



May 16, 2016

Councilmember Deborah Juarez, District 5
City of Seattle
600 Fourth Avenue, 2nd Floor
Seattle, Washington 98104

SUBJECT: Aurora Licton Residential Urban Village Meeting

Councilmember Juarez:

On behalf of the Aurora Licton Urban Village (“ALUV”) Alliance, I want to thank both you and Mercedes Elizalde for attending the May 12, 2016 ALUV meeting. We appreciate the time you each took from your busy schedules to inform our organization of issues taking place in District 5. We also trust that your daughter’s art program went well that evening.

As you know, ALUV’s mission is to build a pedestrian-safe, visually vibrant, economically sound, livable and welcoming urban village using sustainable-growth principles. The Aurora Licton Residential Urban Village continues to experience rapid residential growth having already achieved, through March 31, 2016, 137% of its 2005-2024 residential growth target (finalized and issued permits).

Our efforts seek to balance this residential growth with capital improvements, enhanced land use planning and other strategies to promote an aesthetically pleasing, walkable neighborhood with ample neighborhood serving goods and services. All of this all was envisioned in the adopted City of Seattle 1999 Aurora Licton Springs Neighborhood Plan.

One of our current efforts seeks City Neighborhood Street Fund (NSF) grant funding to improve pedestrian crossings on Aurora Avenue in anticipation of the opening of the Cascadia Elementary School, the Robert Eagle Staff Middle School and the Licton Springs K-8 program. If approved, this grant project will implement the Aurora Licton Springs Neighborhood Plan’s vision for increased pedestrian safety (in this case for students), add identity the Aurora Avenue Corridor and enhance east-west pedestrian connectivity within the Urban Village.

We also are very interested in seeing a neighborhood planning update or urban design framework effort in the Aurora-Licton Urban Village. The Aurora Licton Urban Village, especially the west side Aurora, has historically been underrepresented in neighborhood planning and community council activities. ALUV addresses this by seeking to be a voice for the entire Urban Village. Besides the needed planning

and place-making benefits a neighborhood plan update or urban design framework would offer, it would also for the first time since the 1999 neighborhood plan bring urban village residents, businesses, property owners and others together to organize, address and prioritize solutions to issues we face in common.

Finally, one of the items we had hope to discuss at the May 12, 2016 meeting, but did not have time for, was what ALUV could do to help you be successful in your position. Much of our success depends on your success as a councilmember. Consequently, ALUV has a strong interest in making certain that your term in office is successful. Please feel free to let us know how we might be able to assist you in the future.

Thank you again for attending our meeting. We look forward to working with you and your staff in the future, including seeing you and others at the Mayor's May 31, 2016 "Find it/Fix it" walk.

Sincerely,



Leah Anderson
Aurora Licton Urban Village Alliance

cc: Mercedes Elizalde, Legislative Assistant, City of Seattle