

Maple Leaf Community

MAPLE LEAF COMMUNITY COUNCIL, PO BOX 75595, SEATTLE WA 98175-0595

April/May/June 2005

www.ci.seattle.wa.us/COMMNTY/mapleleaf

A Community Council Publication

Next Meeting

Wednesday

April 27

7:00 PM at

**Olympic View
Elementary**

- Seattle City Councilmember Jean Godden
- King County Councilmember Bob Ferguson
- Northgate Area Transportation Investment Plan
- I-5 Pavement Reconstruction Projects
- Sound Transit Northgate Alignment & Station Proposals
- Seattle Monorail Project-Green Line Status & Potential Extension to Northgate
- Executive Board Elections
- Maple Leaf Community Garden Update

Free licensed child-care service - MLCC provides free, on-site, childcare at our general meetings. We offer this service to encourage adult participation at our meetings. If you have kids and would like to attend the meetings, please take advantage of this service

GENERAL MEETING

This is an important time for our neighborhood and the larger Northgate community. Huge public and private investments will dramatically reshape the community in which we live. Funded public investments include the new Northgate Library, Community Center and Park, the 5th Avenue NE Streetscape improvements, the Northgate Coordinated Transportation Investment Plan, the Thornton Creek channel project, planning for I-5 pavement reconstruction, planning for extending light rail to Northgate, and our own community garden project. Planned private investments include the Simon Northgate Mall expansion and the Lorig development proposal, "Northgate Commons", for the large property south of Northgate Mall. Future public investments could be a King County Transit Oriented Development project near the Northgate Transit Center, extensions of the Light Rail and Monorail lines. Future private investment could include a new development at the southeast corner of 5th Avenue NE & NE Northgate Way.

Come to the April 27th General Meeting-learn more about some of these public investments. You will never have a better opportunity to ask questions and give feedback about these projects and other issues of concern to you.

SEATTLE CITY COUNCILMEMBER JEAN GODDEN

Seattle City Councilmember Jean Godden will update Maple Leaf residents on issues before the Council's Energy and Environmental Policy Committee, including a review of the electrical rates paid by residential customers and a proposed Critical Areas Ordinance. She will also discuss issues before the Transportation Committee, including the Alaska Way Viaduct, 520 Bridge and the South Lake Union streetcar.

KING COUNTY COUNCILMEMBER BOB FERGUSON

King County Councilmember Bob Ferguson will give an update on his work at the King County Council, especially in regards to election reform and human services.

NORTHGATE COORDINATED TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT PLAN

The Northgate Coordinated Transportation

Investment Plan (CTIP) is a comprehensive study of all of the travel modes that comprise the Northgate area transportation system - pedestrian, bicycle, transit and general-purpose traffic including freight. CTIP will evaluate the current and future performance of the arterial and local streets for all modes and recommend a prioritized list of projects and programs to manage growth and help ensure neighborhood livability.

At the April Maple Leaf General Meeting, the CTIP project managers from SDOT and the Mirai consulting team will present on Existing and Future Conditions for Transportation; a method to help prioritize projects and preliminary ideas for potential improvements.

I-5 PAVEMENT RECONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) is just beginning planning work to replace 16 miles of concrete on I-5 from Tukwila through downtown Seattle to Northgate. I-5 pavement reconstruction will be done through a series of projects with work scheduled to begin in 2009. Before pavement is constructed, WSDOT will be looking for ways to improve traffic flow on I-5. Carol Hunter, from the WSDOT Urban Planning Office, will be at the April Maple Leaf General Meeting to present information about this project and how WSDOT will coordinate with other transportation projects in the area.

SOUND TRANSIT

While construction is well underway on the Initial Segment of Link light rail, Sound Transit is already working on plans and designs for future extensions. Extending Link north to the University District and beyond to Northgate are top priorities for the Sound Transit Board. Light rail is part of Sound Transit's regional mass transit system of Sounder commuter trains, ST Express buses, freeway HOV direct access ramps, and park-and-ride lots.

The Sound Transit Board has identified a preferred route and staff is working with the community to design stations and other aspects of the light rail system. Preliminary engineering and cost estimates of the preferred

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Northgate light rail station alternative will be complete this spring. The preferred alternative includes an elevated station east of First Avenue, spanning NE 103rd Street, with a station entrance on Northgate Mall property, and an entrance at the Northgate Transit Center.

An additional Northgate area alignment has been developed that includes a station constructed completely over First Avenue, south of NE 103rd Street. This additional alignment was developed primarily to minimize property impacts.

Although not the preferred alternative, this alignment will be described in a 2005 draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) that evaluates refinements for North Link alternatives. The draft SEIS will be released this spring and additional public comment will be sought during the 45-day comment period. Sound Transit will hold public hearings during this time. The final EIS will be published by late summer 2005.

After completion of the final EIS, and completion of preliminary engineering, the Sound Transit Board will consider a decision on the final scope and phasing of the entire North Link alignment in the fall of 2005. Sound Transit will likely have a better idea about funding when the Board makes its decision this fall.

MONORAIL

The Monorail Project will have a speaker at our meeting to update us on the status of the Green Line and possible extension to Northgate.

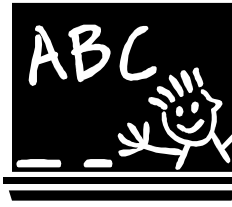
IT'S FINALLY HAPPENING

by Karen Bosley

The Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services transitional housing project, A Place of Our Own, broke ground at NE 88th Street and Roosevelt Way NE on April 5th. We thank the neighborhood and local businesses for their support of this project. The project should be completed by February 2006 and move-in is planned for February/March of 2006.

We are working with local businesses and residents to minimize, as much as possible, the impact of the construction of the project. Abused Deaf women and their children are looking forward to having a safe place to live with supportive services so they are able to develop a violence free life.

If you have any questions about this project, you can contact the Project Manager, Karen Bosley at 206-525-2843 or klboz@earthlink.net.



Seattle Public School Calendar

April 11-15
May 2-6
May 30
June 21

Spring Break
Teacher Appreciation Week
Memorial Day Holiday
Last Day of School

Olympic View School

The Second Annual OV PTA Plant Sale

Friday, April 29th 3:00-7:00 pm
Saturday, April 30th 9:00 am-3:00 pm
504 NE 95th

Perennials, annuals, grasses, vines, herbs & organic.

We are buying fresh from multiple wholesale nurseries and are able to keep prices at a fraction of what you would pay at retail nurseries. Proceeds from this sale directly benefit the children at Olympic View!

Sacajawea Elementary School

Sacajawea Safari Auction—Saturday, May 7

The fabulous **Sacajawea Safari Auction** will be held on Saturday, May 7th at the Shoreline Convention Center. For information about the wonderful items that will be auctioned off that night or for information about making a donation to the auction, please check out www.sacauction.org or phone the school office at 252-5550.

CRIME PREVENTION

Diane Horswill, Seattle Police Crime Prevention Officer, reports that the burglary rate is down in Maple Leaf. A sampling of police reports for Census Tracts 19 & 20 (the middle of Maple Leaf) shows several forced entries into residences under construction, an incident where entry was gained through an unlocked window and jewelry and a camera taken, and another incident where a back door was broken in and a jar of change taken. Diane will periodically provide a sampling of police reports and those will be posted on the Maple Leaf website.

Diane also reports that SPD is continuing to see high rates of auto theft all over the City. The majority of cars stolen in our area are common models of average value. They are chosen because they are readily available and often easy to steal. Stolen cars are being used as a means of temporary transportation. While most stolen cars are eventually recovered, it can take time and cars are often damaged or vandalized. Auto thieves do not spend much time in jail in these days of jail overcrowding. Diane suggests using a steering wheel blocking device or an ignition cutoff switch or a car alarm. Diane has prepared an informational handout entitled "Reducing Auto Thefts" and it is posted on the Maple Leaf website. To check auto theft statistics for Maple Leaf, go to <http://www.seattle.gov/police/crime/default.htm>.

For more information, or to set up a block watch, contact Diane Horswill at 694-7711 or E-mail her at diane.horswill@seattle.gov.



If you can volunteer to deliver newsletters, there are some routes available,

100th: 15th- Ravine (15)

2nd: 83rd-92nd (70) could be split into two routes 30-40 each

88th: 5th- Roosevelt (40)

96th: 12th to dead end E of 15th (40)

Others routes or bundle deliveries may become available so please call Sydnie 206-524-2512 if able to offer assistance.

MAPLE LEAF COMMUNITY GARDEN UPDATE

Great news! More progress has been made to help the garden plan become a reality. In February, we received word that our 2005 Small and Simple Matching Fund Project application will receive funding for the Design Development of the garden plan. This \$15,000 award will allow our landscape architect, John Barker, to develop detailed plans and proceed with additional steps in the required City review and approval process.

A huge thank-you to John Barker for his invaluable assistance in preparing the application for this matching fund, and to Peter Apostol of Springline Design and Jeff Luth, Soldano-Luth Architects, for pledging volunteer professional services to assist in the design development phase. Peter and Jeff's pledges helped Maple Leaf meet its matching requirement. Without their generosity, we would not have qualified for this award.

Maple Leaf submitted a full application for Pro Parks Levy Opportunity Fund development funds on February 1, 2005. On February 28th, John Barker and Steering Committee members hosted a display about our project at an open house and gave the Opportunity Fund Oversight Committee a brief overview about the project. Staff funding recommendations will have been made on March 28th (after this newsletter deadline.) We will also have applied for a Large Project Matching Fund award for garden development funds in early April. For this new matching fund, we need to raise 25% of the funds in the neighborhood. Both the Pro Parks and Large Project Matching Fund award decisions will be made this summer. If awarded, funds would become available in late 2005. Construction will likely begin in late 2005 or early 2006.

An update on the status of the project funding will be given at the April 27th General Meeting and will be posted on the Maple Leaf website. In the meantime, here are:

10 Ways You Can Help Build Maple Leaf Community Garden

1. Make a tax-deductible contribution to the garden development fund. Contributions will be leveraged dollar for dollar by the matching fund. Make your checks payable to the Maple Leaf Community Garden Project and mail to Maple Leaf Community Council, P. O. Box 75595, Seattle, WA 98175-0595.
2. Pledge volunteer time to help with the garden project. There will be tasks for all ages and abilities. Volunteer time is valued at \$15/hour for the matching fund if we provide signed pledge forms with our application. Garden P-patch plots will be assigned to gardeners who earn volunteer hour credits when they help build the garden. (See below for information about the pledge forms.)
3. Support the garden project by purchasing one of our custom printed Maple Leaf Community Garden T-shirts for only \$12 at the April 27th General Meeting.
4. Support the garden project by purchasing one of Dorthea King's exquisite laser-cut metal garden decorative flowers for \$25 at the April 27th General Meeting.
5. We need a dump truck to deliver bulk materials, such as rock, compost and wood chips. If you have a dump truck and are willing to volunteer to move bulk materials, please contact Barbara Maxwell.
6. We need plumber to help install water lines and a drip irrigation system. Professional time that is donated will be valued at the customary rate for our matching fund.
7. We need carpenters to help build arbors & trellises, etc.
8. We need an electrician to wire power to the irrigation system.
9. Donate tools, wheelbarrows, etc.
10. Adopt a section of the garden common area. You could volunteer to adopt a perennial bed or to prune fruit trees or to help maintain a few feet of a path area.

You can see the garden plan, get a pledge form or find more information about the garden project on the Maple Leaf web site: www.ci.seattle.wa.us/COMMNTY/mapleleaf or by contacting Barbara Maxwell at 524-1502 or via e-mail at: tymax@juno.com.



GARDEN CLUB

The Garden Club Wants You!

Maybe you already love poking around in the dirt or maybe you look at your yard in dismay, not sure where to start. Whether you are a gardening novice or a Master Gardener, the Maple Leaf Garden Club would welcome your participation. We're not a bunch of little old ladies in funny hats and we certainly are not experts. We're a fun group of your neighbors who just happen to like gardening.

The Maple Leaf Garden Club meets the last Thursday of the month from 7-9 pm at different member's homes. We have a little wine, a few snacks and learn about digging in the dirt and taking care of plants. It's a great way to meet your neighbors and learn something at the same time.

Upcoming meetings:

March 31 – Mulching your garden to preserve moisture and fight drought

April 28 – Perennial border design, especially for narrow borders

May 26 – Creating a hanging basket or container – supply list to be provided

In June and July we take advantage of the long days and do walking tours of gardens.

In August we have our annual Potluck dinner.

Sept. 28 – Clematis: How to grow and prune these wonderful vines

If you would like to join us, please call Mel Vannice at 525-7663 to find out the location of our next meeting.

GROUNDBREAKING FOR NEW COMMUNITY CENTER, LIBRARY AND PARK IN NORTHGATE

Seattle Parks and Recreation, The Seattle Public Library, Mayor Greg Nickels and members of City Council joined the community on Saturday, March 19, 2005 to break ground on the new community center, library and park in Northgate.

The City of Seattle signed a contract with Absher Construction Company of Puyallup in March 2005 for the construction of the Northgate Community Center, Library and park project. Construction is expected to be complete in June 2006.

LAND USE:

Townhouse Project: A decision approving the application for a Master Use Permit to construct four two-unit townhouses at 9101 Roosevelt Way NE was issued on February 7th and construction activity is underway. You can view the decision on the Department of Planning and Development website: <http://www.ci.seattle.wa.us/dpd/notices/gmr> and clicking on the February 7th notice and the project number 2400133.

89th & Roosevelt: Sam Viskovich, the property owner, and his consultants held a second community meeting on February 3, 2005 at which they presented written responses to issues raised at the first public meeting in October. They showed a redevelopment scenario for a 4-story building with ground floor retail/commercial space and three floors of residential units with 5 units per floor and 12 parking spaces at-grade and 16 underground parking spaces. The City's land use planner assigned to this project, Colin Vasquez, attended the meeting and briefly reviewed the formal City approval process that Mr. Viskovich must complete; i.e. apply for a master use permit (MUP) and initiate the Design Review process. Two public meetings will take place as part of Design Review and there is also a public comment period that will take place as part of the master use permit process. As of the newsletter deadline, Mr. Viskovich had not filed a MUP application and had not responded to the community's requests that he remove the graffiti from his property. The consultant leading the public process for Mr. Viskovich is Rod Hash of Autumn Consulting. Mr. Hash can be contacted at (206) 459-0917 or via e-mail Rod@wolverinefireworks.com. Colin Vasquez, the City's land use planner, can be reached at 684-5639 or via e-mail at Colin.Vasquez@seattle.gov.

In the meantime, the City Attorney is taking steps to enforce the "Agreed Order of Abatement" entered into between the City and Mr. Viskovich. This is a continuation of a process begun in 2003 when the Department of Planning and Development determined that Mr. Viskovich should either repair or demolish the old structure and remove litter and debris from the premises. Mr. Viskovich has maintained that the structures remaining after the fire are reusable, but has not submitted any engineering reports in support of his position. Under the "Agreed Order," the City could not enter the property to begin demolition activity until April 15th. A City inspector needs to determine if special abatement, such as asbestos removal, would be necessary. The City would then obtain competitive bids from contractors to do the demolition work and then issue funds to pay the selected contractor. Funds expended would be reimbursed from a lien on Mr. Viskovich's property. Demolition work contracted by the City was expected to take about 60-90 days from April 15th.

Transportation: Funding from the City's Cumulative Reserve Fund (CRF) resulted in funding for the project to improve pedestrian safety, especially for school children, in the 800 block of NE 95th Street, a residential street. The project involved installing a curb and planting strip to protect an existing at-grade sidewalk. It is expected that there will be funding for the City to come back and stamp and color the new asphalt driveways installed as part of this project.

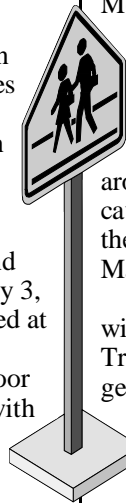
The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) has begun design work for a second CRF-funded project, pedestrian safety improvements to the at-grade asphalt walkway on the west side of 15th Avenue NE north of NE 92nd Street. SDOT plans to coordinate construction of the walkway improvements with a

Metro bus stop project.

Traffic Circle Damage

Traffic circles are planted and carefully maintained by dedicated volunteers. It is very discouraging when traffic circle plantings are damaged by carelessness. Circles are designed so that a long-wheel base vehicle can safely drive around them, not through them. If you observe a vehicle causing traffic circle damage, please try to get a description of the vehicle and a license plate number and call Barbara Maxwell at 524-1502 with the information.

Committee Meetings: Until further notice, the Committee will not meet on a regular basis. Land Use and Transportation issues can be raised at the regularly scheduled general meetings. Please direct land use and transportation questions to Barbara Maxwell at 524-1502 or via e-mail at tbmax@juno.com.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Executive Board: Hesitate no longer. The Maple Leaf Community Council needs energetic, dedicated people to be actively involved in the community by serving a two-year term on the Executive Board. The Executive Board meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7 PM at Olympic View Community Church. You can come to any Executive Board meeting and get a feel for how you can help shape the future of Maple Leaf and keep it the greatest place to live. Contact Janice Camp at 527-0926.

Maple Leaf Representative-Thornton Creek

Watershed Oversight Council: Seattle Public Utilities has invited Maple Leaf to designate a person to join in addressing creek issues and the implementation of the Thornton Creek watershed action plan. The watershed council meetings are every fourth Wednesday evening of the month. Contact Janice Camp at 527-0926.

Maple Leaf Representative-Northgate Arts Council:

Get in on the ground floor of this exciting new council and join with other neighborhood representatives in promoting the arts and cultural diversity of our communities. Maple Leaf has been invited to provide information about the people and arts activities that are already in place in our neighborhood so we can help nurture arts activities here at home. Contact Janice Camp at 527-0926.

SUMMER SOCIAL JULY 27TH- MAPLE LEAF PARK!



The Tenth Annual Maple Leaf Summer Social will be held at Maple Leaf Park on Wednesday, July 27th. It is not too early to mark the date and volunteer to help. Not many people realize all that is involved in something that seems simple. We need a health permit, ice cream scoopers who are supervised by a person with a health certificate, and a hand cleaning station. The ice cream has to be picked up, taken to a grocery store freezer and "warmed up" or tempered for two days before the social. Then transport the ice cream from the grocery store to the Social. Volunteers have taken care of these tasks. Many hands make light work-volunteer to help spread the work around by calling Janice Camp at 527-0926.