



Minutes (draft)

In attendance

Members

Cedar Park (Philip Shack, LCNA Vice Chair)
Cedar Park Neighborhood Council (Mark von Walter)
Cedar Park Tenant's Association (Sally Kinney, LCNA Director)
East Lake City Collaborative (Lynda Musselman)
Lake City Emergency Communication Hub (Sandy Motzer, LCNA Treasurer)
Lamb of God Evangelical Lutheran Church (Michael Snyder, LCNA Secretary)
Literacy Source (Cat Howell; Shira Rosen)
Meadowbrook Community Council / Thornton Creek Alliance (Dan Keefe)
Pinehurst Community Council (Nancy Rauhauser)
Seattle Mennonite Church / Lake City Partners Ending Homelessness (Melanie Neufeld)
South Cedar Park Good Neighbors Association (Tim Motzer, LCNA Chair)
Victory Heights Community Council (Brad Cummings, LCNA Director)

Guests

Senator Fockt
Rep. Valdez
Rep. Pollet
Dean Allsopp, D5 District Director for Councilmember Juarez
Marty Comford, Lake City House resident
Dianne Trani, Jet City Property Management
Bill Meyers

Suggested topics of conversation:

- What are the State's ongoing public health, economic, and public education responses to COVID-19?
- What are the State services and projects provided to Lake City that have been or will be jeopardized by revenue shortfalls from COVID-19?
- Are there any State resources that could help with funding low-income housing above the new Lake City Community Center?
- What State resources are available to help with the homeless encampments at the Lake City Mini Park and Albert Davis Park? How are they being coordinated with Seattle and King County services?
- How will the current State moratorium on water shut-offs for both single-family and multi-family dwellings be coordinated with the City water shut-off moratorium, especially in relation to being phased out? What are the criteria for phasing the State water-shut-off moratorium?

Note: Representative Valdez has asked to speak first on the agenda.

Representative Valdez – <https://housedemocrats.wa.gov/valdez/>

The representative is Chair of the State Government & Tribal Relations committee and sits on the Civil Rights & Judiciary and Transportation committees.

Priorities included:

HB 1071 dealing with hate crimes. Washington State is currently #3 in hate crimes (based on crimes reported) and this gives prosecutors more tools in dealing with hate crimes.

Gun safety - Limiting high capacity magazines.

Address racial covenants that are in documents for homeowners, allowing people to remove that racist language.

Q: What is the #1 issue, especially related to covid?

A: Getting everyone vaccinated. And racial equity, in vaccinations.

Senator Frockt – <https://senatedemocrats.wa.gov/frockt/>

The senator serves as the vice chair of the Senate Ways & Means committee and of the Health & Long-Term Care Committee.

He is doing committee hearings and votes virtually. He was in Olympia on day 1, but he has working remotely for the rest of the session. Operationally, working remotely has been going well, though perhaps there have been fewer bills because it is harder to work with stakeholders.

He discussed bills that he is working on, including:

A bill related to civil liability in police accountability cases, to ensure that cases can get to a jury.

A bill related to healthcare and insurance. One of the worst things that can happen when you lose your job is that you also lose your healthcare.

A bill to help businesses get insurance claims paid out for Covid related disruptions. Insurance companies have been denying “business disruption claims” for restaurants and other small businesses related to Covid.

A bill to protect election workers against harassment.

He is tracking housing, the situation at Albert Davis park, and other issues.

Representative Pollet – <https://housedemocrats.wa.gov/pollet/>

The three of us have tried to engage the city on homelessness and what is happening in the city.

It is frustrating. People need help. It feels like the city has washed their hands of it.

Asked the city: How many porta-potties for the 45 people encamped in lake city? One.

The next day the city added a second porta-potty. That is still disgraceful.

The state is able to provide resources to the city, but the city isn’t using those options.

A bill passed out legislation related to the Growth Management Act that will block cities from preventing homeless transitional services from being added in their jurisdictions.

Cities and counties need to set goals and plan to avoid displacing people.

Discussion on Covid and vaccination related to adding a vaccination site in the south end of the county and how hard covid has been hitting the south end of the county has been vs. the north end.

Senator Frockt: Covid money, some from the “rainy day” fund, but some was pass-through from federal funds. The state will provide the county the resources that they need to get people vaccinated.

Q: Could Washington do a quick legislation to get rid of daylight savings time?

A: I think we need Federal approval. We passed the legislation allowing us to change if the Federal government acts. Write to Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell.

Q: Is there any movement on loosening restrictions on online gaming outside of tribal casinos?

A: There was some debate on this last year. We have a policy and regulatory tradition of allowing that through the tribal casinos. It is gambling, and we need to be cautious there.

Q: Will there be relief in the eviction moratoriums for landlords in addition to tenants?

A: There will be a fund that will provide up to 80% of what the landlords would have gotten. There is a lot of concern about what will happen when the moratoriums are lifted, and we don't want to see hundreds of thousands of people become homeless. \$362M for tenants, preventing evictions, and small landlords.

For a sense of scale, the entire state budget is \$52B and the covid relief package alone was \$2B.

The governor doesn't take the decision to close things down lightly. These decisions are made to save lives.

Q: Could we get a lot more money in the housing trust fund? Or, because new housing takes 3 years to come online and because we need places to put people so they don't have to be in tents on the street, could we have a state mandate regarding unused hotel space?

A: I think we both add longer term housing funding, and also provide emergency shelter money for tiny homes, trailers, and other non-congregant housing options. The state hasn't done a good job with behavioral health in the past decade and is trying to do better now, but the local governments also need to execute and take advantage of the funding that the state is providing.

Q: How do we get the mayor to spend the money that the council has told them to spend, money from the state or taxing authority?

A: At some point we may need to have the State say, "if you aren't going to provide the services, we will". As with most things, if it was easy, it would already be solved. We issue debt to finance many things, and to do that we need agreement, a 60% vote in both houses. Other parts of the state look and ask, "why isn't the city improving?" and this makes it harder to get agreement from Republicans in our state.

Q: Broadband access for lower income?

A: The legislature will be working to add funding for other options.

C: We counted (daylight hours) homeless in the Lake City area.

Q: What housing resources would we have if we wanted to put 50-75 units of low-income housing on top of the new community center?

A: The State's housing trust fund could provide funding for that type of project. The main thing is that the project needs to be relatively far along in the design. You would want to work with us and the Housing Finance Commission and non-profit developers. Start by asking the city to help plan with non-profit development partners.

Q: Has there been any coordination between the city and the State on the proposed moratorium on water shutoffs?

A: The representatives didn't know about coordination with the cities. That would be up to the governor's office and cities for communication. We are looking at changing state law on liens on properties so municipalities that are also utilities won't need to cut off electric or water service due to lack of payment.

If we are looking at another 6 months of financial problems to this extent, federal funding will be needed.

Q: With our homeless encampments, are there any financial resources that could be used for our issues?

A: The city has access to the state resources that they put out with the \$2B proposal. The money is there, the city has a policy that it will not approach or offer transportation and housing, but money is there for that. The mayor has a plan for a project to build 600 units of low-income housing.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **ACTION ITEM:** Approval of the draft January 14, 2021 Zoom Meeting Minutes

APPROVED AS DISTRIBUTED.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

STANDING REPORTS

1. Chair's Report - None this time.

2. Treasurer's Report

Checking: \$1,639.40. Savings: \$25.09. Total: \$1,664.49

3. D5 Report from CM Juarez' office

Public Safety Reforms – Two bills have been postponed:

 \$5.4M removal from SPD budget, and chemical ordinance ban

Funding transportation improvements around Hazel Wolf School

Prohibiting the use of heating commercial buildings with certain materials

Build 12 new tiny home villages

Grocery worker hazard pay – extra \$4/hr

Watching bills in Olympia: SB51, SB13, SB5010

Update on Lake City Outreach workers – RFQ should be announced early next week, applications due on the 22nd, award announcement early in March.

Digital Literacy – Report from IT department outlining the next steps for bridging the digital divide.

Clean Cities - \$3M investment in parks, SPU – cleaned up over 1M pounds of trash, and worked in over 60 parks and neighborhoods ... they say they are cleaning in Lake City 3 times a week.

Q/A – Miscommunication resulting in a \$100k funding gap for God's Li'l Acre Day Center. Dean is going to work with Melanie and will look into it.

4. Build Lake City Together (BLCT) Neighborhood Implementation Grant – No report at this time.

5. Traffic Safety: LCW, Greenways, Safe Routes to Schools

Transportation projects in progress:

- 95th St alternative sidewalk between 35th Ave NE and LCW.
- 120th St alternative sidewalk between 35th Ave NE and LCW.
- LCW and Erickson Place intersection reconfiguration creating an east-west vehicle crossing between Cedar Park and Little Brook Neighborhoods. New pedestrian amenities including crosswalks on all corners. Bus stop relocation to reflect Metro standards.
- LCW and NE 135th pedestrian crossing for Safe Routes to School and NE 135 Greenway.
- ADA curb rebuilds at many locations on LCW to reflect current standards (gives us landing pads for future sidewalk connections).
- Maps:
- <https://www.seattle.gov/transportation/projects-and-programs/programs/pedestrian-program/sidewalk-development-program/lake-city-way>

- NE 125th and 28th Ave NE pedestrian crossing (civic core). Signal poles are in, corners are rebuilt. Awaiting Crosswalks and signals.
- NE 125th between 35th Ave NE and Sand Point Way sidewalk (2022). Continuation of projects started with Cedar Park Greenway grant in 2015 and rectangular rapid flashing beacons at 36th and 38th Ave NE (2019).
- 25th Ave NE between NE 125th St and NE 127th St sidewalk (2023). (Olympic Hills ES)
- Monica hasn't looked at 30th Ave NE sidewalk lately so not sure of status, but Janine emailed saying it was done.
- 5th Ave NE between NE 125th and NE 130th sidewalk. (2025). (Sound Transit)

6. Lake City Partners Ending Homelessness/Seattle Mennonite Church

Did a walkthrough with KC Public Health – and received 12 HEPA filters for air filtration.

The Lake City Taskforce on Homelessness counted 179 people in our own Point in Time Count at the end of January. Up from 112 people, sheltered and unsheltered.

7. Parks, Open Space, and Community Center Committee

New 33rd street park

Little Brook – Need more park space in the area due to the population density.

Ask for dog park funding for the area in the next funding cycle?

ROUND ROBIN REPORTS FROM MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS—If you want to share anything your organization is doing, please also email your report to the LCNA list. It is not included in Minutes.