

Seattle Prep and NCHNA meeting notes, September 28, 2017

In attendance:

Jeanne Peterson, Michelle Kimihira—NCHNA
Kent Hickey, Rich Stearns, John O'Neil—Seattle Prep

*** 11th Ave East, 10th East, and East Delmar traffic concerns**

- Prep is concerned about traffic going downhill to Delmar only for safety, but the school is aware of illegal driving down the hill.
- The school will support a letter from NCHNA to SDOT if we submit one.

*** Prep responses to NCHNA questions about events:**

- The Back to School night events were on the school calendar. A campus guard (Wesley) was on duty from 10-6 PM as usual. There were additional security and parking attendants for these events. Parking at St. Demetrios Church was not available on these evenings.
- Rich Stearns, Dean of Students, will send Michelle Kimihira notices of events expected to draw large numbers of people.
- The biggest event will occur on November 7, 5:30-8 PM, an open house for prospective families. Expect traffic and parking, even though off-site parking and shuttles will be provided for visitors.

*** Questions from NCHNA Board:**

- Is there a list of neighbors who are not permitted on campus? Would it be possible to initiate a formal mediation process with people who are not welcome at Prep?
- Answer: The campus is officially a no-trespassing zone, but unofficially, neighbors are permitted after hours. There is a no-trespassing letter in effect for one household in the 2400 block of 11th East owing to a history of harassment from those residents, including photographing cars in the Prep garage. Recently a member of the household published inflammatory and unfounded remarks related to a roof deck construction project. The school prefers not to engage with the one household and maintain a no-trespassing letter.
- Kent Hickey sent a letter to Michelle and Jeanne that more fully explained the history of the school with the one household members who are not welcome on campus. It was forwarded to the NCHNA Board on September 29.

*** NCHNA general meeting:**

- NCHNA is welcome at the Prep campus. Sheree Fisher can set it up for a date when the Great Room is available.

*** Prep enrollment is at 765, higher than expected:**

- The enrollment cap is 770.

- The freshman class numbers 216 rather than the anticipated 195.
- The school will abide by the 770 cap through admitting a smaller freshman class next fall.

*** Prep transportation and parking:**

- There has been increased ridership on the school-owned 24-passenger shuttle buses. Use of the garage is restricted to 4-person carpools. More students are using Metro buses.

*** SR 520 and neighborhood traffic:**

- John O'Neil of Prep works on this issue and is on the Montlake Community Association Board as well as Montlake Community Center Board.
- Prep wants to work with all neighborhood groups on SR 520 concerns. One issue currently in the news is WSDOT's exercise of eminent domain over the Montlake Market, which is on appeal.
- The 5-way intersection at the foot of Delmar is another looming conflict, because it is very dangerous and poorly engineered.
- Prep wants to influence the design plan under SR520.
- Prep would also like an enhanced crosswalk on Delmar where their students and neighbors are at risk when walking to athletic practices.
- Prep eventually plans an auxiliary space on the other side of Delmar and a walking path down to Boyer that would be safer for the students, without increased enrollment.
- NCHNA and Prep are committed to working together on traffic problems.

*** Traffic-related meeting:**

- Prep would be willing to host a traffic-related meeting for the neighborhood groups on North Capitol Hill, Portage Bay, and Montlake, with a speaker.