



Dec. 3, 2008 – NEC Municipal Jail Public Forum Comments Submitted via Comment Cards

“Concerning the 5th and Jefferson site, I believe that this is a better choice than the other areas due to its proximity to existing services (e.g. courts, public transportation, medical services, diversion services). This will reduce the impact of prisoner transportation from other locations.”

Anonymous

“The downtown site offers an exciting opportunity for the NEC to show leadership in density of land use/also to build a green level facility. It also puts facility closest to highest incidents of arrests.”

Kay Keitgatrud
Seattle Highland Park
Pioneer Square

“Downtown is the only site in Seattle where there could be a resulting economic multiplier from a jail as there are adjacent courts and retail.”

Rory Denovan
Seattle

“Proximity to court rooms, social services important! Away from neighborhoods. Downtown jail site is the best. Can state law be changed? Projections to increase jail beds based on population growth?”

R. Vincena
Seattle

“I love downtown Seattle and I feel that the 5th and Jefferson site is best for the city. The city has grown up with jails downtown. It’s neighborhoods are not prepared to handle a jail. Downtown has the services to help those being released from jail. I have been walking in downtown Seattle since the age of five, I started riding the bus downtown with my older brothers. I still enjoy going downtown, both by car and by bus, for shopping, dining and entertainment, but often just to walk around. I will feel more comfortable with those misdemeanants being released downtown than in one of the neighborhoods.”

Blair Johnson
Seattle (Highland Park)

“westqueenanne.org...8% current diversion...Judge Hillyar...Aldercrest Annex shoreline...use more diversion...break cycle of jail/homeless...if jail – put jail in Bellevue...sex offender housing...transport hub...if jail in Seattle – DOWNTOWN... adjacent to courts and social services...Harborview...courts and commercial can provide economic multiplier...next to police...transportation hub.”

Anonymous

“Bellevue – next to hospital, next to police, not near residential, transportation hub, Seattle took the level III sex offender housing, as eastside gets more dense they will need a jail anyhow. Downtown – adjacent to courts, adjacent to social services, near Harborview Hospital, next to police station, transportation hub, not near single family neighborhoods, it is compatible – only site in Seattle where a jail is allowable use in Seattle land use code”

Anonymous

“SLOW DOWN. A jail is not necessary. Negotiate realistically with the county – conduct a study on how alternatives, pre-booking diversion and sentencing charges will lower numbers in Seattle and at the county level. This jail will lock us into an ongoing, failed strategy of reducing door incarceration. This is too much money and too many lives wrecked.”

Danina Garcia
Seattle

“PLEASE address other costs of low-rise vs. high-rise building – the ‘study’ only references monetary costs – what about: cost to neighborhoods: morale, property value, increased traffic...cost of removing police officers from the streets to stage and transport inmates to sites miles away from downtown...cost of using industrially zoned land for non-industrial uses...cost of future potential job lost...cost of landscape mitigation and maintenance on a 7+ acre site – compared to a 1 acre built/urban site and maintenance costs over time...environmental costs – the cost of a sprawling jail, the building footprint of a low-rise building is 78% larger than a high-rise building, storm water, salmon, urban soil health, light pollution, habitat degradation, increased heat island effect...etc,etc.”

Carolyn
Highland Park

“Kent Regional Justice Center is not a good model.”

Anonymous

“Promote: build this downtown, density, cost of living, efficiency, cost savings, diversion – alternatives to costly incarceration. Prevent: traffic, risk to public safety, lower property values.”

Anonymous

“Interbay site (Roy) westqueenanne.org. Decreased property values/Interbay already has large homeless population in greenbelt...Decreased safety related to inmates being released, their families and friends...Increased traffic, we just had a mini-mall built next door...Tsunami (15 feet deep there) zone and on fault line, built on fill (the old dump)...Light pollution/visual impact...Close to residents hundreds of homes and apartments/play fields...Far from freeways...High-rise vs. sprawl...bail bonds businesses.”

Rob McSweeney
Seattle Interbay

“Build a green jail...Jail downtown nearest to east precinct...Downtown leverages other existing services...Outlying sites means increased transportation costs...Increased permitting/EIS/rezoning costs...Respect current zoning...We need to increase diversion/homelessness”

Rob McSweeney

“Concerns: high-rise/low-rise study (safety, then costs)...Stop trying to sell something...Do the right thing!”

Anonymous

“Downtown...H.P. ... Interbay...Shoreline...Bellevue...”

Anonymous

“You should start the ball rolling and mention that we are residents of Highland Park. Hopefully other tables will follow. westqueenanne.org. The judge is sleeping!”

Anonymous

“Why are you now saying that elevators are okay when before you were adamant about a 7 acre site? Photo – site for South Seattle doesn’t show I & P neighborhood, photo is cut off on the left. Where is it? Where is the neighborhood? Kent have housing near it? There’s already a [illegible] in H.P.”

Anonymous