

## **NORTH CAPITOL HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION UPDATE 2/23/19**

### **Treasury—David Docter**

The account balance for our combined Wells Fargo Savings and Checking account as reported October 31, 2018 is \$ 1,403.00.

### **Schools—Jeanne Peterson**

Seattle Prep continues to provide us meeting space on request, most recently for the NCHNA-sponsored open meeting 11/27/18 with WSDOT to review the SR-520 Project.

Prep's published 2018-2019 events calendar alerts neighbors to dates to expect increased traffic. Bertschi news is posted via the *Nextdoor* e-mail system. Representatives from both schools will attend our annual meeting 3/6/19 to answer questions from the group. Both have also named contacts for immediate concerns.

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### **SR-520—Nancy Brainard**

#### **Project Timeline**

- 520 construction in Montlake is expected to begin in early 2019 and finish in 2023. Staging is currently still planned to be done from the property now housing the Montlake Market and 76 gas station. David Goldberg, Community Liaison for WSDOT, is charged with representing community interests as details of the project design are finalized.
- Construction of a new transit/HOV lane connecting SR-520 to the I-5 express lanes is expected to take place 2020-2023. Staging will be done in the area under I-5 just south of the Ship Canal.
- Construction on the Portage Bay Bridge and Roanoke lid will begin in 2023 and is expected to be complete in 2029. Design details may begin to be worked out toward the end of 2019.

At NCHNA's request, WSDOT and SDOT met with 30 interested neighbors 11/27/18 to review the above projects.

#### **Neighborhood Concerns**

- Loss of the Montlake Market and gas station.
- Permission the City has given allowing 24-hour-a-day construction noise much louder than normally legal over a period of up to 10 years.
- Additional contamination of Portage Bay from the demolition of the current Portage Bay Bridge.
- Lack of the opportunity to provide neighborhood input to final design details.

- Local traffic and safety impacts.

### **Addressing These Issues**

NCHNA this year has continued to participate in WSDOT meetings to monitor the mitigation required by its National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Programmatic Agreement (PA) for the Project. We also joined forces with the Roanoke/Portage Bay and Montlake Community Councils specifically:

- Supporting community pleas to save the Montlake Market and gas station.
- Protesting the levels of construction noise the City Council has currently agreed to allow.
- Urging WSDOT to scrap its current plan for staging construction of the new Portage Bay Bridge from a temporary work bridge beside the road and to work instead from barges, as was done in constructing the current bridge. This change would include the added benefit of dredging Portage Bay of its current contaminants and limiting further contamination.
- Asking Mayor Durkan and the City Council to create an SR-520 Project Oversight Commission with the aim of protecting our unique urban environment and our health, as well as mobility. In this request we have the support of City Council member Kshama Sawant and have met with her twice to discuss details.
- February 19, we posted a survey on *Nextdoor* to assess the community's opinion of WSDOT's outreach, transparency and engagement to date with impacted neighborhoods. The survey closes March 8.