



NEWS

Vol. 37, No. 1 Fall 2013

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www.hollywoodhillassoc.org

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Comp Plan Update successes

As the most important instrument outlining how we manage growth, King County's Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan) is crucial to our ability to protect the rural character of our community.

KC's Comp Plan is updated every four years, the most recent update having occurred in 2012. The HHA was involved with several issues during this update, and we are pleased with the outcomes of the issues on which we focused.

The biggest issue for our community was an attempt to move the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) in the Sammamish Valley, adjacent to Hollywood Hill, to pave the way for the City of Woodinville to annex Rural and agricultural properties. This proposal has been brought to King County several times over the years. While the County has consistently and appropriately turned it down, the recent effort to incorporate it in the 2012 Comp Plan Update gained the most traction at local levels.

It is good news for our Greater Woodinville community as well as for Rural neighborhoods in general that this proposal failed to move forward. The HHA worked with a wide spectrum of citizens, businesses and groups from across King County to make our voices heard loud and clear in support of current policies which allow us to accommodate growth while protecting our agricultural and Rural areas from the ravages of creeping urban sprawl. See our web site for more background on this issue.

An important Comp Plan change that the HHA actively supported requires new schools to be built inside the Urban Growth Area. Previously, there had been an exception which allowed such Urban facilities to be built in Rural areas. There was also an exception that allowed sewer extensions into the Rural area to serve such facilities.

Removing this exception will improve siting of new schools so that they

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Woodinville Village, a Legacy?

Once upon a time there were a couple of guys who must have thought, "Hay, what a beautiful valley, we should build something!" MJR was born, as ideas often are, over a couple of beers. Mike Raskin and Mike McClure, with the help of Frontier Bank, purchased 24 lovely acres overlooking the Sammamish Valley in the heart of the burgeoning wine district. Plans were generated, drawings drawn, agreements with Woodinville City were negotiated...people were excited! Financial realities being what they are, mission creep set in. Zoning regs needed to be 'nudged'. To facilitate access to the new site, the City of Woodinville was talked into building two additional small roundabouts on 202 just south and west of their new large roundabout at the Hollywood Schoolhouse junction.

Ah, but that was then wasn't it...before the Great Recession, before Frontier Bank went belly up and Union Bank took over its assets, before financing for construction was scarce as blue skies in February. Legacy Commercial LLC appear to have purchased the some 24 million in assets a year ago from the bank and Woodinville Village Associates and also own the Villas along the slough at the back of the property. Legacy is owned by the cash-rich Tom Ellison family who among other properties, own and manage the hugely successful Value Village chain with more than three hundred and thirty stores world-wide.

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President's letter

Historians will point out the great leaps forward that society took with the invention of the printing press. Longtime Hill residents might recall when, less long ago, the HHA sent out 4 newsletters like this each year. Now, most of our news goes out by email which allows for more timely dissemination of information as well as being far less expensive than hardcopy.

There's nothing like the tactile appeal of paper copy that can be left on a counter top for casual perusal, but we do not send out this newsletter to indulge in nostalgia. It's all about communication and awareness. We have over 1300 households on the Hill, and most of those will get this newsletter. Meanwhile, we have only a few hundred email addresses - you can see the issue at hand.

I urge you to get onto our email list. We send out only a few messages each year, and we do not share the list.

For those of you new to the Hill - Welcome. You probably chose to live here at least in part due to the pleasant character and perhaps the great local schools of our community. When my family moved here 20 years ago, those were the things that we came for. We had little knowledge of how this place had become so special. This may be the first HHA newsletter you've seen - you may wonder what the HHA is (hint: it is not a homeowners' association). I won't take space here to go over that, but I suggest that you visit our website for more perspective.

For those of you who have been here longer, you know that 2013 has been a relatively quiet year for our issues. But issues can pop up suddenly and it is key that we address them appropriately. Once the shovels get busy, it is usually too late to influence the policy that underlies the permit - the landfill operation above the Saddle Club arena being just one example. We want to support good policy and improve or defeat poor policy before it is enacted, which means getting involved early. Having our community aware and involved is key to our success in protecting and enhancing this special place in which we are fortunate to live.



Residents are concerned about the safety of this landfill which looms over 152nd PL NE across from the Saddle Club. According to the contractor, post-project landscaping will consist of spreading grass seeds. --Photo by Lincoln Potter

YOUR ASSOCIATION

The Hollywood Hill Association is a private, state nonprofit corporation, formally chartered in 1976. We are an all volunteer, community based organization, dedicated to the preservation of our community character.

President Mike Tanksley: 483-2529
Vice President

Secretary Jan Hunt: 806-0118

Treasurer Mark Castro: 481-4835

Directors Karen Mackie: 483-0889

Marsha Martin: 883-8561

Lincoln Potter: 481-8382

Ron Baum: 806-8044

Kim Taylor: 806-6991

John Snow: 881-8846

Website www.hollywoodhillassoc.org

The HHA is managed by a 9-member Board of Directors. Elections are held by mail each autumn at the time of the HHA annual membership meeting. The existing Board selects candidates from those volunteers who have demonstrated a willingness to actively contribute to the HHA and who support its goals. Board meetings are scheduled on an as-needed basis at the homes of Board members. The Board welcomes HHA members who wish to attend these meetings as long as prior arrangement has been made. Because these are business meetings, space availability and legal issues may require closed meetings from time to time. Contact any Board member if you are interested in attending.

...Dues...

Check the top line of your address label to see if your dues are current. If you have not sent in your dues for the current year, an envelope and application form are included in your newsletter. Dues are \$25 per calendar year.

Visit your community web site for more on these and other issues affecting our community.

www.hollywoodhillassoc.org

HH Equestrian Park, Gold Creek Park, and Hollywood Hill Trails

Thanks to volunteer labor and generous donations, our Parks and Trails have had a very busy year with increased use and major improvements.

Gold Creek Park: The Friends of Hollywood Hill Park raised enough funds to gravel over a thousand feet of the main north/south trail. King County Parks' staff widened the trail, improved the switchbacks in problem areas and spread the gravel. It is going to be so great to eventually have mud-free trails throughout the system. Dogs are required to be on-leash in King County parks.

HH Trails: Working with some great new neighbors and volunteer labor we were able to build the 164th ST. Trail. This now gives trail users 5 ways to access the HH Trail System between Gold Creek Park and the Equestrian Park (Saddle Club). On the South we have an entry off 152th AV, on the East we have an entry off 160th ST and the new entry on the 164th ST Trail. On the West we have the main entrance to Gold Creek Park, and on the North we have the Equestrian Park (Saddle Club). The Equestrian Park has the only parking area for hikers and riders, the other entrances are for folks hiking or riding through. For the safety of all, please keep your dogs under control.

The Trails that we graveled last year have matured and look as if they have been in place for years, but now they are mud free in winter and dust free in summer!

For years HHSC and HH Association attempted to obtain funding for the 12 wooded acres just southwest of the Hollywood Hill Elementary School or have it incorporated into King County Parks, but we were ultimately unsuccessful in our efforts. King County has now sold the property into private hands and these heavily used equestrian trails are no longer available. We have had cordial meetings with the new owner who is considering our request for access to perimeter trails.

Equestrian Park (Saddle Club): We had great turnouts for all of our activities starting with our Egg Hunt in March right through to Flat Shows, Western Games, Dressage, Jumping, 4H shows, and finishing up with a Prize Ride in October. All of our events are open to the public and designed for entry-level performers. Don't be a stranger. If you don't have a horse, come and watch the fun, enjoy a burger and root for your favorites!

Our big project at the Equestrian Park was a new entry. We moved the fence away from the road to provide year around parking for hikers and riders. Hopefully this will also provide overflow parking for the Elementary School events. We are looking forward to the tulips and flowers in the new planters along the road next spring. Our goal for the Equestrian Park is to complement our beautiful Hill.

Please send donations to **Friends of Hollywood Hill Park, PO Box 2973, Woodinville, WA 98072**. All donations are tax deductible, and you will receive a statement in January. Or contact Tom Short, Hollywood Hill Saddle Club Co-facilities Chairman: 206-714-1163.

A load of gravel will cover 250 feet of trail and costs about \$400. We have a great start, but have a lot of trails left to do. Consider donating what you can and become a part of this wonderful legacy that is Hollywood Hill.



--Photo by Lincoln Potter

New Gas Pipeline along Tolt Trail

Installation of a new natural gas pipeline along the Tolt (water) Pipeline may begin as soon as Spring 2014.

Several years ago, Hill residents discovered that the City of Seattle, which owns the Tolt Pipeline property, had sold a 5.5 mile long 20 foot wide easement along the south side of the Pipeline trail to PSE for the purpose of installing a new natural gas pipeline. Residents explored options for resisting this installation, but it was determined that the parties had the legal right to use the property for such purposes and that it was a done deal.

Here is what we know of the project going forward. The installation will include a 16 inch pipe which will bring gas from a station on a regional supply line located to our east near Ring Hill. It will tie in with an 8 inch pipe that already winds around Hollywood Hill continuing west to tie in with an existing 12 inch pipe that runs down the Valley. The pressure will match the relatively low pressure of our existing 8 inch line, at least for the foreseeable future.

In spite of allusions to the trail being a King County Park facility, it is owned by Seattle and is officially considered a "utility corridor". A high electric transmission line installation was explored about 15 years ago and was abandoned due in part to community resistance. This will be an issue to keep an eye on going forward.

Hollywood Hill Elementary Local Leader in STEM

Congratulations to our neighborhood school for becoming a leader in STEM education!

Launched in 2011, Washington STEM is helping to empower our schools to emphasize Science Technology Engineering & Mathematics coursework. Opportunities in these fields continue to grow rapidly, yet the USA's ranking in these education categories has dropped over the years. Studies indicate that children decide early what subject areas interest them. Traditionally there has been little emphasis in STEM at the elementary level, and many are now looking to change this. Our Hollywood Hill Elementary is one of a handful of schools in the state and the first in the Northshore School District to take advantage of the new resources coming available to focus on STEM subjects.

Inspired by support from Hollywood Hill parents for a better approach to these areas, Principal Scott Beebe and many devoted educators at the school set to work attending training and creating a plan of action. The result, with ambitious plans to expand it to other grades, is a pilot program that was launched this year for all fourth graders. Staff recently hosted a STEM night for parents where the hands-on approach they are using in their classrooms was showcased. The school community is enthusiastic about the results and potential so far.

A lot of work is still being done to build the program, and community support for our ambitious educators is paramount. Seed funding for materials and training has been possible through PTA-raised funds, but additional funding is critical going forward. The PTA is hosting an auction on March 1st to help. Business partnerships and sponsorships are also being sought.

For additional information, visit: <http://hollywoodhillstem.org/>. Questions can be directed to Mr. Beebe at sbeebe@nsd.org. Take a moment to thank an educator today and rally behind our neighborhood school to make sure it gets recognized for leadership in this important trend.

PSE Power Line Replacement

You may have wondered what Puget Sound Energy (PSE) has been doing along the power line that crosses Hollywood Hill from the old schoolhouse over to Avondale. PSE is replacing a 50-year-old powerline with a new 115 Kilovolt power line system comprising new, taller power poles, higher-capacity power cables, and a fiber optic monitoring system. This new system will not only provide more power for the 56,000 customers that are served by this powerline, but also should prove to be more reliable than the old system. In addition to replacing the worn-out poles and wires, PSE did major trimming of trees in the right-of-way further improving the reliability of electrical service for years to come.

New 10 Acre Woods signage

It will soon be easier to find your way around Hollywood Hill's 10 Acre Woods thanks to new signage that we expect to be installed this Fall. Eagle Scout candidate Conner Lough is building and installing the signs with help from select troop mates from Troop 422. Once the kiosks are installed, the HHA will attach maps. The 10 Acre Woods is part of a 20 acre greenbelt that lies between Hollywood Hill and English Hill. This lovely woods has trails that connect to Sunrise Elementary School and English Hill trails for non-motorized uses. See our website for a map of trails around our community.

Finance

The primary means by which the HHA solicits funds is through our membership dues, generally a direct response to our newsletters. What this means is that this past year has seen very little financial inflow. Meanwhile, outflows have continued to cover insurance, state corporation fees and some modest funding for new signs in the 10 Acre Woods. The cost of this newsletter will constitute the largest single outlay of the year, one reason we publish paper newsletters less often than in the past.

There are two ways to pay dues: using the dues envelope included in the newsletter or on-line. To contribute on-line, visit our website and follow the "Contribute" link.

Comp Plan update successes

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will be located closer to the homes of the majority of students, which is inside the cities. It will reduce traffic pressures on urban and rural roads alike while supporting a better sense of local community.

Parallel to this was the work of the School Siting Task Force, headed by our former County Councilmember Louise Miller. In light of the proposed siting change discussed above, 27 citizens made up the task force to study what to do about properties that school districts had already purchased in Rural areas but not yet developed. With a diverse slate of representatives from school districts, cities, Rural Community Councils and others, expectations were low that agreement could be reached. However, after several months of study and discussion, a consensus was reached that supported keeping future school development inside Urban areas. The HHA provided comment in support of this result.

Woodinville Village, A Legacy?

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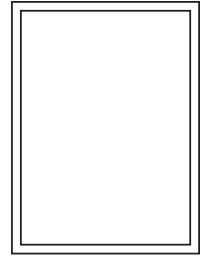
Jeff Calvert of Legacy tells HHA that they are, with the "luxury of time, re-envisioning" the entire concept. They will own and operate rather than sell, perhaps with a small 100-room hotel, a couple of restaurants, 20 to 25 retail shops and of course, tasting rooms. They are seeing a "hub" where people can park and walk to the other properties in the Wine District.

Enjoying their "luxury of time", Legacy has set no date for breaking ground. They say they are seeking "a level of partnership" with their neighbors in the district and, of course, with the City of Woodinville. The Woodinville Village website has only just been taken down and hosts a redirect to Legacy Companies.

According to Woodinville City Manager Richard Leahy, the MJR development agreement is still in effect until 2016, and the city would be more than happy for the project to proceed. "All they have to do is apply for a permit." Leahy was not comfortable discussing on-going litigation regarding the appeal of their failed lawsuit to recover the 1.4 million in 'frontage improvements' (roundabouts) from the new owners or the implications of that suit.

It's clear that parking will be a major impediment to District growth, but as for now, Scotch Broom and cyclone fencing appear victorious having taken possession of the site.

Hollywood Hill Association
P.O. Box 404
Woodinville, WA 98072



CHECK YOUR LABEL -- ARE YOUR DUES CURRENT?



Fall Colors in Black and White. --Photo by Lincoln Potter

Get Hollywood Hill E-Mail News and Alerts

The HHA maintains an email list for disseminating news and alerts in a timely and cost effective manner. We use the list sparingly and do not share lists. If you would like to be on the list, contact our webmaster John Snow at: johnsnow@hollywoodhillassoc.org