



Town of Hunts Point Newsletter

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Town of Hunts Point

Mayor

Fred McConkey

Council

Jeri Boettcher

Kevin Hughes

Ted Frantz

Jim Nordstrom

Jeff Wright

Planning Commission

Larry Williams, Chair

Henrik Nielsen, Secretary

Alan Bluechel

Marty Meehan

Mark Bloom

Rob Trickett

Donna Shannon

Bruce Swenson

Town Staff

Jack McKenzie

Sue Israel

Town Attorney

Mike Kenyon

Hunts Point Town Meeting

**All Residents are Invited to the
Town Meeting at Tully’s
Wednesday, April 19, 2006
6:30 PM to 8:30 PM**

The Town Meeting at Tully’s is an annual event where residents can voice their opinions to the Town Staff, Mayor, Council, and Planning Commission.

From these meetings, we prioritize issues, and set plans for making improvements. This is also a great time to learn about our 2006 Priorities, which are:

1. SR520 Design, Mitigation, Timing and Funding
2. Town Security Issues and the New Security Report
3. Emergency Plan Implementation

Schedule

6:30 pm to 6:45 pm	Free Coffee, Pastries, Socializing
6:45 pm to 7:00 pm	Introductions, Mayor’s Comments
7:00 pm to 8:00 pm	Town Meeting Topics
8:00 pm to 8:30 pm	Questions, Break out Groups

*~Free Tully’s Food and Drinks to
All Residents~*



Town Security

After experiencing five burglaries in 2005, The Town ranked “Increasing Security” as our top priority for 2006. We hired a Security Consultant to evaluate our Town and make recommendations on how to improve security. The report findings will be presented at the Tully’s meeting. Your input at this meeting will help us to prioritize and fund the various security measures. The security effort is being lead by Henrik Neilsen, Jim Nordstrom, and Fred McConkey.



Local News

Message From Your Mayor...

Dear Residents,

Spring is a beautiful time of year in Hunts Point with the Rhododendrons and Cherry Trees in full bloom.

Our little town is running very well these days. We have over \$1 Million in reserves, which will allow us to fund the Security and Emergency Plan. Most of our income is generated from new home construction and home sales. This activity has been very strong the last couple of years. We maintain our reserves to help us through future down cycles in the economy.

I am proud to report that our Council and Planning Commission are working very well together in a very straight forward, business like manner to implement the Town's Strategic Plan. We have many intelligent and accomplished resident volunteers that make things happen. This is the beauty of effective local government, and of living in the United States.

We hope to see you at the Town Meeting at Tully's, on Wednesday, April 19th, 6:30 pm.

Fred McConkey
Mayor

SR520 Update

The SR520 project finally has some traction after the State Legislature set priorities and deadlines for the Regional Transportation Investment District (RTID). The RTID vote in November 2007 will ask the voters to approve funding for the Viaduct, SR520, and Sound Transit Phase 2.

The City of Seattle will have an advisory vote on replacing or tunneling the Viaduct in November 2006. A technical committee will evaluate the options prior to the 2007 Legislative session to recommend a replacement viaduct for \$3 Billion or a Tunnel for \$4 Billion.

The SR520 project will release its Draft Environment Impact Statement (DEIS) in June 2006. It will be for a 6 lane floating bridge with future capacity for High Capacity Transit (HCT). In the University area, Pacific Avenue will have a new fly-over ramp to provide direct access from SR520 to Husky Stadium, and the new light rail station. The Points Communities Mayors are meeting with the Governor in April to confirm our mitigation packages and to insure equal mitigation on both sides of the lake. The Town of Hunts Point is studying a second option for configuring the westbound on-ramp at 84th Avenue. This alternate configuration would include a left turn on the lid 150 feet south of the traffic circle, to a straight westbound on-ramp. The goal is to eliminate car-pool lane cheaters, reduce traffic backups, and to move the on-ramp

further south. This alternative will be presented and discussed at the Tully's Meeting. The SR520 Bridge replacement and mitigation is estimated at \$3 Billion.

Funding for all projects will be on a single ballot in November 2007. The \$8 Billion (RTID) package will include:

1. Viaduct - \$2 Billion
2. SR520 - \$2 Billion
3. Sound Transit - \$4 Billion

Other funds will come from the existing gas tax and tolls on SR520. Sound Transit Phase 2 will extend the Phase One route further north from the University of Washington to Northgate, and possibly south of the airport. It will also provide light rail on the I-90 Bridge from Seattle, to Bellevue, Microsoft, and Redmond.

The RTID will likely be funded by a 1% increase in the state sales tax; plus an increase in the Motor Vehicle Excise Tax. The RTID will largely be a King County area wide vote to fund these three transportation projects.

If the vote passes, the projects will be built as soon as possible. If the vote fails, the \$500 Million of gas tax money is revoked, and all projects will come to a halt. In 2007, there will be a major voter education campaign to promote "Yes" votes. I expect the RTID will pass, as these two bridges are safety hazards to our region.

Police Activity

We are happy to report that there were no crimes or burglaries in Hunts Point for the first quarter of 2006. We hope to keep it that way.



Hunts Point Road Update

The Hunts Point Road Improvement LID was approved without protest, and most residents have already paid off their assessments. Those that do not pay off the LID by the end of April 2006 will be billed for it in ten annual installments.

We have installed landscaping stakes and wires along the roadside to protect the new grass growing on the shoulders. Once this grass takes hold, it will serve as a walking path. A few dead plants near the stop sign will be replaced under the one year landscaping warranty. At Clean Up Day, we will have a ribbon cutting ceremony to recognize the Hunts Point Road Improvement Committee for a job well done.

Hunts Point Circle

After holding a public meeting, the Council decided not to close Hunts Point Circle. We will evaluate a one way out option later this year. The intent is to focus all incoming traffic past a security guard or parked police car. Alternatively, Hunts Point Circle could remain the same, and the freeway on-ramp changes may solve our security and carpool cheater problems. This topic will also be discussed at the Tully's meeting.

Outgoing U.S. Mailbox

A smaller U.S Post Office Box will be set up near a pagoda at the traffic circle later this month for outbound mail. Residents can use this outbound box to protect against outgoing mail theft from your own mailbox.



Clearwire Service

The Town will be signing a lease with Clearwire to install a new flagpole at Town Hall that will contain a large Antenna, to provide Wireless Internet Service to Hunts Point. The system works with a home modem, and will compete with Comcast Cable High Speed Internet and DSL. The service should be available by year end at about \$20 per month per home. Clearwire is one of Craig McCaw's new ventures.

Kids Play Dates

A group of residents with young children have organized a fun family evening. The families get together the first Friday night of every month at a different home. The parents enjoy pizza and wine while all of the children play together and destroy the rec-room. It is a great way to meet other parents and find playmates for kids. Ages are generally 0.5 to 9 years old, although no one is excluded. The next Pizza Night is Friday May 5th, 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm, at Heather and Justin Smith's home at 8488 Hunts Point Lane. If you are interested, email Heather Smith at HAHooper@comcast.net.

Emergency Preparedness Plan

The Planning Commission has prepared and approved an Emergency Preparedness Plan for The Town. This plan is to be implemented in the event of a major catastrophe, such as a major earthquake or an eruption of Mt. Rainier. The plan assumes the 84th Avenue bridge goes down, cutting off all utilities to Hunts Point for a period of two weeks. We hope these catastrophic events never happen, but sometimes they do, and we need to be prepared. Bruce Swenson, Alan Bluechel, and John Torode are leading the efforts to coordinate this plan. The plan will be explained, and residents can volunteer for various positions at the Tully's Town Meeting

Clean Up Day, Sunday May 21st

We are beginning to organize Clean Up Day 2006. This year's committee co-chairs are Ray and Linda Russo, Kevin and Krista Hughes, and Jon and Kimberly Hett. This year's cocktail party will be at the home of new residents Kevin and Shelly Turner. The Turner's recently moved here from Bentonville, Arkansas after Kevin accepted a job as COO of Microsoft. Watch for more information and save Sunday May 21st for Clean Up Day.





TOWN OF HUNTS POINT

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**Council and Planning Commission
Appointments**

We would like to welcome new members

- Kevin Hughes, Town Council, Position 2
- John Torode, Planning Commission
- Henrik Nielsen, Planning Commission

Tully's Town Meeting
Wednesday, April 19, 2006 6:30 PM

Clean Up Day
Sunday, May 21, 2006