



## Moss Bay Neighborhood Connections Program

Requests: 42  
Ballot: Early 2008  
Final Action Plan: Early 2008

### Public Works

1. In front of Brink Park (Lake Washington Boulevard). No parking from 7:00–1:00 is confusing. Change the wording. Shortage of parking for Lakeside Condos. Change wording on sign. (31)  
**Response:** *It appears the signs have been changed. The existing signs refer to "No Parking 10 p.m.–6 a.m."*
2. Collaborate with PSE to begin a program to relocate utility lines underground—better for storm protection as well as beautification. (29)  
**Response:** *This is unlikely to be affordable in the City's current economic situation, even as an element of already-funded large-scale paving projects.*
3. Roundabout or other traffic/pedestrian improvement at Lake/Market and the Marina right in front of Heritage Hall. That intersection is very difficult to cross and dangerous. (39)  
**Response:** *A traffic signal at Central Way and Market Street was recommended in the Kirkland Market Street Access Study, January 2007, and done by Mirai Transportation Planning and Engineering for the Citizen's Task force from the Market Neighborhood. This document is available on request. The Norkirk Neighborhood also had representation on the Task Force. Funding for this signal will depend upon how well this location competes with other transportation needs on a citywide basis in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP).*
4. The sidewalk on the west side of 6th St S is incomplete and when walking to/from the bus, you either need to walk in the road or through the vegetation beside the road. Completion of the sidewalk south of the railroad tracks, on the west side of 6th St S. (21)  
**Response:** *This request for sidewalk on the west side of 6th St S will be forwarded to the Capital Improvements Program for future consideration. Sidewalk will be constructed on the other side of the St in 2009. Explanation—The City prioritizes filling in sidewalk gaps before starting new sidewalk projects on the other side of the St. In an effort to fill in gaps of existing sidewalk segments on 6th St S, approximately 550' of sidewalk will be constructed on the east side of the St between 1st St S and Kirkland Way in 2009—CIP Project NM 0059 000. However, this request for sidewalk on the west side of 6th St S will be forwarded to the Capital Improvements Program for future consideration.*
5. It is hard for people not from the area to find Marina Park and to know they are there when they get there. I propose better signs throughout downtown directing people to the park, signs at each entrance saying "Welcome to Marina Park." Signs at entrances to Marina Park. Signs around downtown directing people to the park. A sign on the Pavilion indicating if it is a private rental and who has rented it. (6)  
**Response:** *We have referred this to the Parks Department for consideration. They are looking at it in light of space availability and maintenance costs (principally from vandalism).*
6. Between 10th St and 4th Avenue (next to post office): Pedestrian path overgrown and unappealing. Get rid of blackberries and make path more appealing and inviting. (5)  
**Response:** *This is currently clear, but we will check it in June. If the blackberries from the adjacent private property are overgrowing the path, we will have it cleared.*
7. Cigarette butts on sidewalks in the Central Business District, particularly outside bars and restaurants. Cigarette disposal urns. (9)  
**Response:** *The City does not have such a program. We count on the businesses to provide these.*
8. Recyclable cans/bottles are tossed in City owned garbage cans. Are we a progressive City? Do we care about the environment? It is shameful that nothing is done to correct this. (11)  
**Response:** *See response below*
9. Add recycle cans by every garbage can in downtown area and at waterfront parks. Other cities do this—why can't we? Let's spend this money on something that actually makes a difference. (11)  
**Response:** *The City currently has a pilot program underway to evaluate three recycle bins on Lake St. Preliminary results are encouraging and we are planning on submitting a grant application to fund expansion of this program.*
10. Dog waste on sidewalks and by St trees along Lake St South. (8)  
**Response:** *See response below.*

11. Dog waste bag dispensers along Lake St South (not just at parks). (8)

**Response:** *While the City provides dog waste bags at parks, we count on dog owners to provide their own bags while walking their dogs along Sts. Once owners have bagged the waste, it is okay to place the bags in City waste containers.*

12. The train tracks cross over Kirkland Way here. There is no safe way for pedestrians to go under the train tracks. The sidewalks just stop and there is about 11 inches of space between fast moving cars and the wall of the overpass. See if it is possible to either widen the current opening under the tracks to allow safe space for pedestrians. If not, dig out a pedestrian hole on both sides slightly away from the road. (12)

**Response:** *This is an unfunded CIP Project—As a way to connect your neighborhood to downtown Kirkland intersection improvements such as adding a five-foot sidewalk and bike lanes under the railroad bridge with greater vehicle clearance has been identified as a future project in the Capital Improvements Program. This project is currently unfunded and is expected cost over \$3.5M. The City is looking for grant opportunities to fund these railroad intersection improvements however none have been identified to date.*

13. My idea is to create a pleasant park-like environment in this approximately 25' x 200' easement, which would include a pathway, garden, flowers, dog area, benches, etc. My vision is to create a win-win situation for both the City of Kirkland and BNSF by creating this park-like setting. I already have a landscape engineer on board, who will volunteer his design activities for this effort. I have requested permission to enhance and beautify this strip of land from BNSF. I am still waiting for their determination. If I receive favorable permission from BNSF, I intend to have preliminary drawings completed, along with an estimation of costs. Thanks you in advance for considering my proposal for the Kirkland Neighborhood Connection's Program. (38)

**Response:** *Once BNSF approval is provided and the preliminary drawings and estimates are done, resubmit this to the Neighborhood Connections Program.*

#### Traffic Signals

14. The 4-way stop by the library and Kirkland Central is hazardous to pedestrians and motorists. There is too much traffic and pedestrians for a simple 4 way stop. Install stoplight at this corner and other safety measures. (19)

**Response:** *See below.*

15. The 4-way stop (heavy morning and late afternoon) at 6th Avenue and Kirkland Way. Need to have lights to control traffic. (3)

**Response:** *See below.*

16. Cars backed up northbound on State St/3rd Ave S during rush hour waiting to go through the 4-Way stop at Kirkland Ave. A sign on State St just before the 3rd Ave S (eastbound) access stating: "Do Not Block St Access" Cars block entrance /exit to & from 3rd Ave S. This back-up creates very poor visibility leaving 3rd Ave S getting on to State St. (14)

**Response:** *Intersection improvements with traffic signal are currently being designed with anticipated construction/completion early 2009.*

#### Downtown Traffic

17. Kirkland Avenue (300 block): Traffic very heavy/noisy on what is becoming a residential setting to a greater degree than in the past. Many large trucks go by, both day and night, often limiting number of hours of sleep. Could some traffic be routed to high business density areas (i.e. 85th/Central) or limit construction hours? (26)

**Response:** *No hauling is allowed on weekends typically, and/or without prior approval from the Public Works Department. Currently no contractors downtown have permission to haul on weekends. Hauling routes are approved by the City of Kirkland Public Works Department. We typically route trucks away from the downtown core due to tight turning radii and pedestrian traffic. If a project is hauling from downtown, we route them away from Lake St, Main St and 3rd St due to pedestrians, the transit center and tight turns. The cut over to 85th is typically from 6th St.*

18. Cars racing up and down block as cut off from Kirkland Way including frequent heavy parking loads which impairs safe traffic flow. Speed bumps? (1)

**Response:** *Need more information about problem.*

19. With the traffic improvements to 85th (reducing to one lane) it is now very difficult to turn left from 2nd place onto 85th (where Coyote Pizza is). Pedestrians crossing 85th at that spot may be in more danger than before because of the difficulty. Have experts look at it. Also, we appreciate the flowers in the dividers on the restructured 85th. (25)

**Response:** *Traffic Engineers will investigate and address as needed.*

20. Poor sight lines for left turns onto main Kirkland Avenue and from Park Place due to parking spots too close which impair vision (especially SUV's and trucks) accidents waiting to happen. Same goes for crossing 6th. (2)  
**Response:** *Traffic Engineers will investigate and address as needed.*
21. Kirkland Way one way east, Kirkland Avenue one way west? Synchronized traffic lights? Less traffic. (2)  
**Response:** *Not recommended because one way traffic encourages speeding and inhibits traffic connectivity*
22. This part of Kirkland Avenue is a heavily used short cut (Kirkland Ave above 6<sup>th</sup> St to 8<sup>th</sup> St (Kirkland Way). With more and more homes and a commercial area, as well that has heavy on-St parking on weekdays, cars move very quickly on the St. Recently a car ran out of control late in the evening. Speed bumps to slow vehicles, particularly those traveling west. (27)  
**Response:** *NTCP Coordinator – The Neighborhood Traffic Control Program will evaluate this location for traffic control devices. To qualify, 85th percentile speeds must exceed 30 mph on this St. If the St qualifies then a traffic-calming plan will be developed.*
23. Downtown crosswalks need illumination and keep large trucks from parking near the crosswalks so oncoming traffic can see them and pedestrians can see oncoming traffic. (22)  
**Response:** *Per RCW 46.61.570, it is illegal to park within 20' of a crosswalk or within 30' of the approach to a flashing signal. If there are particular locations where such parking is occurring, please call Jim Dare (425) 587-3868 and let him know. We'll evaluate those for additional parking restrictions.*
24. 6th and Central: Make a wider lane for right hand turn cars (heading south from a north position).  
**Response:** *The right hand turn lane is currently 16' wide. There is not room to widen it further without taking space from the 11' wide lane adjacent to it.*
25. Kirkland Avenue (between 6<sup>th</sup> and Kirkland Way) The whole road from 6th to Kirkland Avenue is in need of attention. It is now being used as a thorough fair and is unattended—and new homes have been constructed. More signs as to car noise and fast traffic rounding the corner from 6th (east/west road) to Kirkland Avenue. The south side of the road is okay not the north side.  
**Response:** *NTCP Coordinator – The Neighborhood Traffic Control Program will evaluate this location for traffic control devices. To qualify, 85th percentile speeds must exceed 30 mph on this St. If the St qualifies then a traffic-calming plan will be developed.*

## Police

26. Peter Kirk Park teens "hanging" out near bus stop (entrance to park close to ball fields and near Teen Center). Need for bike police to patrol afternoon/evenings. Need to get a "handle" on teens in the area. (4)  
**Response:** *The Transit Center on Third St is adjacent to Peter Kirk Park. As a transportation hub, the area has constant traffic and has become a meeting place for many people. The Police Department monitors the area and takes enforcement action whenever violations are observed. This is an on-going enforcement area for the district officers and Community Service Unit. The Police Department works with the METRO Police on this issue to provide public safety response to complaints in the area. Maintenance of the Transit Center is done by METRO Transit and supplemented by Kirkland Parks Department. The grounds are kept clear of trash and containers emptied frequently. Persons found littering in the area are cited by Police. Additional officers were assigned to the area of the transit center and downtown on overtime to address many of these concerns during December 2007. They were successful in arresting several people for alcohol and drug offenses and issued trespass letters prohibiting violators from returning. The Kirkland Police Department does do some patrol work using bicycles on occasion in this area. This type of bicycle patrol is generally done during summer when officers are moved from other duties to specifically patrol the park and downtown.*
27. Since two other neighborhood sports bars closed, the Time Out Sports Bar on Central Way seems to be attracting a bigger and louder crowd that generates disturbing levels of noise and rowdy behavior late at night. Impose enforced noise restrictions on local businesses so that residents aren't awakened in the middle of the night by inebriated patrons. Imposing the same restrictions on "loud cars" on Central Way that exist on Lake WA Blvd would help too. (13)  
**Response:** *The majority of "bars" downtown are legitimate businesses that take pride in their operations and bring job opportunities to the city while providing entertainment and service to their customers. The presence of these establishments in the downtown core, and other areas of town, enhances the image of the City as a destination for residents and people from other areas to enjoy meals and an opportunity to go out and experience Kirkland.*  
*Legal and enforcement actions are taken against any businesses that are breaking the law or creating unsafe situations in downtown and elsewhere around the City. The Police Department works closely with other city departments such as Finance, Planning and the City Attorney's Office and other state and private organizations such as Washington State Liquor Control Board, Seattle-King County Public Health and the Kirkland Downtown Association to ensure that businesses comply with law and meet industry standards.*

*The police department meets monthly with the Kirkland Downtown Association and the owners of many of these bars to discuss concerns affecting all parties, including complaints from citizens. The owners of the Time Out are part of these meetings and have been taking steps to reduce the noise and size of their groups in front of the bar.*

28. Problem exists all over Kirkland, and \$25,000 might not cover it, but Moss Bay neighborhood could initiate the effort. The problem is partially—or completely—blocked sidewalks—forces stepping off into street, walking single file—zig zagging around oncoming pedestrians. A campaign to let people know who is responsible for clear sidewalks on and near their property. Ads, leaflets, and finally, official notices if problem not fixed. Also, how come restaurants can block public sidewalks? "Purple Café" at Park Place is worst offender. They usurp walking area at end of crosswalk already on it. (28)

**Response:** *Anytime a sidewalk is blocked with overgrowth in Moss Bay, call the Neighborhood Traffic Control Program at (425) 587-3868 with the location. We will investigate it and send an official notice to the property owner alerting them to their responsibility and requesting corrective action. Restaurants can occupy public sidewalks by permit. Each application is reviewed to ensure sufficient space remains for public access. The Park Place, and the space occupied by the Purple Café, is private property. Even so, such use of the walkways is reviewed by the Planning Department during the development phase so that approved plans are consistent with access needs.*

29. Difficult to cross St for pedestrians with cars blocking during rush hour. During non rush hour times, cars typically don't yield for pedestrians. Crosswalk across State St and 3rd Ave. S (15)

**Response:** *This request will be forwarded to the Traffic and Patrol Supervisors as a request for extra patrol during non-rush hour and when kids are walking to school. As a general rule, due to the number of crosswalks and miles of roadways in the City of Kirkland, the Traffic Unit and Patrol Officers monitor speeds on roads and watch for crosswalk violations based on complaints about individual areas and statistics derived from number of collisions. Enforcement is taken to reduce speed and enhance public safety by reducing the incident of collision related violations. The officers attempt to enforce traffic laws as part of their work shift based on the prioritization of other emergency and non-emergency calls for service they receive during their shift*

## **Parks**

30. No restrooms at David Brink Park. Add restrooms at David Brink Park. (23)

**Response:** *Cost of restrooms would be in excess of available grant funds. On-going cost to maintain would need to be funded.*

31. The fountain in Brink Park has not functioned all summer. We donated the fountain and we're hoping it can be fixed soon. (7)

**Response:** *Fountain has been repaired (took a while to find the necessary repair parts).*

32. Use of swimming pool year round. Put a lid on it for winter for full time use.

**Response:** *This proposal has been considered in the past and has been determined to not be cost effective.*

33. There are no fenced dog parks in Kirkland; we need to go to either Redmond (not fenced) or South Bellevue to take dogs to off leash areas. I would like to see Kirkland put in a fenced dog park—thanks for your consideration! (17)

**Response:** *The Park Board and City Council have reviewed this issue and have established some conditions on creating an off-leash area in Kirkland (identify suitable site, secure neighborhood support, commitment of on-going volunteer stewardship). To date, these conditions have not been met.*

34. More clear reminder to have dogs on leash and not to feed ducks. (6)

**Response:** *The Parks Department will review signage to ensure that these rules are clearly noticed.*

35. Tennis courts at Peter Kirk Park are not lighted at night. If the tennis courts were lighted, more people might use the park at night, thereby reducing dark safe havens for loitering, littering, and graffiti at the park, which spills over into nearby condos. Part of the \$25,000 City Council allocation could be used to build several lights around the tennis courts. (30)

**Response:** *Cost of lighting would be in excess of available grant funds. Lighting of courts would first require an amendment to the park master plan.*

## **Miscellaneous**

36. No more building permits. The traffic is ridiculous and all the building has lowered our quality of living. (37)

**Response:** *Referred to the Planning Department.*

37. The Sun has no business being distributed in downtown. It does not represent Kirkland in a good view. (36)

**Response:** *The Sun's address of record is in Renton. As with other free papers distributed in the City, only those with Kirkland addresses have City business licenses. The City's actions are governed by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and by the free speech provision in the Washington State Constitution, Article 1, Section 5 and we cannot prevent distribution of a publication.*

38. There is a proposed development going in but no action, and there is a large TV sitting on the sidewalk that was left there. Also, on the north side of the St there is lots of overgrown bushes. Remove TV. Prune bushes/trees on 10th Avenue between State and 3rd St. (34)

**Response:** *TV was removed.*

39. Funding for a study to shut down Park Lane and turn it into a pedestrian walkway between 3rd and Lake. (40)

**Response:** *Referred to the Planning Department.*

40. Expand Kirkland Wi-Fi to all of downtown and ensure funding. (41)

**Response:** *Referred to the Information Technologies Department.*

41. Fund an old fashion social at Peter Kirk Park or the Peter Kirk Park Center in order for all residents to get to know each other better. (42)

**Response:** *Referred to the Neighborhood Association for possible Neighborhood Matching Grant project.*

42. Failure of Microsoft/City to open parking during off work hours. Poor public relations—as a volunteer I see many unhappy patrons. (33)

**Response:** *Referred to the Planning Department.*