

Neighborhood Plan Update Phase II Workshop with Members of the Chinese Community

June 11, 2009 – Center Park

Part I: Places and Connections

Exercise to discuss gaps and opportunities for improving pedestrian, bike and transit connectivity. (Where do you live/work/shop and mode of travel)

- They walk along Walker St to Rainier Ave S. and take bus route 7 or 9 (run along Rainier Ave S. northward) to Chinatown for grocery shopping, doing exercise, entertainment, church services and activities, eating at Chinese restaurants, and visiting doctors.
- They take bus route 4 outside of their apartment building (run along MLK Jr. Way S.) to Harbor View Hospital for health service. They take bus route 9 to Swiss Hospital and Policy Clinic.
- They go to QFC and Safeway at Rainier Ave S by taking bus route 7 or 9 or 42 (run along Rainier Ave S. southward). One of them goes there by car.
- They walk to MLK Memorial Park for exercise or to relax. Some walk along MLK Way Jr. to Bayview St towards Rainier Ave S and walk along 25th Ave S northward back to their apartment buildings every morning for exercise.
- One of them goes to a Chinese church on Orca St and 28th Ave St by car. Two of them go to that church by taking bus route 7 to Chinatown and transit bus route 36.
- One of them takes bus route 9 to Seattle Central Community College on Broadway.
- One of them walks along Walker St eastward to the park at Lake Washington. One senior said she cannot walk up the hill as her legs are weak so she cannot get there.

Part II: Building a Great Town Center

Exercise to explore relationships between number of households, retail destinations, parks and walkability. (Creating a town center, housing density, building heights, etc)

- Buildings should not be higher than 6 stories. They can be built parallel to Rainier Ave S.. There should be wide pedestrian sidewalks with grass, flower pots, and trees along the road. Maybe a big fountain and open space at the Town Center as the landmark. The ground floor could be used to provide goods and services. Residential use for the upper floors.
- Buildings that are too tall may trap heat and block air circulations. It may not be favorable to the pedestrians.
- Buildings can also be perpendicular to Rainier Ave S. as long as they are built in a systematic/tidy way. Green areas and open spaces should be available between buildings.

Part III: Emerging Priorities and Opportunities

Capturing new ideas or major concepts (new themes and remaining issues)

- Add a cross walk from the bus stop on Rainier Ave S (near 23rd Ave S and Hill St.) directly to Walker St.