://www.cob.org/web/commsnl.nsf> at least one week prior to the hearing. There will be an opportunity for public testimony at the hearing, and written comments should be submitted no later than **January 19, 2010** for consideration at the meeting. All comments submitted prior to or at the hearing will become part of the written record.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Consideration of the list of proposed amendments to the comprehensive plan. Six proposed amendments were received seeking changes to the following neighborhood plans: Puget, Central Business District, King Mt., Happy Valley, Mt. Baker, and Guide Meridian/Cordata. The Commission will make recommendations to the City Council regarding which of the proposed amendments should be docketed for review in 2010.

Staff Contact: Greg Aucutt, Senior Planner (360) 778-8344 or aucutt@cob.org

HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

The City of Bellingham complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need special accommodation, please call Heather Aven at the Planning Department at 778-8300 (voice), 676-6883 (TTY), or haven@cob.org at least 3 days prior to the meeting. A hearing assistance system is available and a receiver may be checked out prior to the meeting.
