



Dec. 10, 2008 – NEC Municipal Jail Public Forum Comments Submitted via Comment Cards

“Increased local crime rate by associates of inmates...Reduced property value...Increased crime by released inmates...Unincorporated area near the jail would not get increased police coverage, since Kirkland won't provide this.”

Louis Knight
Kirkland (Unincorporated area – Forest Grove)

“2 ½ times the projected population is Seattle's vs. all the other cities. Seattle should be the first choice. Schools are less than 1 mile away. Most students (15 years old or younger) walk to school.”

Lisa Fugate
Kirkland (UKC)

“In my opinion, main criteria when picking a jail site should be distance from residential areas. Proposed Unincorporated King County site is too close to residential area. It is 300 yards from a community playground where children play. It is within half a mile from an elementary school and middle school. It is within a mile of a high school. This would be a bad example for our children and expose them to bad influence. Site is too close to where people live.”

Anonymous

“I am very concerned about the neighborhood safety, the children walking to school, the playground at 132nd. I'm concerned about the safety of my home, which is ¼ mile from my home. I am a single woman living alone. I don't want a jail so close.

Frankie Bottinelli
Kirkland (UKC)

“After all is said and done, it simply does not make any sense to build a jail near housing and schools. Please consider to annex the downtown Seattle jail for additional use. I will never support a jail in our area.”

Jenny Keese
UKC

“KC does not have adequate police coverage as it is – and less is anticipated with future budget cuts. We have been told not to expect any police presence for issues such as property damage, which is less than OK. The jail will result in increased “misdemeanor” crimes – the exact type our community has no police coverage for.”

Aaron Herold
UKC

“This should not be built anywhere near a residential area. The site in Kirkland is too close to schools, parks and homes. We are unincorporated and lack enough police support. Our property values will decline and our community will suffer with inmates (released) strolling through our community when released. Do the right thing! Don’t build it here!”

Joyce Romano
Kirkland

“Will the jail expand and get bigger? 640 too many!...Proximity to school where children walking...Lack of police service in KC...For 30 years been trying to get annexed by Kirkland, but they are not interested but want to put a jail in our area will affect property prices...No bus service for released felons from jail...The city needs the jail, put it in THEIR CITY...Most escapes happen when inmate transported to the hospital or doctor...Property values going down...Traffic already very congested...How do we control expansion...Studies of before and after the effects of a jail...What about the proximity of the Olympic gas line...Not a great amount of good street light...Where will waste management site be relocated?”

Janette White
Kirkland (UKC)

“No jail here. Safety for the children – the site is too close to the schools, parks, houses.”

James Chen
Kirkland

“Unincorporated KC has very little police coverage. I was told that response time is 4-5 hours and only if property damage is over \$10,000. Location is too close to residential, schools and softball fields. Kirkland is again treating UKC poorly to protect themselves. They did not want to annex us so why force a jail into our area. Work on your PowerPoint slides.”

Norman Skinner
Kirkland

“If you truly want the economies of scale – one jail vs. two jails, then use the annex site. City jail in the city, not UKC.”

Nick Heaton
Kirkland

“Why would you site this facility in a heavily residential area? You should locate it in the Seattle south site where it wouldn’t be near schools, parks and families. 55% of misdemeanor inmates have felony records. Why locate and release these criminals near these schools, parks and families? We want to live safely and peacefully. I’m sure the property values studies won’t reflect today’s turbulent economic realities.”

Karen Cummings
UKC

“No jail.”

Anonymous

“Access to the site is one narrow 2 lane road, no sidewalks, no lights. Site is not in a city. What related businesses would it attract? Bail bond? Limited bus access.”

Anonymous

“No jail.”

Anonymous

“Do not build a jail within a few hundred feet of my house! (12909 133rd PI NE) This will absolutely affect the ability to resell my home at a good price in the future. Why wasn't the news release on July 9, 2008 mailed to all of us residents in the area??? Everyone at my table did not know of this proposal until a few days ago.”

Lara Sosnosky
Kirkland

“Cities should be required to put a jail inside their city limits. Property values will go down. Anyone that says otherwise is lying. There is nobody that would choose to live near a jail if given a choice. On the boarder of Kirkland and UKC. Kirkland police need to get involved in the unincorporated area.”

Mark Hopwood
Kirkland

“No jail in Unincorporated King County.”

Anonymous

“You should really make sure the area chosen has a local municipal support system and local government representation for area businesses and residents to feel supported and safe! Wherever you choose.”

Mary Farley
Kirkland (UKC)

“Having just moved into the Kingsgate neighborhood and with my pregnant wife and young child walking our safe family-centric community with schools, parks and places for young families to bring up their precious children I strongly oppose the idea that a jail might be placed right in the middle of our family friendly neighborhood. Please do not build it here!”

Mark Woodhead
Kirkland (Kingsgate)

"I extremely oppose and disapprove of the proposed NEC Municipal Jail site for UKC. I live with my husband, 2 ½ year old son and I am 9 months pregnant – in Kingsgate. We just recently moved here and chose Kingsgate for its community appeal. Having a jail nearby was certainly not in that plan for a place to raise our new family. Furthermore, I take my son frequently to the 132nd Square Park and he would one day be attending Kamaikin Junior High, both right down the road from the proposed jail. I am astonished that King County would even consider building a jail amongst long-time established neighborhoods such as Kingsgate and Education Hill where young children, schools, parks, etc. abound. I, as a mother, feel my safety and my feeling of security would be robbed and put into jeopardy by the location of a jail in my neighborhood. Please, I strongly urge you to reconsider and eliminate Kingsgate as a proposed site for the NEC Municipal Jail!"

Sarah Kenworthy
Kirkland (Kingsgate)

"Bad idea on so many levels. People arrested on misdemeanors also have multiple felony convictions and will be released into our area. 640 every 9 days – these felonies include drug charges, kidnapping and violence with a weapon. That adds up to 20,000 "misdemeanors" released every year. What happens in Seattle needs to stay in Seattle."

Katherine McLean
UKC

"Unincorporated site is not the best site for the following reasons...With 1 mile of schools and residential...Traffic congestion around 124th and 132nd...No city will want to annex this part of the community that contains a jail, casino and low-income housing...Released jail residents will have to walk through neighborhoods to the transfer station."

Tina Watson
Bothell (UKC)

"Unincorporated KC site is not a good choice due to surrounding neighborhoods, schools within a mile distance. Surrounding streets could not handle additional traffic congestion and upkeep. Being unincorporated area not enough sheriff presence now and jail would cause that to be stretched even thinner. Area is trying to annex and with low-income and casino nearby a jail would make our area undesirable to surrounding cities. Not easy access with public transportation in this area."

Debbie Gates
Kirkland (UKC)

"The idea to put a jail here is a crazy one. This is not a "site" this is a neighborhood. Jails should not be in one. This is near to schools and one popular park (132nd Square) and many small businesses. Do not put a jail here. The neighbors of Kingsgate, although not a city, will not tolerate being treated as stepchildren of real cities like Kirkland. It will also harm our opportunity to be annexed."

Lile Ellefsen
UKC – Forest Grove

"I am deeply concerned about the safety of Sammamish Valley Trail users – joggers, walkers and bicyclists. Jail – some are small children and women who use the trail early morning and evening. Also soccer fields and little league ball fields in close proximity. Concerns about the negative effect on the ever growing tourism industry in the "Sammamish Valley" Just one negative incident (a mugging or a rape) would cause tourists to avoid the businesses, hotels and restaurants."

Barbara Kelson
Woodinville

"Jail should be sited in an expansive area of commercial/industrial land uses – in all directions – preferably in an area near existing jails. A 640-bed jail will definitely reduce the property values of the many residences with ¼ mile of the facility. The new jail would be within about 500-ft of some residences, within 1,000-ft of a heavily used neighborhood park (132nd Square), and within a mile of two schools."

Randy Fairbanks
Kirkland

"I want to see proof to support the comments that crime did not rise and property values did not drop in the area surrounding the Kent RJC."

Emily Nagel
Kirkland (UKC)

"Did you really expect anyone to stand up in this meeting and say, 'Please build a new jail at this location.'? From what I heard, loud and clear, we don't want the jail built here."

Anonymous

"No jail!"

Tracy Menzies
Kirkland (UKC)

"Why put the fox in the hen house? Our neighborhood is perfect for tempting those who are having self-control issues."

Anonymous

"I originally purchased my first home at 12137 NE 141st Street in Kirkland in the Kingsgate neighborhood as it was a safe and friendly neighborhood. A jail will bring a negative impact to the surrounding area and will destroy the environment necessary to raise a family and provide safety to those who reside in the area."

Michael Yamamoto
Kirkland

"Several concerns...Lack of public notice about this issue and the meetings – need more outreach...Siting of jail near schools and homes – just blocks away...Increased traffic...Potential for increased crime and escapes...Why do we in Unincorporated King County get the worse services of sheriff and maybe have to site a jail for a city that we're not a part of??"

Barbara Ramey
Kirkland (UKC)

“No jail in Unincorporated King County.”

Joan Vicovan
Woodinville

“This site should have a more specific name, not just Unincorporated KC. A lot of people don’t know if it Kirkland area or other location in King County. It should have a name like ‘Kingsgate’ or ‘Totem Lake’ area. I do not agree to have a jail in this area.”

Claudia Dan Maries
Kirkland

“I am strongly opposed to the Kingsgate option. Too close to schools, not enough public notice (not worth annexing, but a good dumping ground, not fair) and no police force (sheriff is never in this area).”

Steve Sears
Kirkland (UKC)

“No jail in Unincorporated KC site. Please specify where exactly Unincorporated KC is. KC is big and this site is in Kirkland – Kingsgate area, some of us don’t know!”

Alina Maries
Kirkland

“Unincorporated KC site. Please be more specific. Some of us don’t know what this means and where exactly it is. Please consider changing the name.”

Danil Maries
Kirkland

“The tentative site in Kirkland (UKC) is conveniently placed right near my junior high. Have you considered the problems that may occur from placing criminals near a school? I do not think that the placement is wise and would ask that it be reconsidered.”

Alexander Kegel
Redmond

“I’m glad these forums are being held to get input. I am totally opposed to Kingsgate/Kirkland being a site for a jail. Why? – the largest population is in Seattle so the jail should be there. People are released from lock-up at 5:30 without a ride; they will roam the residential neighborhoods (pedophiles, drug addicts, robbers). The neighborhood has two schools and hundreds of [illegible].”

Pam Brooks
Kirkland

“I try to come up with positive points to having a jail in our community – but I cannot come up with any. I worked at Fairfax Hospital for two years and I know of four or five instances where “locked patients” had escaped from our facility only to be “surprising” families living in the neighborhood. This thought causes me to thoroughly reject this proposal.”

Rosemarie Dunlop
Kirkland

“Please don’t put the new jail in our neighborhood!”

John Dunlop
Kirkland

"We're told the decision process will take a year or more. After hearing compelling arguments against considering the Unincorporated site – I'm curious if it could be taken out of consideration much sooner? It is clearly the LEAST suitable site being considered. Please keep me informed."

Doug Sippy
Kirkland

"Send updates."

Angie Gomez
Kirkland

"Send updates."

Liz Parks
UKC

"If Seattle needs a 440-bed jail, put in Seattle. Elementary school up the hill from proposed site."

Jeff Parks
Kirkland (UKC)

"NO!"

Anonymous

"Dear Sir/Madam: The location is chosen poorly – has no bus line for the visitors or inexpensive hotels/housing for them in the vicinity. There is no restaurants or inexpensive food available around. The jail will be too close to schools, housing with lots of kids and families who have worked long hours and many years to live in peace and quiet. 640-bed jail will bring 2,000 – 3,000 regular visitors regardless of the type of criminal they will contribute (the visitors) to more traffic and probable criminal activities that is typical for a facility like the jail. The USA and King County has plenty of alternative space, please use them!"

Pawel Przystupa
Kirkland

"Question – When was the scoring studies conducted? What time of day? Season? The study seems to not be an accurate representation of the area (UKC)."

Theresa Peloso
UKC