

# Southgate Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes

Date: 6/9/2021

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Locations: Zoom Meeting

[www.southgatespokane.org](http://www.southgatespokane.org)

## Presentations

There were not any presentations this month

City Council – no council representative in attendance

## Neighborhood Business

**Approval of Minutes** – May minutes approved (moved by Allen, second by Andy)

### Treasurer's Report – Andy Hoyer

- ❖ \$1,533.92 in checking
- ❖ \$3000 in escrow

### Community Assembly Report – Andy Hoyer

- ❖ Notes from June 3/21 CA meeting are attached.
- ❖ The Mayor attended to discuss more shelters for the homeless.
- ❖ Code Enforcement has hired more staff (increased from 9 to 18), to manage homelessness and issues such as abandoned vehicles.
- ❖ Dump passes can now be accessed digitally. It is possible that Southgate could partner with Lincoln Heights for a clean up event (roll off) that would save everyone a trip to the dump.
- ❖ The paving of 44<sup>th</sup> between Crestline and Altamont is imminent.
- ❖ Southgate spent \$56 of Community Grant Funds for stickers to apply to our yard signs to correct the meeting date from the first to the second Wednesday of the month.
- ❖ Three question police reform survey: <http://tinyurl.com/SPDreform>

### PeTT Committee – Paul Kropp

- ❖ City Council is trying to increase the scope of projects that can be funded with traffic calming funds. This might increase the possibility of getting matching

grant funds. A consultant will work with each neighborhood so Southgate should be ready. We could talk to other neighborhood councils, Lincoln Heights for example (we share 37<sup>th</sup> Ave.) and work on a project together. The South Hill Coalition is another possibility.

### **Land Use – Andy Hoyer – Green Gables Child Care**

- ❖ Many neighbors attended tonight's meeting because of the application for a conditional use permit by Green Gables Child Care. See <https://my.spokanecity.org/projects/childcare-center/>
- ❖ Whipple Engineering did a traffic study after Southgate suggested that one was needed in its response to the neighborhood notification of the application as discussed in May's meeting. The traffic study concluded that there would be a negligible effect on the transportation system (91 trips in the morning and 91 trips in the evening). It does not appear that any "analysis" was done. It was noted that the traffic study was simply a trip generation report. It does not do a good job of reflecting the "local" effect of the traffic.
- ❖ Traffic on Freya will increase once the anticipated changes on 37<sup>th</sup>, known as the Ray Street Crossover, are made. The intent of those changes is to transfer some traffic from Regal to Freya.
- ❖ There is increased traffic due to the building of the memory care facility. That puts a lot of entrances/exits into a short road area.
- ❖ Southgate can get traffic counts for Freya from the Street Department.
- ❖ There are 22 parking spaces. Is that enough? It was noted that at a similar facility, a daycare on 57<sup>th</sup> that has 80 kids, 19 spots were needed for staff alone. It appears that the traffic study did not count staff trips.
- ❖ There are fees for being late at a daycare, so the traffic is bunched into a narrow time frame.
- ❖ In that area, Freya is narrow, and the shoulders are steep making the increased traffic more dangerous. It is currently a double lined roadway.
- ❖ John Mannix (neighbor) met with the owner and she says she plans on 120 kids (application is for 134 kids). He has concerns for his quality of life. Required screening will not hide a busy parking lot, a dumpster and noise.
- ❖ There are 107 daycares of this sort in Spokane. Only 16 have greater than 100 children and those are in malls, college campuses, churches and office buildings. Not one of them is in the middle of a neighborhood.
- ❖ Another concern is that there is a delay in building in the cul-de-sac. Why? The developer, Denis Crapo of Diamond Rock Construction, could ask for a zoning

change to allow apartments rather than residential after the daycare is approved.

- ❖ Another neighbor had concerns that the development seemed more like a community center than a daycare.
- ❖ Note that the applicant is proposing a state funded lower income benefitting daycare facility. There are many tenants in nearby apartments but there aren't sidewalks in the area so residents would need to drive, and this does not serve the interests of this low-income population very well.
- ❖ Southgate moved to Authorize Andy Hoyer to work with the local neighbors to prepare a second SNC objection to the Green Gables daycare, possibly to include a second professional engineering report. Costs to the SNC not to exceed \$300. Formal SNC document to be reviewed by the SNC Land Use Committee via email and the Land Use Committee shall submit the documents on behalf of the SNC. Moved by Andy Hoyer and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rita Conner. Approved.
- ❖ Later this week the application will close and then a two-week public comment period starts. After that, the Planning Director has 10 days to make a ruling. This is then followed by another two-week comment period.

#### **Land Use – Rita – Ray Street Crossover**

There will be a public online meeting on June 16 to review the Ray Street Crossover. The information will be posted on the Southgate website.

#### **Palouse Trails Apartment – Parking Concerns**

Sun Rentals, located across the Palouse Highway, has faced an ongoing problem of vehicles improperly parked and abandoned and garbage dumping by apartment tenants. The city has posted No Parking signs. Marcy White, the apartment complex manager, had hoped that Southgate could assist her with the parking issues of the apartment complex, but Southgate does not have any resources to help with this matter and Rita told her this.

**Next Meeting is July 14, 2021 in person**

**See CA Meeting Notes on next page**

## CA Meeting Notes – June 3, 2021 – via webex

19 Neighborhoods present

There will be no CHHS meeting for June

CP Beggs: June is Housing month, a draft plan is in the works. 12 reforms to Police are in the works, most having to do with de-escalation – release of plan in July.

Spokane City to be carbon-neutral by 2050. Water conservation is still a concern. Traffic calming plans are in the works. The City has \$84M to spend for Covid recovery.

There will be increased hours at the aquatic centers. Goats continue to work in the wild areas.

Mayor Woodward: The City has plans for the homeless to build more shelters. 527 Cannon St has been remodeled to offer showers and meals. Also there have been renovations at the Mission Street shelter, and the VOA shelter. There will be a new VOA shelter on the north side for those leaving foster care...upstream solutions. Public restrooms are re-opening. Alleyways will be resurfaced.

Johnnie Perkins (New City Administrator):

From San Diego – has solid waste background – will be adding staff for code enforcement and managing the homelessness problems. He will improve litter cleanups and shut down encampments. He is sensitive to the need to remove abandoned cars. [jperkins@spokanecity.org](mailto:jperkins@spokanecity.org)

Cupid Alexander (ONS): winter sheltering getting prepared. Digital passes for the dump are available. More postcards re dump passes etc will be sent. There are neighborhood videos on “next Door” – District 2 is coming. A Traffic Safety workshop is coming. Gonzaga Training Needs Assessment report is coming June 30. There are volunteer opportunities.

Maren Murphy: Housing Action Plan – high-level PowerPoint document was presented. 40% of citizens are “cost-burdened” by home ownership or tenancy – i.e. greater than 30% of income. Priorities are 1) Housing Options and Affordability, 2) Neighborhood safety and quality – preserve existing virtues, 3) Equitable access to housing, 4) Leverage Partnerships

Comments to [spokanehousingplan@spokanecity.org](mailto:spokanehousingplan@spokanecity.org)

Beggs and Murphy stressed to plans to disable single-family zoning, but maybe add some “missing middle housing” options like smaller lots, more duplexes, PUD options...incremental changes. We are having trouble motivating builders to build infill apartments.

Kevin Picanco talked about the 6-year plan for streets. 44<sup>th</sup> and Altamont paving is imminent – maybe in 2021. Bike lanes coming to Boone from Howard to Ruby. Hawk signals on Division at Longfellow, Weile, and Everett. Riverside from Grant to Sherman will be improved...near the University Bridge. They will be strip-paving dirt roads more frequently.

Three question police reform survey: <http://tinyurl.com/SPDreform>

Strength-Finders training June 29 6:00 – 7:30PM on Zoom. Book distribution at S Hill Library on June 8, 4-6 PM as prep for this class. 2 people can attend this training, 2 books per neighborhood – open for anyone in neighborhood who wants to be involved.

25 of 29 neighborhoods have participated in the Engagement Grant program this year. The CA approved \$4,500 for inserts in the utility bills. The CA is still debating in-person meetings. A new member, Daniel Zapotocky (Latah/Hangman Neighborhood) was voted onto the Administration Committee.