

CITY OF BELLEVUE
CITY COUNCIL

Summary Minutes of Extended Study Session

September 23, 2019
6:00 p.m.

Council Conference Room
Bellevue, Washington

PRESENT: Mayor Chelminiak, Deputy Mayor Robinson and Councilmembers Lee, Nieuwenhuis, Robertson, Stokes, and Zahn

ABSENT: None.

1. Approval of Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m., with Mayor Chelminiak presiding.

- Deputy Mayor Robinson moved to approve the agenda, and Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.
- The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

(a) International Walk to School Day Proclamation

Mayor Chelminiak read the proclamation recognizing October 2, 2019, as International Walk to School Day in Bellevue and asked everyone to consider the safety and health of children traveling to and from school on that day and every day.

Yuki Yang, representing Somerset Elementary School, thanked the Council for the proclamation. Several students introduced themselves and commented on why they like walking to school.

Mayor Chelminiak noted that the second bicycle fatality in Bellevue this year occurred over the weekend.

Deputy Mayor Robinson said that she and Councilmember Nieuwenhuis have discussed their interest in finding a way to educate the community, both cyclists and drivers, about the rules of the road, safety, and common courtesy.

Councilmember Nieuwenhuis said the number of cyclists on the road will continue to increase. He concurred with the importance of educating the public about bike safety.

2. Oral Communications

- (a) Cathy Springman spoke in support of developing the 1.75-acre site on SE 60th Street in Newport Hills as an official dog park. She invited everyone to attend the community park meeting on September 24 at the Newport Hills Swim Club to hear directly from the dog owners. She spoke about the need to accommodate multiple types of park activities, including an off-leash dog area.
- (b) Karen Morris said she was disappointed in the lack of adequate public outreach regarding the tent encampment ordinance. She said staff's report mischaracterized or left out input from a majority of the residents who participated in the neighborhood focus group. She said that she and many of her neighbors oppose many of the recommended changes. There have been five tent cities in her neighborhood. She expressed concern about placing low barrier shelters in single-family neighborhoods. She noted her understanding that the operators will be eliminating warrant and sex offender checks. Ms. Morris submitted her comments in writing.
- (c) John Morris said that he was invited to the neighborhood focus group meeting in January regarding the tent encampment ordinance. The attendees were seven people from three neighborhoods, and one person spent their time on the phone. He said that two people from West Bellevue who had positive comments about tent cities were from a host church and served on the committee that managed the encampment. He reported that several of the participants shared negative experiences related to the encampments. They asked for improvements and increased oversight and accountability, and that was the extent of the meeting. He said the staff report is a mischaracterization of what actually happened. Mr. Morris said staff implied that this was just the beginning of a more extensive analysis, and residents would be engaged in discussing future steps. However, they received no further contact from the City. He submitted his comments in writing.
- (d) Joel Jackman said he lives near Temple B'Nai Torah approximately 50 feet from the tent encampment, and he attended the focus group meeting. He concurred with the previous two speakers that residents were not fairly represented. He opposes certain aspects of the ordinance including extra flexibility for operators, length of stay, and the issuance of five-year permits. He expressed concern about placing low barrier encampments in residential areas. He noted the need for stricter controls over certain types of individuals.
- (e) Alex Zimmerman spoke about Seattle fascism and opined that Washington will be the number one fascist state. He expressed concerns regarding traffic and the lack of term limits for elected officials.

3. Executive Session: None.

4. Study Session Items

(a) Council Business and New Initiatives

Councilmember Robertson recalled that she served on the King County EMS (Emergency Medical Services) Levy committee. She asked the Council to consider whether to take a formal position regarding the ballot measure.

- Councilmember Robertson moved that, during its October 7, 2019 Regular Session, the Council vote on a resolution to take a position on King County Proposition 1 on the primary election ballot, the Medic One Emergency Medical Services Replacement Levy, and that the Council allow 10 minutes each for campaigns supporting and opposing the ballot measure to provide testimony, and a total of 15 minutes for additional individuals to speak in favor of or opposed to the ballot measure with each speaker limited to three minutes. Councilmember Stokes seconded the motion.

Councilmember Lee expressed support for the motion and noted the importance of informing and educating the public.

- The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

(b) Update on the I-405 Master Plan

Joyce Nichols, Director of Intergovernmental Relations, opened staff's presentation regarding the I-405 Master Plan, which was adopted in 2002.

Kim Henry, I-405/SR 167 Program Administrator, Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), said the state legislature recently approved legislation to define I-405 and SR 167 as one corridor, provide permanent toll authorization, and to allow bonding against the toll lane revenues. The legislature also provided direction to conduct a carpool study for the Renton to Bellevue segment of I-405 and to convert the SR 167 corridor plan into a master plan. The bill designated \$3 million from the toll revenue account to be used to create the SR 167 master plan. Bids for the I-405 Renton to Bellevue widening and express toll lanes project were opened on August 21, and the project will continue to move forward as scheduled.

Mr. Henry said the I-405 Renton to Bellevue project: 1) adds new capacity to create a dual express toll lane system between SR 167 in Renton and NE 6th Street in Bellevue, 2) builds southbound auxiliary lanes on I-405 in two areas south of I-90, 3) improves interchanges (including 112th Avenue SE and Coal Creek Parkway SE), and 4) constructs portions of the Eastrail through Bellevue.

Lisa Hodgson, Deputy Program Administrator, highlighted a number of new projects including the northbound SR 167 express toll lane extension between the SR 512/SR 410 interchange and SR 18, which is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2023. The southbound express toll lane on SR 167 will be extended from Jovita Boulevard to the SR 512/SR 410 interchange by 2028. The I-405/NE 85th Street interchange project is funded by Sound Transit and builds a bus rapid transit (BRT) station and direct access ramps to the I-405 express toll lanes. Ms. Hodgson said that I-405 BRT service is scheduled to begin operating by the end of 2024. She described the

three-level interchange design for I-405/NE 85th Street, which includes the separation of non-motorized users.

Ms. Hodgson said the I-405/NE 132nd Street project builds a half-diamond interchange and corrects a fish barrier with \$75 million in funding from the 2015 Connecting Washington package. A project on the north end of I-405 builds one new express toll lane in each direction between SR 522 and SR 527 and provides new direct access ramps at the two interchanges. Ms. Hodgson noted that the BRT station on I-405 through Kirkland, south of SR 522, is not fully funded for construction.

Mr. Henry described ongoing and new projects funded during the 2019 legislative session, noting that bond proceeds might be needed by mid-2021. He said that more than 40 miles of the I-405/SR 167 corridor will be under construction over the next six years, and the projects will significantly improve travel between Lynnwood and Puyallup upon completion.

Mr. Henry said the SR 520/124th Avenue NE interchange project is funded for engineering and right-of-way work. However, construction is not currently funded. The project provides a new on-ramp to eastbound SR 520 and a new off-ramp from westbound SR 520 to 124th Avenue NE. It will improve access to the Spring District, medical district, and downtown Bellevue and upgrades the existing bike path along westbound SR 520. Mr. Henry said WSDOT staff will conduct a practical solutions review to determine whether a lower cost project option is available that will still meet the original intent and needs of the project.

Mayor Chelminiak thanked staff for the presentation and noted the importance of I-405 to Bellevue. Responding to Mr. Chelminiak, Mr. Henry said the southbound braided ramp projects at SR 520/I-405 and at I-405/NE 10th Street in Bellevue are not funded.

Responding to Deputy Mayor Robinson, Mr. Henry said the construction of the pedestrian-bicycle crossing at the location of the former Wilburton tunnel will begin next spring and is anticipated to be completed by mid-2021.

Councilmember Zahn expressed support for WSDOT's efforts to identify a less expensive option for the SR 520/124th Avenue NE interchange project. She expressed support for improvements at Coal Creek Parkway, including the roundabout and BRT access to the nearby Park and Ride lot.

Responding to Councilmember Robertson, Mr. Henry said the NE 6th Street eastbound HOV ramp is funded to connect to 116th Avenue NE. Ms. Robertson noted her understanding that the ramp would connect to 120th Avenue NE. Mr. Henry said the design of the project is anticipated to begin in 2025. In further response, Mr. Henry said sound walls are included in a number of the I-405 projects. He recalled that the quiet pavement tried by WSDOT between SE 8th Street and I-90 did not perform as anticipated. However, a new grooved pavement has been identified for future projects.

Ms. Robertson said it would be helpful to reflect the exit numbers on the freeway project diagrams. She suggested that WSDOT work with the Department of Licensing to educate new drivers about how to drive through roundabouts.

Councilmember Lee commented on the need for improvements at the I-405 and I-90 interchange. Mr. Henry said the capacity improvements along I-405 will benefit the overall area. He noted that expanded ramp capacity from southbound I-405 to eastbound I-90 will alleviate congestion as well.

Mr. Lee expressed concern regarding the significant traffic backups on eastbound I-90 for cars exiting to I-405. He expressed support for funding for the SR 520/124th Avenue NE interchange.

Responding to Councilmember Lee, Transportation Director Andrew Singelakis said the City is beginning a planning process to study I-405 access to and from Bellevue. Staff is finalizing the scope of work and will discuss the planning and public engagement process with the Council in the future.

Councilmember Stokes thanked WSDOT staff for their work with the City. He concurred with Councilmember Lee's concerns regarding traffic congestion at the I-405/I-90 interchange. Mr. Stokes encouraged WSDOT to continue to communicate with Bellevue and other cities. Responding to Mr. Stokes, Mr. Henry said there is a high demand for engineering and construction personnel given all of the public and private development activity, which creates a resource challenge for the region.

(c) Update on status of a Unified Regional Homelessness Authority

Leo Flor, Director, King County Department of Community and Human Services, described the King County Regional Homelessness Authority proposal for consolidating local government efforts to provide services related to homelessness. He noted that a number of local and national experts who have studied homelessness in King County have determined that the system is too fragmented to be able to make substantial progress in the ability to provide homelessness emergency response services within the community. The current system is cumbersome for providers, who typically have contracts with multiple local governments, and results in the duplication of efforts. The system is also confusing for clients who are unsure about where to go for help.

Mr. Flor said that the cities and subregions within King County have different experiences with homelessness, including differences in the factors that contribute to homelessness as well as the services that are needed. He commented on the inequity and disparity of the current fragmented system, noting that an African American is five times more likely to experience homelessness, and a Native American is 10 times more likely to experience homelessness.

The Regional Homelessness Authority is intended to focus on delivering urgent services to individuals experiencing homelessness. The National Innovation Service's recommended actions include a system-wide theory of change, unified governance, accountability to customers, integrated health services for unhoused people, unified private partners and funders, and the long-term alignment of all systems serving individuals experiencing homelessness. Mr. Flor said that a number of philanthropic and private partners are engaged in supporting the development of a regional action plan, which will address the root causes of homelessness as well as the challenges of the current fragmented system.

Mr. Flor acknowledged concerns about whether the Regional Homelessness Authority planning process sufficiently engaged the broad spectrum of stakeholders than can and should inform the plan. He highlighted the involvement of the Sound Cities of Washington (SCA) organization, King County Regional Policy Committee (RPC), cities, and the Eastside Homelessness Advisory Committee (EHAC). Briefings to the King County Council and the Seattle City Council were initiated approximately seven months ago.

Mr. Flor said the Regional Homelessness Authority proposes an interlocal agreement and charter that will authorize King County to create a public development authority to provide a federal continuum of care for individuals in King County, Seattle, and other cities that choose to join. He said that any city may join at any time, and there is no requirement for payment to join. However, participating cities should be committed to aligning their principles with the Regional Homelessness Authority in the administration of services. The authority cannot levy a tax but creates a structure for consolidating the management of resources that are already spent on services related to homelessness.

Mr. Flor described the proposed governance structure comprised of a steering committee (elected officials), governing board, and advisory committees as needed. The members of the governing board are experts with the technical skills, knowledge, and connections needed to implement services.

Mayor Chelminiak noted that representatives of suburban cities have been asking how success is defined. For Bellevue, success is a significant and real reduction in the number of homeless individuals. Mr. Chelminiak questioned whether the proposed regional authority will result in a substantial reduction of individuals living on the street or in vehicles.

Mr. Flor said that, on an annual basis, approximately 25,000-30,000 individuals experience homelessness in King County and 20,000-25,000 are placed into housing. While more individuals are being housed, more are also falling into homelessness. Mr. Flor said there is no prospect for a substantial reduction in the number of homeless people until the region can stop individuals from becoming homeless. The Regional Homelessness Authority provides the ability to enhance the efficiency of housing individuals. Mr. Flor said the City of Seattle and King County currently have two people who are overseeing the same contract.

Responding to Mayor Chelminiak, Mr. Flor said cities may join the regional authority without making a financial contribution. However, they are expected to align their policies with the regional authority's policies. He said that individuals experiencing homelessness will be served regardless of whether a city is a party to the interlocal agreement.

Referring to the alignment of policy, Mr. Chelminiak noted that the governing board is not intended to be a policy-setting body. However, the agency plans to adopt a regional plan within 18 months, and it appears that the steering committee of elected officials cannot change those policies. He said the regional authority should not be able to force a city to change its policies.

Councilmember Stokes, a member of the RPC, said the Council's conversation is largely consistent with the RPC's discussion. He said cities are concerned about their lack of

representation and about the structure in which the City of Seattle and King County will have primary control over decisions. He expressed concern that the governing board does not include elected officials who are accountable to the public and elected to make policy decisions. He said if cities are expected to work together, they need to feel like they have an investment in the process and an influence on decisions. He commended the objectives of the regional authority regarding efficiencies and consistent approaches. However, he feels that more work is needed.

Councilmember Nieuwenhuis concurred with Councilmember Stokes' comments and questioned the reason for not including Eastside cities on the steering committee. Mr. Flor said the creation of the steering committee involved a number of compromises. He said the City of Seattle will contribute \$73 million to the annual operation of the entity, and King County will contribute \$55 million. As proposed, no other jurisdiction would contribute funding. Mr. Flor noted that approximately \$20 million of King County's contribution is federal continuum of care funding. Mr. Nieuwenhuis said he could not see why any city would sign on to the interlocal agreement without having a voice regarding the process and policies.

Mr. Nieuwenhuis asked how this effort is different from the 10-year plan to end homelessness. Mr. Flor said the Committee to End Homelessness was a planning body. The fatal flaw was that it did not build a plan, create a governing entity, or seek the alignment of resources and authority. He said the proposed regional body will be equipped with the resources and authority to enforce its mandate. He said the County does not want another 10-year plan that does not achieve the desired outcomes.

Councilmember Nieuwenhuis expressed concern about the reference to who has authority over local homelessness policies and services. He asked about the goals and metrics of success for the regional authority. He acknowledged the need for a robust approach to addressing homelessness. However, he is concerned about adding another governmental body.

Mr. Nieuwenhuis said that a consultant who worked with the City of Seattle concluded that it was working with too many providers and that there were no performance measures to evaluate the providers' effectiveness. He questioned whether the regional authority's plan includes an effort to reevaluate the providers.

Mr. Flor said the legislation is silent regarding the number of providers. The regional authority consolidates the delivery of services to enhance efficiencies and outcomes. He said there is nothing in the proposal that allows the regional authority to compel a city to do anything, but the focus is on funding. He said the strength of the proposal is that it is clearly more efficient and a very good governance effort.

Mr. Nieuwenhuis expressed his concern that if cities sign on to the interlocal agreement, an unanticipated issue will arise at some point. He does not want to replay what happened with King County regarding heroin injection sites. Mayor Chelminiak noted language regarding hygiene facilities and suggested the need for a definition of the term.

Deputy Mayor Robinson thanked Mr. Flor for the presentation. Ms. Robinson said she previously served on the Mental Illness and Drug Dependency (MIDD) oversight committee, and

measures have been implemented with the providers to increase accountability. She acknowledged the County's contribution of funding to the City's CARES program. Ms. Robinson said she wants Bellevue to be a leader in the region for how it successfully houses individuals who are experiencing homelessness. She said Bellevue needs to have a seat at the table, and she suggested that the potential addition of a seat for a SCA representative should instead go to Bellevue.

Ms. Robinson said she wants to track success and to understand the progress toward desired outcomes by being able to gather the names and birthdates of individuals who are served. She said there are a number of ways that individuals cannot be helped if they do not provide that information, including qualifying for Medicaid.

Mr. Flor referred the Council to online information regarding the performance of every funded program in the County's continuum of care approach. He said the statistics are updated monthly and they help to identify trends related to homeless populations. He said that one of the key advantages of regionalization is the ability to collect data, not to track specific individuals but to be able to track the overall outcomes of the system.

Councilmember Lee commended the King County Executive for his willingness to address this difficult and broad issue. Mr. Lee concurred with his colleagues' concerns regarding the authority over policies and decisions. He questioned how decisions and choices can be made if a body is not directly accountable to a particular jurisdiction and population base. Mr. Lee said that more discussion and analysis is needed before making a decision about whether to join the interlocal agreement.

Councilmember Zahn recalled Mayor Chelminiak's questions about the goals and measure of success. She said she has been thinking about how the guiding principles related to homelessness adopted by the Council in 2015 relate to the regional authority. She said Bellevue has been a leader in its approach to services for individuals experiencing homelessness. She noted the successful effort by Bellevue's private sector to fund tenant improvements at the City's shelter for homeless men.

Ms. Zahn said that Bellevue should have a seat on the steering committee. Responding to Ms. Zahn, Mr. Flor said a portion of King County's \$55 million contribution will be used in Seattle. In further response to Ms. Zahn, Mr. Flor said the regional authority requires subregional planning efforts that are informed by local municipalities. However, the legislation does not define a subregion. Mr. Flor said the topic will be addressed by the governing board, steering committee, and advisory committees. Ms. Zahn said that local solutions depend on understanding the needs of specific communities.

Mr. Flor said the legislation anticipates that within six months of the formation of the regional authority, it will issue an initial plan to complete its own creation and incorporation. The body will issue its five-year regional plan within 18 months of its creation. In the interim, the regional authority would assume and continue the provider contracts currently administered by King County, the City of Seattle, and potentially other cities that might join the effort.

Councilmember Zahn reiterated her concerns regarding Bellevue's representation and policy authority. She said that Councilmembers have an obligation and a duty to make sure the City is serving the community to the best of its ability.

Councilmember Robertson observed that the Council supports the regional effort but has concerns about certain details. She said it is important for Bellevue to have a seat at the table. She suggested that perhaps cities with populations exceeding 100,000 should have a seat on the steering committee as well.

Ms. Robertson expressed concern that the interlocal agreement allows cities to sign at any time. However, a city cannot withdraw or terminate the contract until five years have passed. She encouraged including public safety responders on the governing board.

Ms. Robertson expressed support for regional coordination and noted that Bellevue has been working with other Eastside cities to address homelessness.

Mayor Chelminiak said he appreciates the significant effort required for the County and the City of Seattle to create the proposal for a regional authority. He said that everyone wants a path to success in a way that the City has a meaningful role.

Councilmember Robertson said the Council is committed to regional solutions. However, the Council is not certain about whether to join the interlocal agreement and is interested in a seat on the steering committee and in reviewing a subregional plan.

Mayor Chelminiak said the next step for the City Council is to consider input into the ordinance to be adopted by the King County Council. He noted his concerns regarding the lack of representation for Bellevue and the membership of the governing board.

Mr. Chelminiak said he would like to see some form of structure around what needs to be done to ensure that Bellevue and other cities will have a meaningful role in the regional authority. He said he cannot envision the City Council turning its policy-making role over to another body. He noted his concern regarding the potential prohibition on faith-based solutions and the potential allowance of tent encampments on public property.

Councilmember Stokes reiterated his concerns regarding the lack of a role for Bellevue and the ability of the governing board to make decisions without policy input from the local governments that are responsible for implementing those decisions. He believes there is a way to create a better governance system with a responsibility to the public. He said the Council should focus on the City's policies and whether the regional authority embodies the same concepts.

Councilmember Zahn expressed an interest in the discussions of the proposal by other City Councils. She suggested considering a coordinated effort to craft a joint message from the cities regarding their priorities and concerns.

Mayor Chelminiak said the regional authority is not just King County and the City of Seattle. He said there is a large group of companies and philanthropic funders who support the effort. He

observed that the regional authority will move forward regardless of what the cities do. He said Bellevue needs to decide how it can have a positive involvement while retaining local control.

Councilmember Nieuwenhuis reiterated his concern about creating another layer of bureaucracy to eliminate or reduce duplicative contracts with providers. He said that Bellevue and certain cities have a better track record than some of the cities in the region in terms of addressing issues related to homelessness. He questioned whether King County and the City of Seattle are interested in learning from those cities. He noted that the Bellevue City Council's responsibility to its constituents is to avoid the problems that have occurred in Seattle.

Mr. Nieuwenhuis said he would like to see language in the interlocal agreement that if a certain policy is initiated by the regional authority, a city would have a right of refusal to implementing the policy. He noted the need for more details regarding goals, measures of success, and how the regional authority will interact with cities.

Councilmember Lee observed that Councilmembers agree that policies need to be local because they affect the people living within the relevant jurisdictions. He shares the concerns regarding the creation of another layer of government. He suggested that the regional authority could potentially be more challenging than the current situation in the area of creating an alignment of policies between the County and the cities. He concurred with Councilmember Stokes' concern that the regional authority allows individuals who are not directly accountable to the public to essentially set policy.

Responding to Councilmember Zahn, Mr. Flor said the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH), a national nonprofit organization, and a consultant are working on a regional action plan that will explore affordable housing, the root causes of homelessness, and the homelessness crisis response. The plan will include more details, including the specific recommended targets and goals for all aspects of the system. Mr. Flor said the regional action plan will not be subject to ratification or approval by a particular jurisdiction.

Councilmember Robertson said she does not support delegating any of the City's policy-making authority. She opined that the steering committee should have more authority in making final decisions, and the cities outside of Seattle need a voice in this effort.

Responding to Ms. Robertson, Ms. Nichols suggested learning more about the King County Council's discussion before considering whether to write a letter to communicate the City's interests.

Mayor Chelminiak suggested that City staff consider the Council's input in determining a legislative fix to the County's Regional Homelessness Authority ordinance.

Councilmember Stokes expressed concern that the governing board is comprised of experts with the technical skills, knowledge, and/or connections needed to drive the work. However, the board is not a body that sets policy, approves a plan, or approves a budget.

Councilmember Lee said he does not support a body that makes policies for cities and is not accountable to the public. He suggested working with King County as a source of data and technical guidance.

Deputy Mayor Robinson said the Council has not discussed what would happen if Bellevue does not join the regional authority interlocal agreement. She said it is important to retain the funding that is currently being used to support agencies on the Eastside.

Mayor Chelminiak said there is a powerful lobby related to the provision of homelessness services, and there is a fear among some providers that they will be excluded by the regional authority. He expressed his frustration that Bellevue has not been included in the Regional Homelessness Authority efforts. He noted that each Bellevue City Councilmember represents more people and a higher property tax valuation than Seattle City Councilmembers, who are elected by district. He said the same is also likely true for the cities of Renton, Kent, and Auburn.

Mr. Chelminiak said the City needs to find a path for moving forward while continuing to do the things that have been successful. He noted that the City declared a public safety emergency and, within three months, the community came together to provide the improvements needed to allow the previously seasonal men's homeless shelter to operate year-round.

Mayor Chelminiak asked staff to compile the Council's comments and to schedule the next discussion regarding the issue.

(d) Regional Issues

[Written report provided in meeting packet.]

(e) Temporary Encampment Land Use Code Amendment (LUCA) - Bellevue Land Use Code Chapter 20.30U

Mike Brennan, Director of the Development Services Department (DSD), said the draft Temporary Encampment Land Use Code Amendment (LUCA) amends LUC Chapter 20.30U. He noted that tonight's presentation focuses on health and safety standards and the neighborhood engagement process.

Cindy Lin, Assistant City Attorney, referenced Attachment A in the meeting packet, which summarizes the differences between the code provisions and the Consent Decree. The draft LUCA [Attachment B] simplifies and clarifies the regulations applicable to all temporary encampment hosts. She recalled that the Consent Decree reflected the parties' agreement that the code enacted by the Council in 2005 was lawful, accommodated the religious host's exercise of religion, and complied with federal statutes in effect at the time. She said the LUCA is designed to specifically incorporate the Consent Decree terms that modify the original code in a number of areas including liability and management agreements, transportation plans, length of stay and frequency of tent cities, maintaining a resident log, water supply, restroom facilities, cooking and food handling, refuse disposal, and disease prevention and control.

Toni Pratt, Senior Land Use Planner, highlighted the topics for the Council's consideration: 1) regulatory framework, including the signatories, Neighborhood Focus Group, and the community's implementation experience over the past 13 years, 2) alignment of health standards with the Consent Decree, 3) neighborhood engagement, 4) frequency and duration of tent cities, and 5) the permit process. The LUCA reflects the success of health and safety standards in protecting public health as well as the practical realities of temporary encampment sites (e.g., showers, water supply). Ms. Pratt said staff recommends amending the health and safety standards to reflect ongoing operations under the Consent Decree.

The Land Use Code currently mandates daily trash patrols at encampment sites. The feedback received during public meetings questioned the purpose of the requirement and expressed concerns regarding non-residents patrolling the adjacent neighborhoods. Ms. Pratt said staff recommends removing the trash patrol requirement from the code.

In the area of neighborhood engagement, the Land Use Code currently requires a public meeting prior to the issuance of a temporary encampment permit but does not include a requirement for a post-issuance meeting with neighbors. Residents have expressed an interest in requiring ongoing communication with the neighborhood to identify issues as they occur.

Ms. Pratt said staff recommends establishing a provision for an optional post-issuance meeting between the encampment host and the neighborhood. She recalled the willingness of the First United Methodist Church to accommodate the neighbors' request for taller fencing. She noted that the Land Use Code provides for the potential revocation of a permit if requirements are not met.

Mr. Brennan said staff is tentatively scheduled to return on October 14 for continued discussion. He noted that information regarding temporary encampments is available on the City's web site, and staff is available to listen to concerns, questions, and suggestions.

Responding to Mayor Chelminiak, Mr. Brennan said a courtesy public hearing before the East Bellevue Community Council is scheduled for November 13. The City Council will hold its public hearing on November 18, and formal action is anticipated on December 9.

5. Council Discussion of Upcoming Items: None.

6. Continued Oral Communications: None.

At 9:18 p.m., Mayor Chelminiak declared the meeting adjourned.

Karin Roberts, CMC
Deputy City Clerk

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