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4 NORTH/EAST CITIES REGIONAL MUNICIPAL JAIL PLANNING

5 EIS SCOPING MEETING

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13 January 6, 2009

14 6:30 P.M.

15

16 Lake Washington Technical College Auditorium

17 11605 132nd Avenue Northeast

18 Kirkland, Washington 98034

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24 Transcribed by Catherine A. Decker, Court Reporter

25 CCR 1975

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8 3. Dan Everts 27
13613 118th Avenue NE, Kirkland 98034

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10 4. Roland White 30
13117 NE 129th St., Kirkland 98034

11 5. Sabrina Miller 31
12826 133rd Place NE, Kirkland 98034

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13 6. Debbie Gates 33
12556 120th Avenue NE, No. 233, Kirkland 98034

14 7. Paul Kulchenko 35
13025 96th Place NE, Kirkland 98034

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1103 203rd Place SE, Bothell 98012

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1 MR. ISHIZAKI: Let's go ahead and get started.
2 Good evening. This is the first scoping meeting to
3 address the environmental impact statement for the
4 north/east cities regional municipal jail planning.
5 The NEC hosted a series of public forums near each
6 of the six jail sites, which concluded in mid
7 December. These meetings provided an opportunity to
8 learn about the facts behind the projects and more
9 importantly to hear your concerns and questions
10 about citing a jail in your neighborhood. All
11 comments and questions have been recorded and are
12 available via the Web site, NECmunicipaljail.org.

13 In contrast to the public forum meetings, the
14 purpose of tonight's scoping meeting is to provide
15 an opportunity for agencies, organizations, and the
16 public to offer comments regarding the scope of the
17 environmental impact statement for the proposed
18 north and east cities regional municipal jail. This
19 is part of the state mandated process for SEPA,

20 State Environmental Policy Act.

21 We would like to hear from you regarding the

22 specific environmental issues that should be

23 considered and analyzed as part of the EIS.

24 Comments that do not specifically relate to

25 environmental issues should be directed to the

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1 on-line comment form found on the Web site, or in a
2 letter directed to Catherine Cornwall of the City of
3 Seattle.

4 In addition, city staff and consultants will be
5 around after tonight's meeting should you have any
6 questions. We know you have a lot to say, so we've
7 set up the meeting to allow everyone who wants to
8 comment to have that opportunity. This evening you
9 may provide comments related to potential
10 environmental impacts on any of the other five sites
11 under consideration.

12 We want to start by introducing you to the
13 people and resources available to you tonight. From
14 the NEC we have Catherine Cornwall, senior policy
15 analyst, City of Seattle; we have Lieutenant Bill
16 Lathrop, Bellevue police; Lieutenant Bob Balkema,
17 Kirkland police. We also have Lena Rubkin, chief
18 policy advisor, City of Redmond; and I am Andy
19 Ishizaki, senior project manager, City of Seattle's

20 Fleets and Facilities Department.

21 We also have with us EIS consultants Terry

22 McCann and Mike Blumen and Amy Gritton from Blumen

23 Consulting Group. We also have with us the Keller

24 Group, the consulting group hired by the NEC to help

25 organize these scoping meetings. We have Lee Keller

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1 in the back over there, and you met Nicki as you
2 were coming in.

3 I would like to acknowledge any electeds or
4 VIPS. Have I missed any electeds? And we want this
5 to be an open and transparent process, so the news
6 media has been invited to be part of this. We would
7 ask that any interviews take place before or after
8 the event or out in the hallway but not in this room
9 during the scoping meeting. Lee Keller from the
10 Keller Group is available to assist with media
11 inquiries. We also have a court reporter present to
12 record all comments from tonight's meeting.

13 I'd like to address a few housekeeping items.
14 For safety we have exits on the sides and in the
15 back. Restrooms are located near the entrance, and
16 we also have water available near the entrance as
17 well.

18 And now let's move to the agenda. The agenda
19 is basically in three parts. A short presentation

20 to provide a brief background of the project, a
21 short presentation explaining more about the EIS
22 process and the purpose of scoping, and then most of
23 the meeting is dedicated to getting your comments.

24 In addition to providing EIS scoping comments
25 by signing up and speaking, you can either write

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1 your comments on the comment sheets and drop them
2 off in the white boxes or you can simply fold them
3 and mail them or you can give them to a city
4 representative. The comment sheets are located near
5 the entrance.

6 You can also provide written comments to the
7 address listed on the comment sheets or you can also
8 provide written comments to the e-mail address
9 listed on the comment sheets. All of your comments
10 on the EIS scope will be recorded and become part of
11 the public record and will be considered when
12 defining the final scope of the EIS.

13 Again, I would like to reiterate that we will
14 continue to listen to your general comments,
15 concerns, and questions regarding the project
16 throughout the year, so please continue to submit
17 your comments via the Web site or in writing via
18 mail to Catherine Cornwall. However, tonight's
19 meeting is to hear from you what subjects and

20 environmental issues should we be studying as part
21 of the NEC municipal jail environmental impact
22 statement. Not everyone here has had a chance to
23 review the NEC municipal jail Web site; so to ensure
24 that we're all starting with the same basic facts
25 about this issue, we're going to take about 10 to 15

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1 minutes to review the basic facts of citing a jail
2 before moving to collecting your input. I'm pleased
3 to introduce Catherine Cornwall from the NEC to give
4 you a brief presentation on that.

5 MS. CORNWALL: All right. Thank you, Andy. As
6 Andy mentioned, I'm just going to go through a
7 little bit of background about why there are plans
8 to build a new jail. For those of you who've heard
9 this before, I appreciate your patience in listening
10 to it again, but we do just want to make sure that
11 everybody is starting out with the same base of
12 knowledge.

13 So just to kind of start with the obvious,
14 obviously public safety is a core function of local
15 government. And a little bit of background. Cities
16 are responsible for people charged with misdemeanor
17 crimes. And misdemeanors are things like driving
18 under the influence, criminal trespass, crimes under
19 \$500. And the county is responsible for people who

20 have been charged with felonies. Felonies are
21 things like most drug offenses, homicides, rapes;
22 those are felony crimes.

23 And currently the cities in King County, we
24 contract with King County for our jail services.
25 They are our main provider of local jail services.

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1 And the challenge is our contract with King County
2 ends in about four years. And what's happening is
3 the county's felony population is growing, and
4 they're projecting that in order to have room to be
5 able to house all the felons the cities need to go
6 elsewhere and find a new replacement for the beds
7 that are currently used at King County. So cities
8 are legally required to house people charged with
9 misdemeanor crimes, and we need to figure out a way
10 to replace the beds that we're losing at King County
11 when our contract with the county ends.

12 There are -- just a little bit of background.
13 You'll heard this term NEC, north/east cities, and
14 that stands for the 23 cities in northeast King
15 County. And there are five principal cities that
16 are planning on behalf of all 23 -- Bellevue,
17 Kirkland, Redmond, Seattle, and Shoreline. Those
18 five cities sort of represent about 90 percent of
19 the jail population and are planning on behalf of

20 all 23 cities. And so we've been working together
21 to try and develop a plan.

22 South county cities are also in the same boat.

23 They formed a consortium. They're looking at
24 developing replacement options also in the contract
25 with the county. And we're actually working very

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1 closely together; just because King County is so big
2 geographically, we decided it made sense to kind of
3 split up and look at two misdemeanor facilities
4 because it's just hard to find one location that
5 kind of works all the way from Shoreline down to
6 Auburn and out to Maple Valley and Redmond. So
7 that's why we're having the two regional efforts on
8 that.

9 And it generally takes about four to six years
10 from the beginning of when we start the study
11 process through construction, and we have about four
12 years until our contract with King County ends.

13 Another question that comes up is wouldn't it
14 make a lot more sense just to invest in treatment
15 and diversion, why even build a jail at all? And
16 the cities are very committed to using alternatives
17 committed to investing in treatment. Our jail
18 projections, we're assuming that about 8 to 10
19 percent of the people currently in jail we're going

20 to move to place in alternatives. But we do need
21 some local jail capacity.

22 So for example, some offenses, state law
23 requires jail time. If someone is convicted of
24 driving under the influence, if they have one prior
25 DUI conviction, it's a mandatory 30 to 45 days in

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1 jail. If they have two prior DUI convictions, it's
2 a mandatory 90 to 120 days in jail; state law
3 requires it, the judge isn't allowed to waive it.
4 Domestic violence charges, it's a mandatory booking
5 in jail.

6 And then a lot of people -- about a third of
7 the people that we book in jail were previously
8 diverted and then they didn't show up for court, so
9 the court issues a warrant and they get picked up on
10 a warrant. So you do need some local jail space to
11 be able to hold people.

12 Another question that comes up, many of the
13 cities -- we contract with Yakima County for jail
14 services, so a question that comes up is, That's
15 great. Can't you just keep contracting with Yakima?
16 The challenge is we need someplace local. It's
17 about a five-hour drive round trip that police
18 officers have to drive five hours every time they
19 need to bring somebody to court or every time they

20 need to make an arrest, it would just take officers
21 off the street too long. So we do need somewhere
22 within the county to be able to do that.

23 So all of our options -- we have three options.
24 All of them involve building a new jail. The
25 partnership of the northeast cities. And then

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1 there's another option of the northeast cities
2 partnering with King County which I'm going to talk
3 about. But if these partnerships don't work out,
4 then the fall-back option is all of the cities we
5 all build our own local jails.

6 So as I mentioned, there are five main cities
7 planning on behalf of all 23 north/east cities. And
8 earlier in 2008 we hired a consultant to look at the
9 trade-offs of whether it makes sense if we had two
10 jails, a Seattle-only jail and then a northeast
11 jail, versus one jail, and look at primarily the
12 cost and kind of operational efficiencies, and found
13 that there are significant savings to the cities if
14 we partner together on one jail, just because you
15 have such high fixed costs when you're operating a
16 jail. So you have to obviously run it 24 hours a
17 day, you have to have medical staff 24 hours a day,
18 you have to have a booking unit 24 hours a days. If
19 you have two jails you're having to have two sets of

20 staff in place 24 hours a day. So that's kind of
21 the main catalyst for the cities partnering together
22 on a single northeast regional jail.

23 We are -- one of the options that we are
24 looking at and that will be included in the
25 environmental review is a partnership with King

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1 County. So King County currently operates a jail in
2 downtown Seattle, and there's some vacant land
3 across the street from the jail at 5th and
4 Jefferson. And the proposal there would be to
5 essentially build an annex to the existing jail and
6 it would be connected with either a sky bridge or a
7 tunnel and would be primarily adding additional jail
8 beds and would make use of the existing jail. It
9 might have some other functions like courtrooms and
10 office space. So this option will be included among
11 the sites that the cities are looking at.

12 So in terms of citing and identifying the other
13 five sites that the cities are looking at in
14 addition to the one in downtown Seattle, we looked
15 at a variety of factors, including adequate acreage,
16 so is it big enough to house a jail; adjacent uses,
17 so we tried to find sites with commercial or
18 industrial zoning; regional access -- is it close to
19 405, I-5? Ease of acquisition. Tried to look for

20 sites that might be publicly owned. And I will say
21 it's impossible to find a site that meets all these
22 criteria, so all of the sites have their trade-offs;
23 some are within commercial industrial zoning, some
24 are publicly owned, some are more accessible than
25 others. They all kind of have their pluses and

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1 minuses.

2 The other piece that we looked at was
3 geographic distribution throughout the region. And
4 what that means is we didn't think it would be fair
5 for one city to have all of the jail sites. We
6 wanted to look at sites throughout northeast King
7 County.

8 So that led the cities to identify the six
9 following sites that we're here to talk to you about
10 tonight. The first one is the King County jail
11 annex, that's the one that would be the expansion of
12 the existing jail in downtown Seattle. There's a
13 site on north Seattle on Armory way located in the
14 Interbay neighborhood of Seattle; a site in south
15 Seattle, Highland Park just south of the First
16 Avenue South Bridge; a site in Bellevue on 116th
17 Avenue Northeast; a site in Shoreline, Northeast
18 200th Street; and then the site in unincorporated
19 King County on Northeast 126th Place. So this

20 map -- I don't know how easy it is to read -- shows

21 all six sites.

22 And I'm going to start at the very top.

23 They're marked by the red rectangle. So up in

24 Shoreline, that's the site up in Shoreline; and then

25 moving clockwise, the site in unincorporated King

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1 County; then moving further south along 405, the
2 site in Bellevue; then crossing the lake over to
3 Seattle we have the site in south Seattle; then the
4 King County jail annex in downtown Seattle; and then
5 the north Seattle site.

6 I'm just going to quickly walk through aerial
7 photographs of each of the sites. So this is the
8 map, the aerial photo that shows the King County
9 jail annex site in downtown Seattle, the site in
10 north Seattle in the Interbay area, the site in
11 south Seattle off of Highland Park and West Marginal
12 way, the site in Bellevue just off of 405, the site
13 in Shoreline, and then the site in unincorporated
14 King County. I think these photos are also all out
15 on bulletin boards out in the hallway as well.

16 So the next thing I want to mention and really
17 emphasize, we are very early on in the process, and
18 we're really just starting the process. 2009 is
19 going to be the year of study for us in terms of

20 learning more all about of these sites. Obviously
21 tonight is our very first scoping meeting that will
22 kick of the environmental impact statement process.
23 We're anticipating that in third quarter '09 is when
24 we'll be issuing the draft environmental impact
25 statement, and at that point we'll be holding

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1 another set of public meetings and we'll be taking
2 public comments on that draft EIS report.

3 Fourth quarter, then, we'll be working on
4 incorporating all of the comments that we receive.
5 We anticipate issuing the final EIS in the beginning
6 of 2010, and then after that's issued a
7 recommendation will be made for a preferred site.

8 And then at that point whatever council has
9 jurisdiction over that site, they're going to start
10 their whole legislative process, begin their review
11 in holding public meetings.

12 So we really are just pretty early on in the
13 process on all of this. And with that I'm going to
14 turn it back to Andy.

15 MR. ISHIZAKI: Thanks, Catherine. Now Terry
16 McCann from Blumen Group will briefly provide an
17 explanation of SEPA and the environmental impact
18 statement process.

19 MR. MCCANN: Good evening. Before we start the

20 public comment portion of the meeting this evening,
21 I just want to take a few minutes to provide an
22 overview of the EIS process in general. It's three
23 steps -- primarily three stems -- beginning with
24 scoping, which is where we are now. The draft EIS
25 is the next phase followed by the final EIS.

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1 The whole EIS process takes roughly a year to
2 complete. The purpose of scoping I think as you
3 probably heard already this evening is to narrow the
4 focus of the EIS to just address the probable,
5 significant environmental impacts and to identify
6 the range of alternatives to analyze the EIS.

7 EIS scoping helps the NEC to decide what issues
8 and alternatives to analyze in the draft EIS. And
9 out on the table and also on the boards, there was a
10 list of environmental elements. I don't know if you
11 had a chance to see that. That lists the parameters
12 really that we're allowed to study in an
13 environmental impact statement.

14 There's 15 major categories and probably 45 or
15 50 individual elements. And on the handout we have
16 identified in kind of a highlighting, kind of a
17 light green color, those that we think, based on
18 what we know at this point, of the issues that need
19 to be analyzed in the EIS. For example, under

20 "earth," we think we ought to look at geology,
21 soils, topography, unique physical features and
22 erosion, underwater, surface water movement,
23 environmental quality, runoff absorption, floods,
24 that sort of thing. So when you get a chance, take
25 a look at that. That's really what we want you to

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1 comment on. Tell us if we're right or if we're
2 wrong, just give us a little direction on the
3 elements, and maybe the reasons why you feel that
4 way.

5 EIS scoping is normally a 21-day process. For
6 the NEC regional jail it's been extended to 43 days.
7 It will end the end of January, January 30th. And
8 as you've heard, there's six scoping meetings
9 planned.

10 Draft EIS is the second phase of the EIS
11 process, and it's really NEC's initial analysis of
12 the probable, significant environmental impact
13 associated with each of the alternatives. Key
14 sections of the draft EIS include the fact sheets,
15 which is just kind of a quick overview of the
16 project, a list of the permits needed, contact
17 individuals and so forth. The summary is section
18 one.

19 Section two is really the basis of the EIS. It

20 describes each of the sites in great detail. It
21 describes the building, where the building would be
22 positioned on the site, parking, landscaping, things
23 of that nature. And it talks about the operational
24 aspects of a jail facility, regardless of what site.
25 So each one of the sites are evaluated in that

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1 aspect.

2 Section three is really the crux of the whole
3 EIS. We look at the existing environment, what's
4 there now, what the impacts of putting a jail on
5 that site would be, what measures are possible to
6 mitigate those impacts and what impacts would remain
7 if we couldn't mitigate them. As Catherine pointed
8 out, we anticipate issuing the draft EIS the third
9 quarter of this year, and the draft EIS will be
10 issued to agencies, so federal, state, regional,
11 local; and it's also available to organizations and
12 the public. And again, public meetings will be held
13 following the issuance of the draft EIS. And that's
14 really to gather comments on the draft EIS, what we
15 did right and what we did wrong.

16 The final EIS, last step, includes changes and
17 clarifications to the project and all the
18 alternatives since the draft EIS was issued. Its
19 revisions or clarifications to the analysis of the

20 impacts contained in the draft EIS, and more
21 importantly it's the responses to the written
22 comments and the testimony that were received on the
23 draft EIS. It's anticipated that the final EIS will
24 be issued the first quarter of 2010. The final will
25 be distributed to all the agencies that received the

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1 draft EIS and also made available to organizations
2 and individuals.

3 The final EIS together with the draft is the
4 document that the NEC will use along with the
5 previous as well as ongoing input and other analyses
6 to make their decision regarding the selection of
7 the site. And it's also the document that the city
8 where the site is located will use for the
9 permitting and any other approvals that are
10 required.

11 In summary, the EIS is intended to be an
12 objective, impartial evaluation of the environmental
13 consequences of the alternatives. It's an
14 informational tool used by the NEC, other agencies,
15 and the public in the decision-making process. It's
16 intended to identify and evaluate probable,
17 significant environmental impacts of each of the
18 alternatives, not just one, not a preferred, each.
19 It identifies measures that can mitigate the

20 significant environmental impacts and it identifies
21 unavoidable adverse impacts of the project, if any.

22 With that, I think we're ready to begin the
23 public comment portion of the meeting. Let me
24 introduce Mike Blumen to lay out some ground rules.

25 MR. BLUMEN: Thank you, Terry. We promise to

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1 get to your public comments here, but before we get
2 started there's a few just basic ground rules that I
3 want to go over.

4 As Andy mentioned, tonight is really to hear
5 your comments about what should be studied in the
6 EIS, so it's focused on the environmental issues
7 that should be evaluated. And Terry gave some
8 examples of those. Others include impacts on
9 whether there are any wetlands, storm water
10 drainage, transportation impacts on area roads, land
11 use compatibility, those kinds of issues.

12 Some of you may be here to offer your opinion
13 about whether you're for or against the jail at a
14 particular location. You should know that stating
15 your position tonight is really not the focus of
16 this meeting. We can't prevent you from expressing
17 your opinions, but doing so really has no bearing on
18 the scope of the EIS and will be taking time away
19 from the main focus of tonight's meeting which is

20 really getting your comments about what should be
21 studied in the EIS.

22 Second, everyone will get a chance to speak if
23 they signed up or if they request to at a later
24 point. But it's also important to remember that
25 this is not a question and answer forum; we're

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1 really here to listen to your comments about the
2 scope of the EIS. So if you do have questions,
3 we're going to take those after. There'll be both
4 city staff and consultants will be available to
5 answer any questions, but we don't want to get
6 into -- we can't really get into a question and
7 answer forum here.

8 All oral and written comments will be given
9 equal weight, so if you're not comfortable speaking
10 tonight, please send in your written comments and
11 they will be treated in the same manner as comments
12 received orally. Also, repeating the same comment
13 will not have any real proportional weight relative
14 to the scope of the EIS. So for example, if one
15 person offers a comment that the EIS should address
16 transportation impacts on a given roadway, you don't
17 really need to repeat it to ensure that it's
18 considered in the scope of the EIS. A comment
19 offered once basically carries the same weight as a

20 comment stated a hundred times.

21 As Andy mentioned, we have a court reporter
22 tonight who will be taking your comments, will be
23 creating a transcript, and that will help us in
24 consideration of all comments.

25 Looks like from the sign-up sheets, we only

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1 have about six people who have signed up to speak.
2 We were anticipating more than that and therefore we
3 were thinking about using time limits for speakers;
4 and I think we should just go ahead and do that
5 anyway, see how many other people want to speak. So
6 if you could limit your comments to three minutes.
7 If you're representing an organization, we'll allow
8 up to five minutes. And then if people run out of
9 time, if they want to come back after everybody's
10 had a chance to speak, they can request an
11 additional three minutes. Once we get through the
12 list, if there's other people out there who want to
13 speak, we can give you that opportunity.

14 And in order to keep track of time, we've got a
15 stop watch and these colored cards that we're using;
16 a yellow card will indicate you've got about a
17 minute left and a red card indicating that your time
18 is up, so if you could wrap up your comments, that
19 would be great.

20 I think with that -- oh, I guess I should
21 mention also in case you missed the sign-up sheets,
22 I think they're still out there if you do want to
23 speak. And then for those people who want to
24 provide written comments, there are forms out there
25 as well.

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1 We were anticipating using two different
2 microphones. I think given the limited number of
3 people that want to speak we'll just do one at a
4 time. When you come up to speak, if you could give
5 your name and address for the record, that would be
6 great. And perhaps if you can even spell your name
7 that would help our court reporter. And please
8 speak up into the microphone since this is her job
9 to get every word.

10 So with that I think we'll begin. The first
11 person I have is Ray Sturtz.

12

13 RAY STURTZ

14

15 Good evening. I'm Ray Sturtz, planning manager for
16 the City of Woodinville. Our city hall address is 17301
17 133rd Avenue Northeast, Woodinville, Washington 98072. At
18 this time I'd like to submit a scoping comment letter from
19 Hal Hart, Woodinville's development service director. The

20 letter is dated January 6, 2009. In the interest of time
21 I won't read the letter -- it's three pages long -- but
22 ask that it be placed on the record for review as part of
23 the scoping process. The letter provides both general and
24 specific comments as well as recommendations regarding the
25 appropriate scope of the proposed EIS to address concerns

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1 and issues identified by Woodinville city staff. The City
2 of Woodinville looks forward to working with you,
3 Catherine, and others to locate a sustainable facility in
4 the most appropriate location. Thank you.

5

6 MR. BLUMEN: Thank you. The next person is Toby
7 Nixon and then Dan Everts after that.

8

9 TOBY NIXON

10

11 Thank you, very much. I'm Toby Nixon. I live at
12 12113 Northeast 141st Street in Kirkland, zip code 98034.
13 And I represent the Kingsgate Highlands divisions 3 and 4
14 homeowners' association. We're a community of 300 homes
15 about one-and-a-half miles northwest of the proposed
16 unincorporated King County site, near the intersection of
17 124th Avenue Northeast and Northeast 140th Street.

18

19 Because our neighborhood is that far from the
proposed site, many of the impacts that you'll be studying

20 won't directly impact our neighborhood. But in our
21 discussions with the residents of our neighborhood, the
22 things that have been mentioned most often to me in terms
23 of concerns are two. First is the question of impact on
24 housing values. And I know that that's not directly -- at
25 least values of housing doesn't appear to be something

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1 that's directly one of the environmental elements,
2 although housing is. So we'd like you to at least think
3 about considering in the EIS the impact on housing values.

4 The area that concerns people most is the reputation
5 of the neighborhood as becoming identified in the news
6 media and throughout the region as the location of a very
7 large jail facility. The way it's been expressed to me
8 most often is, Please don't call it the "Kingsgate jail."
9 It's not in Kingsgate, it's in Totem Lake. If there's
10 anything that can be done in terms of the EIS to talk
11 about the impact on adjoining neighborhoods, the
12 reputation, and the housing values, that would be
13 appreciated.

14 The other issue that people have been most concerned
15 about is our understanding of the way that the jail, the
16 county jail, currently operates, is that the sentences of
17 the inmates often end at midnight. And they tend to just
18 push people out on the street at midnight, sometimes a
19 couple of dozen at a time. And we're concerned about the

20 impact of releasing potentially dozens of inmates into a
21 neighborhood, whether it's ours or anyone else's, at
22 midnight when services are not available. And there are
23 several different ways this could be mitigated; one would
24 be, of course, to change the release time so that instead
25 of shoving people out the door at midnight just to save

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1 money for the city, to change the release time so that
2 it's done when services are available, whether that's
3 transit, whether that's other types of social services
4 that people who are being released from jail might need.

5 Another possible mitigation would be to require
6 transportation be provided for those who are being
7 released who do not have any other form of transportation,
8 such as being picked up by friends or family. Now, this
9 could be provided by the cities that have those inmates,
10 who brought them to the jail in the first place, to
11 require them to either arrange with Metro Transit or for
12 their police department to pick them up and take them back
13 to the city where they came from.

14 Now, if you think about it, if -- let's just use the
15 City of Seattle as an example. If Seattle were picking up
16 a couple of dozen criminals in Seattle a day, bringing
17 them out to Totem Lake Mall and just shoving them out the
18 door of the police car, we would rightly be very concerned
19 about that. The neighborhood would be concerned. But we

20 should also be concerned about those individuals and the
21 fact that they don't have any housing available or other
22 services available to them. And in fact, if we bring them
23 out here, let them stay in jail for a while, and then just
24 shove them out the door, it's really not that much
25 different. We need to be concerned about, particularly

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1 when the weather is like it's been recently here, just to
2 shove people out the door at midnight into freezing cold
3 weather is not a good idea. And some accommodation should
4 be made to make sure that those who are being released
5 don't just wander through residential neighborhoods
6 seeking shelter or whatever else it might be that they're
7 seeking.

8 That's my comments. Thank you, very much.

9

10 MR. BLUMEN: Thank you. Dan Everts is next,
11 with then Roland White on deck.

12

13 DAN EVERTS

14

15 My name is Dan Everts, E-V-E-R-T-S. I'm a 24-year
16 resident at 13613 118th Avenue Northeast in Kirkland. I
17 represent the Kingsgate 1 and 2 homeowners' association,
18 which is directly next to Mr. Nixon's community
19 association. It's a great family association and we've

20 raised our children there and have really enjoyed the
21 community. It's got a very good reputation, and those
22 that live here know it as a very good family-oriented
23 community.

24 The first thing Catherine said when she got up with
25 her presentation today was public safety. And yet in the

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1 site evaluation comparison chart, I do not see anything
2 that was evaluated with regards to public safety of us as
3 residents and the business owners in the area. There was
4 no evaluation as to proximity of the residential areas,
5 the playgrounds and the schools close by, and there was no
6 evaluation of the safety in police force protection for
7 the residents and businesses nearby.

8 And for the record, we have no police force in
9 Kingsgate or Totem Lake. Totem Lake, part of it is
10 covered by Kirkland but other parts of us up in the
11 Kingsgate unincorporated area, we are the last to get
12 police service because we are the -- we're just on the
13 outskirts of King County and we just don't get it.

14 In the site evaluation process, I notice that our
15 site here scored the highest in the zoning issue. And I
16 would ask that they review the availability to get a
17 special use permit for a county jail. I think that's
18 going to be extremely difficult.

19 In the comparison chart we scored the highest in the

20 operational infrastructure. The existing site has very
21 poor access for people in and out with regards to traffic.
22 We tied for the highest in the public image and
23 visibility. Much of this -- we're much, much too close to
24 residential area, and I don't think that this site is
25 appropriate for a jail. We tied for the highest in site

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1 amenities and adjacent facilities, and the surrounding
2 facilities are very poor with regards to helping support
3 staff, with regards to shopping and restaurants, et
4 cetera.

5 We were second highest in the public and pedestrian
6 access, and there's very poor public parking around this
7 site. We were second highest rated in the public
8 transportation access, and for an inmate dropped off at
9 midnight they're going to have to trek up through a
10 community for approximately a half mile to get to the
11 nearest Metro Transit center. We don't want them walking
12 through our neighborhoods, especially at that time of
13 night.

14 The second highest rating in the vehicular
15 accessibility. Those of you who have had to deal with
16 traffic issues -- I think some had to deal with that on
17 the way over here -- 124th and this whole area is known
18 for its poor traffic accessibility. So I do not feel we
19 should be rated the second highest in that.

20 That's it for my comments. Thank you, very much.

21

22 MR. BLUMEN: Thank you. Next is Roland White.

23

24

25

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1 ROLAND WHITE

2

3 Roland White, 13117 Northeast 129th Street, Kirkland

4 98034, about 700 feet from the unincorporated site, 35-

5 year resident. In addition to the environmental effects

6 near each site, please also include regional effects that

7 will impact a wide area and that would be caused by this

8 site -- by any given site, but this one in particular.

9 Because so much of the use of the facility will be from

10 Seattle, many long trips will be needed for prisoner

11 transport, court appearances, and by visiting by friends

12 and family. In addition, a large part of the staff will

13 also travel significant distances to get to work. About

14 70 percent of the inmates will come from the Seattle

15 jurisdiction, and Bellevue will add an additional 10

16 percent. All of those trips will add to traffic volumes,

17 and all the regional impacts from those trips should be

18 considered carefully. And those have multiple impacts on

19 all of your environmental factors as you know.

20 Transportation especially in slow moving traffic has
21 significant impacts. The right place for a regional
22 facility is close to the primary users, and this site
23 location is perhaps the worst as far as serving the users.
24 The preliminary site evaluation did not address usage in
25 any way that considered the biggest users, and it only

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1 generalized as far as what made sense. Enormous waste of
2 resources will occur over the life of the facility due to
3 the cost of transportation and the continued waste of time
4 for police and other official staff that will be stuck in
5 traffic.

6 Please include good information in the EIS to allow a
7 reasoned selection of the site. Many of the factors in an
8 EIS are used in other ways for further selection, and by
9 providing things that can be scaled or ratioed from -- for
10 instance, traffic impacts based on real travel times --
11 can be very helpful in the further process, but it is
12 therefore a valid environmental reason being part of an
13 effect on the environment.

14 The downtown Seattle site is most likely the best
15 site for this facility because of its ideal location that
16 would minimize region impacts. Thank you, very much.

17

18 MR. BLUMEN: Sabrina Miller.

19

20 SABRINA MILLER

21

22 Hi. My name's Sabrina Miller. I live at 12826 133rd

23 Place Northeast in Kirkland at zip code 98034. First

24 thing is I live directly north of the site. The traffic

25 on 132nd and 124th in the morning is already very

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1 congested. If you look at the actual road the site is
2 located on, it's a very narrow, two-lane road with no
3 sidewalks on either side. You have to -- I would think
4 you would have to rebuild that to have both pedestrian
5 access and greater vehicle access, depending how much
6 traffic a prison facility would bring in here, as well as
7 having to look at putting a light at the intersection of
8 126th, I think is the address for the site, and 132nd.
9 Traffic gets tremendously backed up just in the mornings
10 alone.

11 In terms of zoning issues, there are two preschools
12 or
13 daycares within a few hundred feet of the site. I would
14 be curious to see if there's some sort of ordinance that
15 would allow for a jail to be built so close to child care
16 facilities, not to mention all the other schools that are
17 so close to the site, as well.

18 In terms of light and noise pollution, living
19 directly above the site, is this going to be a high-rise

20 building? How big is the acreage to actually expand the
21 actual site of the facility in case it does need to be
22 expanded in the future as our population continues to
23 grow, as well as in terms of light and noise especially at
24 night? It's a lovely, quiet neighborhood at night right
25 now. I'd hate to see that change.

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1 Again, public transportation. If inmates released
2 directly from the facility, they do have to travel a good
3 mile or so to get to the nearest park and ride or transit
4 hub on 405, and they will be walking through all these
5 residential neighborhoods instead of a commercial or
6 industrial area.

7 We already talked about the fact that we don't have a
8 city police force, we have the King County Sheriff's
9 Department. Would the city using the facility be
10 contributing funding to the King County Sheriff's
11 Department so they can increase patrolling of the
12 residential areas located directly across the street from
13 this facility? I think that's it. Thank you.

14

15 MR. BLUMEN: Thank you. We have Debbie Gates
16 and then Paul -- sorry if I mispronounce this,
17 Kulchenko.

18

19 DEBBIE GATES

20

21 My name is Debbie Gates and I live at 12556 120th
22 Avenue Northeast, No. 233, in Kirkland, Washington, 98034.
23 Along with what Sabrina said about the traffic in the area
24 on 132nd, I drive down 132nd every day. 132nd about a
25 mile from the site going north is where two schools are

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1 located, a junior high and an elementary school, that
2 houses approximately a thousand students daily. There's
3 no buses to the schools -- very little buses. Most of the
4 children walk. Along 132nd, at this point, it's only a
5 one-lane highway in each direction, housing on both sides.
6 That means there's no room to expand roads for the
7 additional traffic. As you come further south on 132nd
8 you hit a park that the children use. At that point the
9 lanes do then go into two lanes as you go down the hill.

10 One of the environmental problems with that hill is
11 during the winter when it snows, especially the last few
12 years that we've had heavier snow, the buses as well as
13 the cars cannot get up that hill. And so there's all
14 sorts of cars that are stuck and cannot get through that
15 intersection right where this site will be located. Even
16 if you put in signals and stuff, it still would be an
17 environmental issue; because of the snow, there's more
18 water runoff, it could puddle at the ends of the hill
19 there and create further problems. 132nd going further

20 south turns into Slater, which then becomes a one-lane
21 highway again. And those streets, all along 132nd into
22 Slater, are so narrow the traffic builds up every day
23 during rush hours, morning and afternoon -- or evening.
24 So it's going to create more congestion in that area,
25 which means even more accidents and things because people

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1 may be driving more.

2 As far as environmental, more traffic would increase

3 noise levels in the area. As I said, schools are a mile

4 and a half away -- or a mile away. We are King County

5 Sheriff, so we don't have the sheriffs to cover that area.

6 The streets -- to widen the streets or put in signals for

7 that area, I'd like to know who incurs that cost; if it's

8 King County tax payers, then we would have to incur those

9 cost for something that we don't even want. And I think

10 that's about it. Thank you.

11

12 MR. BLUMEN: Thank you. Paul, and then we have

13 Michelle McClusky.

14

15 PAUL KULCHENKO

16

17 My name is Paul Kulchenko, K-U-L-C-H-E-N-K-O, 13025

18 96th Place Northeast, Kirkland 98034. I only represent my

19 family and some neighbors that live nearby. Actually I

20 have a couple of comments. Most of what I was going to
21 say about public safety has already been said well by
22 other speakers, but I wanted to add that as far as I
23 understand, the methodology is going to be similar to what
24 was used to identify size. And even if you take public
25 safety into account, it's based on the assumption that all

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1 the beds will be used only for misdemeanor crimes as it is
2 described right now. However, if because of some
3 unfortunate circumstances the number of felony crimes
4 rises over the number of misdemeanor crimes, we may need
5 to make adjustments to the number of beds or who exactly
6 will be allocated to that new site. And I would like an
7 environmental study to take that into account.

8 Even if you plan for, say, 20 to 30 percent of felony
9 crimes to be housed there, for whatever reason, then the
10 concerns for public safety will definitely be addressed
11 differently than if we only talk about misdemeanor crimes
12 and nothing else.

13 The second comment that I have is that again the
14 methodology is similar and there are only three weights
15 for different criteria that are included in the analysis.
16 And if you take public safety versus, let's say, noise or
17 light, then I do believe that they need to be weighted
18 significantly differently. So the range is needing to be
19 expanded to again cover public safety concerns and some

20 other similar concerns.

21 That's all. Thanks.

22

23 MR. BLUMEN: Thank you. Michelle McClusky.

24

25

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1 MICHELLE MCCLUSKY

2

3 My name is Michelle McClusky. That's

4 M-C-C-L-U-S-K-Y. I own and operate a daycare at 11416

5 Northeast 132nd Avenue. And I apologize if some of these

6 issues have already been addressed. I just got here from

7 working.

8 My concern is the children in the area. When I was

9 opening my daycare I did demographics in the area, and

10 there are over 4,000 children in the Kingsgate area that

11 are under 12. And they do have to walk to school. They

12 are walking up and down 132nd Avenue, which is the main

13 thoroughfare. And the demographics were from the school

14 district, because they have to estimate how many children

15 are going to be attending their schools.

16 There are three elementary schools within a mile of

17 the area of the proposed site -- three elementary schools

18 and one junior high school. We already have four sex

19 offenders in the area, which I am not happy about,

20 especially being located so close to schools. My concern
21 is parents seeing this new jail going up, I will be losing
22 clients because they aren't going to want to bring their
23 children somewhere where people are roaming the streets
24 that have offenses that they have committed. And so
25 parents seeing a jail going in here, they're not going to

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1 want to bring them to my daycare being located so close to
2 a jail, especially a 640-bed jail. And that's what I have
3 to say. Thank you.

4

5 MR. BLUMEN: Thank you. That is all the names
6 we have on the sign-up sheets, so if others want to
7 speak.

8

9 EDIT SERFOZO

10

11 My name is Edit Serfozo, that's E-D-I-T,
12 S-E-R-F-O-Z-O. And I did not anticipate speaking today, so
13 I apologize if I take the floor. But in hearing the
14 comments I have some other questions, specifically hearing
15 about children. My background is in public health, and
16 children are affected by environmental toxins a lot higher
17 than us grown-ups. So I'm very concerned for the air
18 pollution that the jail itself, the building of the jail
19 would create. I'm concerned about a big building being

20 put here and the impact it has on the land. I own
21 wetlands together in the community just within half a mile
22 from the proposed jail site. And we bought into the
23 concept of not having a lot of yard, but having the
24 wetlands and preserving trees and preserving the
25 environment. How will a building this big impact the

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1 environment? I can go down the geology, every part of the
2 earth, every part of the water. We own the
3 wetlands. And we live and we bought into the concept of
4 preserving the wetlands. And it's half a mile from the
5 site, so I don't know if you guys can look at what impact
6 it will have.

7 The plants and animals, concern how will it impact
8 the diversity that's in the area. You have South 47th
9 Farm within maybe half a mile that is a huge farm
10 producing food that we eat. How will the building and the
11 traffic increase impact our lives? And I have not
12 prepared my talk, so I hope I make sense.

13 Greenhouse emissions very concerned. Environmental
14 health, noise, toxins, all a part of the building process.

15 The kind of materials that would be used. Is it going to
16 be green building, what will be used? How will it change
17 the land use patterns in the area? You know, having a big
18 jail put here, what will happen to the neighborhood, land
19 use patterns? Aesthetics, how will it look? Will it be

20 something that's very positive and bring in people to the
21 community? Will it be very inviting perhaps?

22 Transportation. We covered all of that. But I have
23 two young children so I'm very aware of how any kind of
24 building and any kind of increase in noise will impact
25 children, a lot more detrimental than us grown-ups. Thank

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1 you.

2

3 MR. BLUMEN: Thank you. Anybody else that

4 wishes to speak?

5

6 ROB BUTCHER

7

8 Good evening. Rob Butcher, 1640 Second Street,

9 Kirkland. I'd like to address the elements of the

10 environment handout you had out in front. And what this

11 is is a list of -- comprehensive list of elements of the

12 environment that are authorized by the state EPA.

13 Earlier you mentioned that it was 15 items, and on

14 this list here of the 15 items, some are highlighted in

15 green, some are not. The ones that are highlighted in

16 green are considered -- are going to be considered in the

17 draft EIS. And regarding the scoping, I would

18 respectfully request that you include population and

19 housing in your scoping, because for the people who are

20 here tonight I would imagine that having residential
21 properties in close proximity to a jail would be one of
22 the more important issues, and it's not one of the
23 highlighted ones. I would request that you please make it
24 an important issue. Thank you.
25

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1 MR. BLUMEN: Thank you. Anyone else?

2

3 KATHERINE MCLEAN

4

5 My name is Katherine McLean and I live at 12815 133rd

6 Place Northeast in Kingsgate, just spitting distance from

7 the jail -- proposed jail. And I haven't heard anyone

8 speak on the subject, so I'd like to introduce it and

9 hopefully it will be included in your process. What I

10 would like to know is what will be the impact on

11 businesses in the area since this is an important part of

12 our tax base. I think it's something we can all agree on

13 in that there is nothing entrepreneurial about a jail.

14 And what will happen to the businesses that are currently

15 there?

16 We've spoken about people being released. And while

17 your presentation has dealt with misdemeanants and the

18 type of crime or offense for which they've been arrested,

19 on the Kirkland Web site, during their meeting earlier

20 last year, I believe it was, they gave substantial
21 profiles of the people who are to be released. And an
22 overwhelming number of them have rather lengthy felony
23 records. These include things like theft, property
24 and/or -- private property or commercial theft, like cars,
25 which leads me to speak of the fact that there are I think

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1 four, possibly five car dealerships immediately around the
2 proposed site. Interesting.

3 Would they stay or would they leave? Again,
4 referring to our tax base, this could be an important
5 point, and I think it should be studied. Will businesses
6 leave the area?

7 The other part of that is what about the missed
8 opportunity businesses? What about the businesses that
9 won't go there who might have gone there, but during the
10 incredibly long process will decide that it's not worth
11 the risk. That again would be a very serious tax loss to
12 our community.

13 Waste management. The company that currently is at
14 that site is a good neighbor. We know him. Where will
15 they go? Waste management provides a really good service
16 for the surrounding cities, and certainly us. If we push
17 them further out, we have bigger trucks -- they're large
18 trucks on the road for longer distances, putting out yet
19 more carbon. So I don't see that as a contributing factor

20 to a green solution for this jail.

21 The other thing I think is worth studying, is the
22 property even for sale? I have it on fairly good
23 authority that it is not. I think it should be part of
24 the scoping process, so that's my point. Why are we even
25 looking at this if businesses are going to depart? Why

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1 are we even looking at this if it's not for sale? Thank
2 you.

3

4 MR. BLUMEN: Anybody else who wishes to speak?

5

6 TED MCLEAN

7

8 My name is Ted McLean. I live at 12815 133rd Place
9 Northeast, Kirkland 98034. My comment has to do with the
10 EIS and the SEPA process. I note that in the SEPA
11 checklist, section 8 says "the proposed measures to
12 ensure" -- e-n-s-u-r-e -- "the proposal is compatible with
13 existing land use." Now, let me stop right there and add
14 this. What happens to the EIS folks? In order for any
15 project to move ahead that requires an EIS or a SEPA, the
16 EIS or SEPA must be approved. Now, who approves it? The
17 approval authority that is handling the project approves
18 it. So if the EIS or the SEPA is not able in its initial
19 presentation to ensure that the proposal is compatible

20 with the existing land uses, which everybody tonight has
21 spoken about, bar none, that's been it; then what happens
22 is that the proposal can be "mitigated," and all to get
23 what's known as a DNS, which is a determination of
24 nonsignificance. Only at that point, then, does the EIS
25 or SEPA get approved and then the rest of the land use

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1 process can go ahead.

2 So I hope that gives people here an understanding of
3 how all this fits together. And what your argument is for
4 the social things you're talking is how can anybody ensure
5 that all of the things that were talked about tonight can
6 be mitigated. I think you can mitigate from here to
7 Christmas and you'll never handle having 640 felons across
8 the street from a multi-family housing project. I think
9 that's an impossible task. And that's why I also made the
10 comment that this site should really be omitted from the
11 NEC list now. Thank you.

12

13 MR. BLUMEN: Thank you.

14

15 KAREN CUMMINGS

16

17 My name is Karen Cummings. I live at 12923 Northeast
18 144th Place in Kirkland. I'm a part of the Kingsgate 5
19 residential area. And I would like to reiterate at least

20 one of the comments that was made tonight regarding --
21 well, I think there's a category that's missing on the
22 environmental element list. And that category is called
23 "commerce." And some of the speakers tonight have
24 commented about the impact on businesses that might leave,
25 but I'd also like to add to that businesses that might

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1 come in that might not be fitting for the type of
2 community that we have.

3 Additionally, we have tourism issues such as
4 Woodinville wineries that are located nearby, and I would
5 if there is time like to hear some of the comments that
6 were in the letter that was given to you by the first
7 speaker, because I think that's important for us as
8 concerned citizens to hear some of that information as
9 well.

10 The last commerce issue that I wanted to sort of
11 mention has to do with the proposed annexation of this
12 area to Kirkland, and so I'm concerned that the siting of
13 this jail in our community might impact that in a negative
14 fashion.

15 The one other comment that I wanted to make had to do
16 with do with the 132nd Square Park which is about a half
17 mile or so from this proposed location. There is a
18 multi-phase project going on with regard to that park, one
19 phase which was completed last summer. The second phase

20 will be starting up soon, and that has to do with
21 preparing it for an amphitheater. So there's a lot of use
22 of that park by a number of residents in the community as
23 well as in the region, so I'm concerned about the impact
24 of the siting of this facility on the use of that park by
25 residents. Thank you.

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1 MR. BLUMEN: Thank you.

2

3 ADAM HERMAN

4

5 My name is Adam Herman. I live just off of 132nd,
6 north of the proposed site here in Kingsgate. And I echo
7 all the comments that were made in regards to the
8 population, housing, and absolutely children. I think
9 they should be considered.

10 And I just wanted to add on top of that another
11 aspect of the recreation that I think should be a very
12 significant thing that's considered. The parks that have
13 been previously mentioned as well as the elementary school
14 and the junior high school are used for all the people
15 around the community, walk dogs, kids play games there all
16 throughout the week. And also a lot at night by myself,
17 I've had friends, girlfriends, friends' wives, other
18 people that I know who go out later on in the evening and
19 walk dogs and that type of thing, especially in the summer

20 time, after their work is done. And I can tell you right
21 now that a lot of, especially the females that I know,
22 would be very uncomfortable going out around that time of
23 night to walk dogs and get out, that type of stuff, if
24 that jail was put in that specific location.

25 And then also an additional comment about some of the

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1 existing businesses right around the proposed site.
2 There's several automobile repair shops located just east
3 of the site as well as across 124th where people leave
4 automobiles overnight, and sometimes for lengthy periods
5 of time. I've done it myself. And those are areas that
6 are not well lit. They're very industrial and even today
7 they're kind of what I'd consider a risky place to leave
8 your car. And I think it would only make it worse and
9 certainly add another thought in my mind as the whether or
10 not I would want to bring my business back to those places
11 just because I wouldn't want to have to leave my cars
12 there overnight. So thank you.

13

14 MR. BLUMEN: Thank you. Anybody else? If
15 nobody has any more comments, we're going to close
16 the comment portion of it. And again, if you want
17 to ask questions, we'll be available after the
18 meeting.

19 MR. ISHIZAKI: Thank you all for your comments.

20 You've given us a lot of information here this
21 evening and all of it will become an official part
22 of the record. Again, as we've already said, a
23 court reporter has recorded all of your comments.
24 Please don't forget to place your comment sheets in
25 the white boxes located near the entrance, or take

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1 one with you and mail it in before January 30, 2009.

2 All of the background information presented
3 here tonight, the handouts and the notes from the
4 previous public forum meetings are all available at
5 the Web site, NECmunicipaljail.org. You can
6 indicate on the sign-up sheets if you want to be
7 notified when new information is available to the
8 public. This will allow you to be included in the
9 distribution list. You can also request to be on
10 the distribution list at any time via e-mail or in
11 writing to the addresses listed on the comment
12 sheets. If you've already signed up, there is no
13 need to sign up again.

14 So here is your next opportunity to participate
15 in the process. The next scoping meeting will be
16 held tomorrow on January 7 at Shoreline Community
17 College. Doors open as 6:00 p.m. A full list of
18 scoping meeting dates and locations are available at
19 the Web site and is listed on the handouts as well.

20 In addition to the scoping meetings, you have
21 the opportunity to submit written EIS scoping
22 comments, as mentioned before, either via mail or
23 e-mail, until January 30, 2009, which is the closing
24 date for public comments regarding specific comments
25 related to the scoping of the EIS.

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1 We anticipate holding another round of public
2 meetings in the third quarter of 2009 when the NEC
3 issues the draft EIS where you will again have the
4 opportunity for comments on the EIS.

5 As Mike mentioned before, we will be around for
6 questions. I would like to add the NEC staff are
7 available to attend any additional community
8 meetings within your neighborhoods to answer any
9 questions. Please contact Lee Keller or make a
10 request to the Web site if you are interested in
11 having a city representative attend one of your
12 community meetings.

13 Again, there is plenty of opportunity
14 throughout the year to voice your concerns apart
15 from these scoping meetings, and you can do so via
16 the Web site or send your letters and address them
17 to Catherine Cornwall.

18 This is a very vital part of the decision-
19 making process, and we appreciate your participation

20 this evening. Thank you, very much.

21 [Meeting ended at 7:40 p.m.]

22

23

24

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1 C E R T I F I C A T E

2

3 STATE OF WASHINGTON)

) ss.

4 COUNTY OF KING)

5

6 I, Catherine A. Decker, a Notary Public in and for the

7 State of Washington, do hereby certify:

8 That the foregoing scoping meeting was taken before

9 me at the time and place therein set forth;

10 That the statements of the speakers and all remarks

11 made at the time of the meeting were recorded stenographically

12 by me, and thereafter transcribed under my direction;

13 Witness my hand and seal this ninth day of January, 2009.

14

15

CATHERINE A. DECKER, Notary

16

Public in and for the State of

Washington, residing at Medina.

17

Commission expires June 29, 2009.

WA CSR No. DE-CK-EC-A502J5

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