



350 Seattle Every Other Week Garbage Collection Memorandum

For 9/23/2019 Civil Rights, Utilities, Economic Development & Arts Committee meeting

350 Seattle strongly supports exploration of CM Herbold's every-other-week garbage proposal, and the development of policies to reduce Seattle's solid waste and the greenhouse pollution associated with transporting it. The Civil Rights, Utilities, Economic Development & Arts Committee's July 9th meeting¹ featured a presentation² summarizing the 2012 'One less truck' study³ -- we urge CM Herbold to create a policy that works for 2019.

We understand that the Mayor has indicated her office does not support every other week garbage pickup. We ask that the Mayor reconsider, and the Council and Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) continue to explore every other week garbage pickup based on the following factors:

- **We shouldn't dismiss a program that can result in 35% reduction in vehicle emissions** - The study found a 35% reduction in vehicle emissions associated with picking up trash every other week as opposed to every week. With the city failing badly to meet its climate goals, reducing emissions is critical.
- **According to SPU, its garbage trucks run on fracked gas** - SPU's garbage collection is significantly less "green" than it claims. The trucks run mainly on gas, but the claim that they run on biogas appears to be based on bookkeeping trick: According to SPU⁴, the waste management company feeds renewable natural gas (RNG) from trash into the national pipeline system. This means the gas powering our trash collection comes right out of that same pipeline system, and so is most likely to be fracked gas with a

¹ July 9th meeting. Video: <http://www.seattlechannel.org/videos?videoid=x105747>. Agenda: seattle.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=A&ID=722170&GUID=1F1D0AC3-EB14-4B09-9594-AA676BCBFC2D

² seattle.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=7521764&GUID=931D1F5C-2C19-452D-A8CA-F3C187F3DAE
³ <https://www.seattle.gov/Documents/Departments/OSE/OneLessTruckReport.pdf>

⁴ <https://atyourservice.seattle.gov/2019/05/29/seattle-rolls-out-industrys-greenest-fleet-leads-the-way-in-solid-waste-pickup/>

greenhouse warming potential as bad as, or possibly worse than, coal. See here⁵. Given the urgency of climate change, its many and massive threats, touting the burning of fracked gas as somehow “green” is false, and even dangerous.

- **Every other week trash can help us get back on track to meet Seattle’s recycling goals and MUCH MORE IMPORTANTLY, reduce waste (which further reduces greenhouse emissions)** - Cities that have implemented trash collection reduction programs have found that recycling and composting rates increased, even as total waste decreased (see here⁶, here⁷, and particularly this study⁸ that emphasizes how to use the media and messaging to help win people over to zero waste). Seattle’s recycling plan⁹ calls for recycling 70% of Seattle’s solid waste by 2022. It’s likely that the Seattle Greenhouse Gas Inventory will need to be updated to account for emissions associated with the life cycle of the consumer products we all use, and it’s certain that we need to use less. Reduction in garbage pickup should be accompanied by publicity about our recycling goals and most importantly, the climate benefits of reducing consumer waste.
- **Since the 2012 study, every other week garbage collection has been proven to work** - At the time of the 2012 study, every-other-week garbage pickup was relatively new, at least in our region, and even in the July 2019 SPU presentation to council, it was made to sound somewhat unproven. But, Tacoma’s program has been successfully running for more than 5 years¹⁰, Portland’s for more than 7 years¹¹, and Olympia’s for more than a decade¹². The citizens of Tacoma, Portland, and Olympia are fine with it.
- **Stakeholder process-** We need a three month stakeholder process to understand how other cities have implemented this process and help mitigate concerns around potential job loss and any equity concerns. The 2012 study noted survey responses among some demographics had lower satisfaction with every other week garbage collection, but didn’t get to the bottom of why (for instance, whether there was actually an underlying problem with service to those neighborhoods), or whether the problem could be addressed. It’s possible that every other week garbage was pitched as a climate and air pollution reducing solution, the results would be different. One good sign: Our online searches for problems with the service in other jurisdictions turned up a few gloom and doom articles

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https://www.eeb.cornell.edu/howarth/publications/f_EECT-61539-perspectives-on-air-emissions-of-methane-and-climatic-warmin_100815_27470.pdf

⁶ <https://www.epa.gov/transforming-waste-tool/zero-waste-case-study-renton>

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<https://www.epa.gov/transforming-waste-tool/examples-and-resources-transforming-waste-streams-communities-1-50#43>

⁸ <http://eurorazvitie.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/CS5-Ljubljana-English.pdf>

⁹ <https://www.seattle.gov/utilities/documents/plans/solid-waste-plans/solid-waste-mgmt-plan>

¹⁰ <https://www.thenewstribune.com/news/politics-government/article25867705.html>

¹¹ <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/article/423510>

¹² <https://cms.cityoftacoma.org/enviro/solidwaste/eow-faq-web.pdf>

in the press at the time of switchover, and zilch later. We should ask cities who have implemented every other week garbage collection how equity concerns have played out for them over time.

- **How this relates to the Seattle Green New Deal** - At the same time that we must make bold transformational change in big systems like housing and transportation, with the funding and spending we'd expect for that, the GND commits us to 100% renewables by 2030, which will mean, among other things, moving the garbage truck fleet from about 5% electric and 95% fracked gas, to all electric. Within that larger change, we should absolutely be making short-term changes that will help us accomplish that larger transformation, in this case by bringing down emissions a little right now, and by allowing us to contain costs by potentially purchasing a slightly smaller fleet. As part of the GND, all city policies should be considered through the lens of emissions as well as equity.

Additionally, we support CM Herbold's exploration of ways to reduce plastic waste as well as waste from demolishing buildings. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alice Lockhart

Alice@350Seattle.org

206-427-7884



October, 2019

The South Park Safety Partnership requests that the position of South Park Public Safety Coordinator be funded by the City of Seattle in 2020.

The South Park Public Safety Coordinator position was originally recommended by the South Park Public Safety Task Force, as identified in the September, 2017 *South Park Public Safety Taskforce: Report & Recommendations*.*

The primary purpose for the request to fund this position was to have a “community advocate” who would come from the neighborhood, with strong ties to South Park. It was and remains important that this person not be a city staff position, but directly responsible to the community. While the community realized that this position would not be a long-term funded position, it is felt that one year is not enough time for the South Park Public Safety Coordinator to gain the trust of the community, meet, convene and understand the interest of South Park’s diverse groups to build the infrastructure needed to connect community residents to the information they need, and create a South Park *community* communication system for public safety information and help. In addition, this position is essential to bridging the gap between the Community and City departments, in particular, the Seattle Police Department.

In comparison, the Chinatown/International District Public Safety Coordinator position is in its fourth year of community work. The South Park Public Safety Coordinator position is only the second community position of its kind in the city and has been in existence for only 14 months.

Cesar Roman was hired as the South Park Public Safety Coordinator on July 17, 2018. The South Park Public Safety Task Force members subsequently renamed themselves as the South Park Safety Partners for community oversight of the position and to work together with the non-profit, Seattle Neighborhood Group, the fiscal agency responsible for the position, maintaining the contract with the City.

Cesar has been very active establishing communications, gathering information and being an active partner in many community events and meetings. Community members understand the value of this position for what it means to the safety of their South Park community. There is still important infrastructure work to accomplish, follow-up on remaining taskforce recommendations, and improving communication with the Seattle Police Department.

*South Park Neighborhood Public Safety Taskforce Report, G. Quintana, Sept. 2017

South Park Public Safety Coordinator Recommended 2020 Budget

Personnel Services	Expense
Salary (range \$48 – 52,000)	52,000.00
Insurance - Medical	7,200.00
Short Term Disability	300.00
SUB-TOTAL – Personnel Services	\$59,300.00
Supplies – Other Services & Charges	
Computer	550.00
Postage	100.00
Rentals	600.00
Supplies	1,900.00
Printing	450.00
Telephone	400.00
Training	600.00
Translation/Interpretation	1,500.00
Travel	250.00
Other Miscellaneous Expenses	850.00
Administrative Costs/Indirect Costs	7,500.00
SUB-TOTAL – Supplies -Other Services/Charges	\$14,700.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$75,000.00

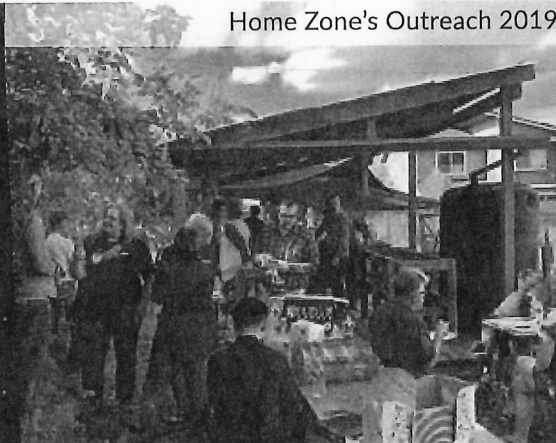
Seattle Neighborhood Group + SOUTH PARK

PARTNERING FOR SAFETY

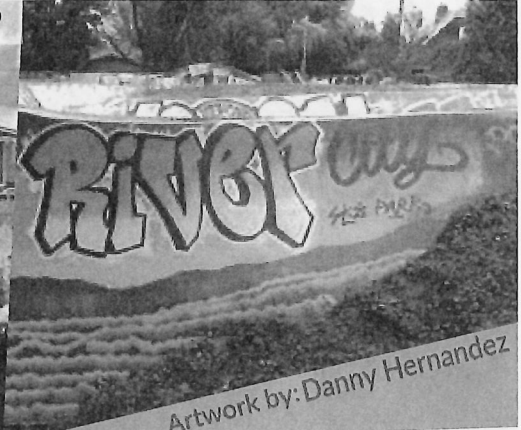
Seattle Neighborhood Group (SNG) is excited to continue our long-standing relationship with South Park and share a few highlights of our recent public safety work in your community.



Artwork by: Awakened Minds



Home Zone's Outreach 2019



Artwork by: Danny Hernandez

We launched a project in early 2016 focused on infrastructure improvements and increasing positive activities at the 8th and Cloverdale Street intersection and nearby areas, including River City Skate Park, Cesar Chavez Park, 8th Avenue Trail, and 8th and Donovan Street Ends.

In 2017, SNG joined the South Park Public Safety Task Force, which proposed a series of recommendations to the Mayor of Seattle and City Councilmembers. One of the recommendations was for a South Park Public Safety Coordinator position, who began working at SNG on behalf of the neighborhood in 2018.

SNG staff support the efforts of many South Park groups, residents, and businesses by organizing community safety trainings, connecting people to resources, advocating to elected officials, and convening stakeholder groups for problem solving

at challenging locations. We assist many South Park organizations with fundraising and coordination of safety-based projects, planning community-building activities, and encouraging people to get involved around the neighborhood.

SNG loves this community and we could not do this work without the countless volunteers and activists in South Park who always step up when action is needed.

For more information, contact:
Jake Hellenkamp | jake@sngi.org
Cesar Roman | cesar@sngi.org



WE COULDN'T DO THIS WORK WITHOUT OUR PARTNERS!

City of Seattle • City Year • Concord International Elementary and Parent Teacher Association • Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition • Duwamish Valley Action Housing Coalition • Duwamish Valley Safe Streets • Emergency HUB Network • Marra Farm • Seattle Neighborhood Greenways • Sea Mar • Seattle Parks Foundation • Seattle Public Schools • Seattle Public Library • South Park Arts • South Park Community Center • South Park Merchants Association • South Park Neighborhood Association • South Park Safety Partnership • South Park Senior Center • Seattle Police Department • South Park Information and Resource Center (Villa Comunitaria) • Sustainable Seattle • University of Washington • Urban ArtWorks & Our Many Neighborhood Volunteers

CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (CPTED)



7 CPTED ASSESSMENTS

Duwamish Waterway Park
South Park Community Center
Intersection of 8th & S. Cloverdale
8th Avenue Trail, a.k.a "The Scary Trail"
South Park Plaza
Concord International Elementary
River City Skate Park

COORDINATED

15 COMMUNITY CLEAN UPS

PICKED UP **60** TRASH BAGS

COLLECTED **160** NEEDLES

COORDINATING SAFETY INITIATIVES



SNG works collaboratively with organizations in South Park to advocate for safety improvements. Planning cool events is a big part of how we keep neighbors engaged and educate decision-makers on what South Park needs.



90+

SAFETY PARTNERSHIP &
NEIGHBORHOOD COORDINATION
MEETINGS

110+

COMMUNITY SAFETY
& OUTREACH EVENTS

50+

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS TO SPD

11

WORKSHOPS &
WALKING TOURS

16

CRIME PREVENTION OUTREACH
TO BUSINESSES

CONVENING & SUPPORTING PARTNER PROJECTS



PAVEMENT TO PARKS • HOME ZONES • YOUR VOICE
YOUR CHOICE • OPEN SPACES • DUWAMISH VALLEY
AFFORDABLE HOUSING COALITION • RIVER CITY SKATE
PARK • SOUTH PARK ARTS • 8TH AVENUE TRAIL •
CLOVERDALE UNDERPASS • SPU LITTER ABATEMENT
PROJECT • MURALS!

DUWAMISH RIVER CLEANUP COALITION

Technical Advisory Group

Community Coalition for
Environmental Justice

The Duwamish Tribe

Environmental Coalition of
South Seattle

Georgetown Community
Council

IM-A-PAL Foundation

People For Puget Sound
program, Washington
Environmental Council

Puget Soundkeeper
Alliance

South Park Neighborhood
Association

Washington Toxics
Coalition

Waste Action Project

*Working to ensure a Duwamish
River Cleanup that is accepted
by and benefits the community
and protects fish, wildlife, and
human health.*

210 S. Hudson St., Suite 332
Seattle, WA 98134
206.954.0218
contact@duwamishcleanup.org
www.duwamishcleanup.org

October 7, 2019

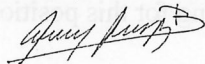
Dear City Councilmembers

The Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition/Technical Advisory Group (DRCC/TAG) is writing to urge you to include a line item in the upcoming budgeting session that continues to fund the Public Safety Coordinator position in South Park.

As you know, South Park has historically borne more than its share of industrial and infrastructural burdens. A lack of resources invested by the City and County, at all levels, has led to perceived and actual public safety concerns. *DRCC elevates the voice of those impacted by the Duwamish River pollution and other environmental injustices to advocate for a clean, healthy, and equitable environment for people and wildlife. We promote place-keeping and prioritize community capacity and resilience.* Via a series of community meetings in 2017, it became clear that the voice of the community was calling for a paid position that would coordinate community members to be safer and more cognizant of issues. To this end, DRCC supported the request for funding for a Public Safety Coordinator in 2018.

We are deeply grateful to the Council for recognizing this request and have seen significantly impactful actions as a result. The numbers add up: 7 CPTED assessments, 15 community cleanups, over 200 safety partnership and neighborhood coordination meetings and community safety and outreach events! We believe the Public Safety Coordinator has spent the past year doing the critical work of organizing, assessing and doing outreach but the need has not dissipated. This on-the-ground community-centered work is critical to the growth of our community and especially helpful in youth engagement. We urge you to continue funding this position so that our community can persist in becoming more educated and more organized in order to address the long-term repercussions of institutional racism and bureaucratic neglect. Our community's goal of resiliency and thriving in place safely are within reach. We call on your ongoing support to achieve them.

Sincerely,



Paulina Lopez
Executive Director, Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition



Asociación de padres y maestros
Parent Teacher Association
of Concord International
Elementary School
South Park, Seattle

October 7, 2019

Dear Seattle City Council members,

I'm writing on behalf of the parents of Concord International Elementary School in the South Park neighborhood of Seattle to ask you to support further funding of South Park's Public Safety Coordinator.

Our community has many challenges, from low income levels to food security to public health and safety plus concerns about citizenship and legal documentation and affordable housing. Our kids have the highest childhood asthma rates in the city and rates of hospitalization related to air pollution are the highest in the Puget Sound. Our kids also lack access to neighborhood green space and outdoor play areas. Concord Elementary is one of only two playgrounds in the South Park despite the fact that South Park has the largest per-capita population of children of any Seattle neighborhood.

As a PTA, our mission is to serve our community and support families and teachers to raise children to see their highest potential. We see great alignment between our mission and the Public Safety Coordinator's position. This year, Mr. Roman made huge strides in outreach and determining how and where our safety is threatened here in South Park.

We are very much looking forward to continuing to partner with a Public Safety Coordinator. There are many ways in which our children are less safe than in other communities, due to traffic, encampments, pollution, garbage (including needles, of course) as well as gang activity and shots fired.

We strongly urge you to stand with us in empowering this community to be strong and resilient while also leaning on the appropriate civic supports. Please extend the funding for this position so that we can continue to make our community a place for our children to thrive.

Sincerely,

Robin Schwartz

Robin Schwartz,
Concord Elementary Parent, PTA Treasurer



Working to ensure a Duwamish
River Cleanup that is accepted
by and benefits the community
and protects fish, wildlife and
human health.

210 S. Hudson St. Suite 332
Seattle, WA 98134
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SEATTLE GREEN SPACES COALITION

www.seattlegreenspacescoalition.org

September 10, 2019

Seattle City Council
600 Fourth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Re: Fund Seattle Natural Capital Assessment to follow up unanimous 2015 City Council
Approval of SLI 75-1-A-2 2015

Dear Council Members:

We strongly urge you to fund an assessment of Seattle's natural capital, and incorporate that value into the city's asset portfolio. It follows your unanimous 2015 vote to study its advantages for the city. Our green infrastructure provides \$2-\$3 billion a year worth of benefits and savings, and helps keep our city livable, resilient, equitable and sustainable.

Green infrastructure is a valuable, service-delivery asset that addresses the same urban challenges as grey infrastructure, says Earth Economics, experts in natural capital value. Government leaders may find this perspective challenging, but those who understand it, and take bold actions today, will provide rich rewards for us, and for future generations.

Treating our green infrastructure as an asset aligns with the city's many environmental intentions and commitments, including:

- Carbon Reduction – from Mayor Nickels' 2005 U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, to Mayor Durkan's 2018 statements
- Increasing Seattle Tree Canopy to 30% city-wide
- New Tree Ordinance, incorporating 2008 Urban Forestry Commission proposals
- Race, Justice and Social Equity
- Livability, Resilience and Sustainability

A \$50,000 appropriation will fund the consultant, whose scope will include conducting the assessment, and showing administrators and departments how to incorporate natural capital value as an asset on the city's books. That value would be used in cost-benefit analyses, improved financial reporting, resilient policy-making and project implementation.

Seattle's green assets include urban forests, wetlands & watersheds, street and private property trees, P-Patches and parks, university campuses, golf courses, and many other properties. At just 11% of Seattle's area, its 6200 acres of parks provide nearly \$500 million a year in benefits and savings, according to the 2011 Trust For Public Lands-SPR study.

So the \$2-\$3 billion value estimate for the city's natural capital is conservative. Nearly 70% of urban trees grow on non-park lands – private properties, 190 acres of city-owned green spaces, and nearly 3500 more acres of Port of Seattle, King County, college-university, Washington State and federal green spaces within the city limits.

We believe Seattle's City Council has the vision and boldness to act now. A consulting price tag of just \$45,000, for learning how to access \$2-\$3 billion worth of assets is a bargain. This work will create a strong legacy for this City Council, and pay dividends far into the future for Seattle's residents and visitors.

We urge you to approve the appropriation for this important work.

Sincerely,

Elaine Ike, Mary Fleck, Martin Westerman,
Co-founders & Director, Seattle Green Spaces Coalition
info@seattlegreenspacescoalition.org

Co-signers:

REI	Marc Berejka, Director Government & Community Affairs
PCC Community Markets	Aimee M. Simpson, J.D., Dir. Product Sustainability
Seattle Audubon Society	John Brosnan, Exec. Director and Josh Morris, Urban Conservation Manager
Tilth Alliance	Melissa Spear, Executive Director
GROW	Michelle Blume, President; Joyce Moty, Vice President
Faith Action Network	Paul Benz, President
Friends of Street Ends	Karen Daubert, Chair
Interfaith Power & Light	LeeAnne Beres, Executive Director
WIN – Westside Interfaith Network	Mary Ann deVry, Chair,
Washington Alpine Club	Elden Altizer, President
Sustainable Seattle	Em Piro, Executive Director
City Fruit	Carrie Ferrence, Executive Director
Beacon Food Forest	Carla Penderock, Community Outreach Coordinator
Ballard P-Patch	Cindy Krueger, Site Leader
Seattle Nature Alliance	Denise Dahn, Director,
TreePac	Steve Zemke, Chair,
Plant Amnesty	Jack Bautsch, Chair
Groundswell Northwest	David Boyd, Chair
Sustainable West Seattle	Stu Hennessey, Chair
Friends of Discovery Park	Phil Vogelzang & Garrett Esperum, Board Members
Delridge Neighborhoods Development Association	David Bestock, Executive Director
	Willard Brown, Board Member