

**Belltown Community Council
General Meeting
Wednesday, November 16, 2011**

I. Call to Order

President Campbell called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from the October meeting was made and seconded, and passed by unanimous consent.

III. Neighborhood Reports

Belltown Citizens on Patrol - Ann Marie Hitchcock

- BCOP has had good participation on recent walks. They are particularly happy with the turnout for early-morning walks.
- The shedule for November & December is available on their Facebook page.

LEAD - Chris

- Unfortunately LEAD has only had a fraction of the referrals they had anticipated, mostly because the officers have been at Westlake Park because of Occupy Seattle
- There have been 6 diversions so far.
- The diversion protocol appears to be working well.

Downtown District Council - David Levinson

- The DDC has been discussing repercussions of the end of Metro's Ride Free Area.
- Metro will be holding public meetings in the coming months about the end of the RFA.
- Metro is proposing to reduce the 99 to peak-only in June.

NATS - Christa Dumpys

- The Police Department is doing special emphasis patrols from 6-9 AM.
- The director of the Human Services Department is meeting with social service providers about greater coordination
- The Department of Transportation is trimming trees that are blocking streetlights and should be done in December.
- Seattle City Light is seeking replacement funding for replacing LEDs, as the original funding source was cut by the City Council.
- The Department of Economic Development is looking at a Business Improvement Area for Belltown, possibly by joining the Metropolitan Improvement District or creating a similar organization for Belltown.
- In addition to the Alcohol Impact Area, the City is working with retailers to not sell fortified beverages during certain hours.

P-Patch - Elizabeth Campbell

- The final paperwork for the grant used to repaint the cottages is coming due, and Elizabeth is looking for help with the accounting.

IV. Rick Nishi - Parks & Green Spaces Levy Manager

Mr. Nishi spoke about the Bell Street Park Boulevard project. This is a 3.5 million dollar project that will convert Bell Street between 1st and 5th Avenues into a "woonerf" where vehicle speeds are limited and pedestrian uses are emphasized.

The process of obtaining the Street Improvement Permit has proved very complex.

The Parks Department needs to ensure that a 17-foot pathway for vehicle traffic is maintained because of bus and emergency vehicle traffic. Also, a 20-inch water main runs under the street, requiring careful placement of trees.

Parks currently hopes to send this project to bid by the end of January, with construction

hopefully beginning in late March and lasting 8-10 months.

There was a question from the floor regarding the interaction between this project and the building under construction at 2nd & Bell. Mr. Nishi replied that they have been coordinating very closely with that developer and do not foresee conflicts between the two projects.

There was a question from the floor as to the type of lighting that will be installed. Mr. Nishi replied that the catenary lighting considered in the original proposal was cut due to cost concerns. The light poles that will be installed will be lower than standard streetlights and will provide increased illumination vs. existing streetlights.

There was a question from the floor about programming. Mr. Nishi replied that there is no dedicated funding for programming the park and that they are counting on adjacent businesses to activate the space.

There was a question from the floor about a water feature. Mr. Nishi replied that the water feature in the original proposal was removed very early due to high costs.

There was a question from the floor about park rangers. Mr. Nishi replied that there was no dedicated funding for park rangers to patrol the park.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 PM.