

The Keller Group  
NEC Municipal Jail Project  
December 15, 2008

### **Notes from Ballinger Neighborhood Community Meeting, Shoreline December 15, 2008**

Following are notes taken from the discussion at a meeting held by Shoreline staff for the Ballinger neighborhood at the Shoreline Conference Center on December 15, 2008. Approximately 55 people were in attendance. After presentations from City of Shoreline staff, Scott MacColl, government relations manager, took questions. The following notes are an attempt to capture the questions and comments that were raised, in the order that they came up.

- What does land use mean?
- Are property values, economic impacts, included in the EIS?
- How does the SEPA process determine between multiple options, say with traffic mitigation options? How are costs factored in?
- Will you be notifying people outside of Shoreline, in Lake Forest Park?
- Will you clarify which school property site you're talking about?
- How do we get on the email update list?
- If the city goes solo and builds its own jail, would it be considered a regional, essential public facility?
- There would be more possible sites to choose from, even with the higher cost, if Shoreline went on their own to build a smaller jail.
- Can you make available some examples of jail siting EISs done in this state? Can that go on the NEC Web site?
- Can you summarize the comments from the public forum last week?
- Can you explain the process of acquiring the land from the school district if they don't want to sell the land? Are you going to use eminent domain? How does eminent domain work?
- I don't understand why the location in downtown Seattle wouldn't be the obvious choice since it's close to all the services.
- What percentage of offenders come from Shoreline and LFP?
- We keep leaving LFP out of this; but half of the properties abutting it are LFP.
- Is there a weighting of factors? Compatibility of use; is that weighted more heavily?
- Does the Unincorporated King County site cover Redmond and Kirkland bringing something to the table?
- What benefit, how much money is the city of Shoreline going to obtain for hosting this facility on our backyards?
- Why don't we build the regional jail in Shoreline, pay all the costs, and then sell the jail space, lease the beds to the other cities? Or is the model that all the cities are sharing in the acquisition and operating costs? Is the first option even on the table?

- We are the only site that has the facility right in the middle of residential houses; I don't see that in any of the other sites. The criteria all seems to be quantitative, not qualitative; it was about can we build it here? Sure. Should we? Absolutely not. Will that come out in the EIS process?
- Can I include things like 'my kids play soccer there' as historic use? The fact that it's the only green space for that use? How do we get that included in the EIS?
- Can you send out notices to everyone inside of Shoreline? It impacts Shoreline as a city, not just the people within 500 feet. That also helps you represent us.
- I'm not confident that my voice will be part of the qualitative part that you say will come later. How can we make sure qualitative considerations are weighted appropriately?
- It feels like we're being penalized because we didn't develop the only green space we have. How can we quantify the open space value?
- How can we quantify property values, tax base, density of children, those kinds of things. How do we make sure these things are quantified and appropriately weighted? How can we help city planners quantify this so that it's part of the EIS?
- You didn't contact the residents until you'd moved on from quantitative issues. Why is that?
- One of the biggest affronts to everyone at the meeting last Thursday was the assertion on the screen that property values are not affected. You should provide the studies if you're going to cite them. Can you provide us with those studies?
- You said last Thursday that jails can be good neighbors. Get real! If I have a choice where to buy a house am I going to buy it near a jail? Why not put it in Magnolia or Medina?
- Seems like everything we've heard has been what the staff has done. I'd like to know what votes the City Council has taken, and what activities of the council there have been in support of this process? Why didn't we know anything about what the council was doing? It's incumbent upon the council to tell us what was going on.
- How do we back out of NEC?
- Why aren't there any council members here tonight or last Thursday?
- Would it be appropriate for the citizens of Shoreline to ask the city council to exercise their NEC veto right not to choose this site?
- Where do you live? And where do the other staff live? Do City Council members live in Shoreline?
- Will the police department representative give us the top 10 types of misdemeanors?
- The FAQ on the Web site contradicts what the police officer says. It says that felony cases pleading down to misdemeanors serve their time in a county or state facility. (The officer clarified that yes, that is the case but if the decision is not to file a felony charge, they have the option to ask for a misdemeanor charge.)

- In the EIS process are they looking at all the sites together or individually? Is it the same group looking at and evaluating all six sites?
- When will a decision be made about this site?
- Who will be voting on the final vote for the preferred site?
- If Shoreline city council voted no, then what would happen?
- We really appreciate that you are here answering questions directly.
- We have to include Lake Forest Park in this process.
- I see the buses taking people to Yakima. Is that an alternative?
- I've read that domestic violence offenders are among the most dangerous. Is that true in your experience?
- It doesn't make sense to me that you can have twice as many inmates with the same number of correctional officers.
- Are you here to help us figure out how to beat this situation? Are you going to represent us? Or are we on our own and you are going to advise us?
- We keep hearing about 640 bed facility. What is the ultimate size of the facility in the future?
- I'm surprised that the members of the council aren't here. I want to thank you for being here. I'd appreciate it if they council would attend these so they can get some insight into what we're experiencing. I'd like to know why they don't want to be here.
- We're frustrated because we've been trying to track what's going on with this property for some time and had been frustrated with the school board even before we got to this point. I'm personally thrilled about this meeting because 9 people is the most I've ever been able to get to a neighborhood association meeting. I get how this process works. We need to organize, get facts and figures, and then we can make a case to the council.
- I don't live here, but I teach here, and I found out about this through the Shoreline school district email. We felt like we needed to get into the neighborhood. I personally went to 40 homes, and out of those homes only 2 had heard about this. People are in the dark about who made this decision. I contacted the school district and they said the site is not for sale. You need to go out to all the people with a zip code mailing.
- I'm very upset. This is school zoning. How many of the prisoners are from Shoreline? What is the percentage? If it's not 20 or 30 percent or more, it should go some other place. How many employees will work there? How will everybody get in and out on the roads; are you going to make it wider? It should be the King County annex. It's near the hospital, and won't bother residents.
- You like the site, but no one who lives around it likes it.
- The Shoreline Enterprise is not a vehicle for communication. There aren't enough boxes around, or they're empty, and they're delivered to less than 50% of the household. And Currents doesn't work either.
- People mostly found out about this word of mouth. It's ludicrous. You've got to let us know directly.

- It seems you're in the role of being part of the process, and we need to play the role of representing our best interests. Maybe we should create our own email network. City staff are not going to send out a "no jail in Shoreline" email, but we could.
- When and where is the SEPA meeting?
- I spoke with one of the NEC representatives and she said the way citizens can make the greatest impact is by going to their local communities and neighborhoods and getting together. Then you can go to your city council.
- You walked into a lion's den tonight and we appreciate that you were here to listen and answer questions. Admirable job.