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January 4, 2010

To Sally Clark
 Mike O'Brien
 Amalia Leighton
 Irene Wall

cc Stella Chao
 Diane Sugimura
 Lyle Bicknell
 David Goldberg
 Members of the Neighborhood Planning Advisory Committee

Subject: Minority report submitted to the Neighborhood Planning Advisory Committee (NPAC) Subcommittee Report on Recommending General Criteria for Selecting Neighborhoods for Neighborhood Plan Updates.

The undersigned, a minority of the NPAC subcommittee appointed to recommend general criteria for selecting neighborhoods for neighborhood plan updates, not agreeing with the majority, desire to express their views below in this case.

There is one additional objective criteria that should be added to guide in the decision for selecting Neighborhood Plans for update, and that criteria is the extent to which existing neighborhood plan items from the Approval and Adoption matrix have been completed or at least put into work.

Two perspectives of weighting can be applied:

- 1) Priority should be given to neighborhoods which have most of their projects completed or in work, so there is updated community input on the continued shaping of their neighborhood. This presumes that the neighborhood is either at or exceeding its jobs and growth targets – we haven't asked what to do if a neighborhood plan and growth target are achieved simultaneously, would there be no "next" Neighborhood Plan?
- 2) Priority should be given to Neighborhoods which seem to have fallen behind in implementing reasonable projects, and the stewardship group should be given an opportunity to provide feedback if an update is needed. Priority would go to those neighborhoods who feel their projects are no longer relevant in light of changing conditions, or new data from the 2009 Status Reports from the SPC & NPAC, or new data collected by the neighborhood itself.

Original objection to the inclusion of these additional criteria was that there was no easy way to get current information about the status of completion of Neighborhood Plans, as the Department of Neighborhood ceased updating their database about 2 years ago.

According to the Office of City Auditor “Seattle District Council System Needs Renewal” June 22, 2009. Table 3 on page 4 makes it very clear that a responsibility of the City is the monitoring of commitments by the City to neighborhoods, citing Resolutions and 27709 and 28115 as authorization. This function was coded “Red” by the Audit team. It is not acceptable or logical that future decisions about the priority needs of neighborhoods to undergo an update would be made without data about the completion status of the current plan. We should have available as a decision factor how much of an existing plan has been implemented to date.

Respectfully Submitted
Cindi Barker, alternate to CNC representative.