



August 18, 2020 Planning Kick-off Meeting Summary of Comments and Questions

Skyway-West Hill

Skyway-West Hill Subarea Plan - What topics are of interest to you?

- Access to green infrastructure
- Job creation
- Community center
- Community gathering spaces
- Continuum of job readiness
- Free ORCA Cards for youth
- Parks investment and activation
- Skyway Business District economic & revitalization plan
- Local business ownership
- Priority hire
- Mixed-use housing with services
- Support empowerment model of Faith-based organization at the table
- Community center + housing/commercial/gathering spaces/recreation
- Create neighborhood connections
- Accessibility and transit (continue to review transportation and accessibility)
- Green infrastructure
- Community-based shuttle
- Buying lands vs. investment in access to current parks (invest in current parks is more important)

Skyway-West Hill Anti-displacement – What are your priorities regarding anti-displacement and housing affordability?

- How are you tracking displacement and what exactly is your definition of displacement?
- Need to be clear about what we are trying to avoid.
- Use data to drive decision.
- Can you forward the current framework for tracking and defining displacement?
- Eviction moratorium has been extended; this may give us more time to get solutions in place.
- Trickle-down displacement Seattle -> Skyway -> South King County.



- With respect to rentals and apartments particularly low-income arrangements, what are the average and median lengths of stay in those community, and when someone does move out of the community, how far away is their next place from the previous one?

Skyway-West Hill Anti-displacement Strategies – What strategies in the report would you like to know more about?

- Tiny homes and tiny home villages
- Transitional housing opportunities
- Homeownership models
- Community Land Trusts
- Recalibrating AMI

Skyway-West Hill - What are your ideas for reaching more people through public engagement?

- Get as many members of the community involved as possible.
- Go to where people are already meeting
- Make break-out rooms smaller so there can be more neighbor-to-neighbor discussion
- On-demand recordings that people can view and then comment on

Skyway-West Hill Other Ideas or Questions

- Any displacement efforts in response to COVID job loss?
- Sidewalks in the residential areas are important.
- The African American Collective in Skyway is interested in wrapping the transportation project into a continuum of job readiness to jobs to business development (contract procurement).
- Why does Skyway Lakeridge lack so much sidewalk in the residential neighborhoods?
- Do you have information about how many miles there are without sidewalks?
- Land purchase for community center /hub is another topic
- Share the framework for defining displacement to the community
- Who did the spraying of the blackberries along SR 900 / MLK Jr. Way S.? There was no notice to the community or any indication of what was used. This needs to be coordinated and noticed.



North Highline

North Highline Subarea Plan - What topics are of interest to you?

- What is the status of the annexation of the “Sliver-By-The-River? Will the scope of subarea plan would cover annexation?
- What are we doing for reparations for indigenous people, and helping the Duwamish become a recognized tribe?
- White Center has historically been a “landing place” for refugees and immigrants and that role needs to be preserved.
- There are a number of working families in North Highline and there is a need for more affordable childcare, particularly for youngsters in the preschool zero to five ages.
- Make Lake Hicks swimmable again.
- Can “national chain” businesses wanting to locate be limited/banned?
- The Somali community has been in the area for a number of years and are not new to the culture [in the area].
- To support and preserve communities in North Highline the following are needed:
 - Homeownership
 - A community market for immigrant businesses
 - A youth center (both in North Highline and Skyway-West Hill)
- Support for economic mobility is needed, including priority hire agreements for publicly funded projects.
- Problems with lack of capacity at intersections for the increased traffic in the area, arising from the bridge closure. There is resultant aggressive behavior.
- Do something about absentee commercial landlords.

North Highline Anti-displacement – What are your priorities regarding anti-displacement and housing affordability?

- What are we doing for economic development and stability for BIPOC and immigrant owned businesses to prevent displacement?
- Is there coordination between the City of Seattle and King County on anti-displacement work?
- There is a high need for lower rents at 20% and 30% AMI. Issues with applying countywide AMI in North Highline and Skyway-West Hill for application in developing affordability strategies.
- How do anti-displacement strategies relate to strategies for affordable housing and housing for the homeless?



- Alternative models for affordable housing that are not reliant on tax credits are needed: they are not sustainable and do not help in creating wealth.
- Downzones aren't appropriate for creating more affordable housing
- Local nonprofits should have first right to refuse buying county-owned property that is being sold

North Highline - What are your ideas for reaching more people through public engagement?

- Put power in the hands of people who pay taxes. People will come through if they see that they are being given power, and that it is sincere.
- While participating in meetings can be powerful, recognize that during the pandemic, planning initiatives won't be seen as a priority.
- Build more relationships with people/groups who have been under-represented in the past. While the CDA knows people and can reach out, this does not generate the same authenticity as having the County build relationships directly with people living in North Highline. Relationship is the "magic sauce." Have direct contact – it doesn't have to be exhaustive.
- Timing - It's the summer and people are spending time with their families.
- Reach out to the Somali Health Board.
- Hold info sessions or reach out to people in Parks.

Miscellaneous

- Acknowledge in meetings that the area forms the historic home of indigenous people.