



Neighborhood Planning Assembly Draft Minutes

NPA:
(choose one)

Wards 1 & 8	Wards 2 & 3	Wards 4 & 7	Ward 5	Ward 6
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Date of Assembly : 9/21/23 Start Time: (Commence): 7:15pm

Location: 645 Pine Street Finish Time: (Adjourn): 8:50pm

Note taker: Joe Dery Please forward these official minutes to: Fosca Bechthold

Steering Committee Members in Attendance:

Lena Greenberg, Joe Dery, FaRied Munarsyah

Discussion Topics

- *These can be copied from agenda items*
- *Content of discussion not required*

Actions Taken / Decisions Made

- *Immediately following Agenda Item*
- *Generally includes: electing a new steering committee member, voting as a body to send a formal communication to the City, decisions to spend money.*

Agenda Items and Actions:

Please Remember to Enter Adjournment Time!

Meeting called to order at 7:20pm following technical difficulties (determined to be feedback from Youtube browser window).

Welcome

Lena G:

- NPA Intro slides
- recap of August meal at Calahan, gathered many suggestions for improvements to be discussed in coming months

Public Forum

- Lucia C - High School project update - received guaranteed max price update from design group
- Andy S - event Sunday Sept 24th, 10a at 453 Pine - cleanup around the Barge Canal
- Jack T - event Friday Sept 22 at St Paul for World Car Free Day. vpop802@insta
- James B - suggested neighbors enjoy the well-kept Oakledge Park

CDBG Update - Ward 5 CDBG appointee 2022-2023 Ilona Blanchard

- Many applications in housing this session. Awarded to COTS, Pathways
- Other programs: EIC tax filing assistance, post-incarceration re-entry, workforce training
- NPA will plan to select next representative by NPA near end of 2023

Update on neighbors displaced by rental property damage (fires) - Faried Munarsyah

- Residents are reimbursed temporarily but many have had high un-reimbursed cost

- faried@workerscenter.org fundraising to help with expenses
- Need to follow up with City about ordinance and clarify landlord responsibilities

Presentation from Burlington Electric Department about McNeil District Heating plan - Darren Springer - Gen. Manager, Betsy Lesnikoski - Chief Forester, Jennifer Green - D.o.Sustainability

- McNeil originally permitted/constructed in 1980s
- Primary fuel is wood chips from forestry and processing residue
- some waste wood yard (from residents)
- 'Round wood' was 0.3% of fuel in 2022
- Use of residues is more favorable for 'carbon feedback'
- Net zero plans: want to cut natural gas use 16% - UVM MC is large user

Presentation from Stop BTV Biomass - Lena Greenberg

- highlighted significant delay in carbon cycle between biomass burning and replacement forest, 20-50+ years
- Project is not only waste heat, will divert highest temp steam before use by generation turbine, so will increase burn/emissions to maintain electric output
- Immediate emissions from biomass plants are higher than natural gas
- Steam pipe construction impacts along 1+ mile between McNeil and UVM-MC

Community discussion about McNeil plans

- Brian Cina asked why UVM would not use electrical heat pumps including geothermal fed
 - Darren S - UVM requires at least some high temperature process steam, which could be supplemented by resistance heating equipment near site
- Jack T: Raised question about decreasing natural gas beyond the 16%. How is the steam plan cost paid
 - Darren S: new non-profit entity to own the steam pipe and to which UVM-MC would pay fees
- Andy S: noted the two sides are having difficulty hearing one another, coming from different frames of mind – focus on emissions, vs reduction of fossil fuel use

Adjourned ~8:50pm