



## Dec. 3, 2008 – NEC Municipal Jail Public Forum Comments Recorded on Flip Charts

*Note: Flip charts were used at each table; comments are grouped by the table on which they appeared.*

### Table #1

- Building and protecting neighborhood
- Accessible for families (strengthen families)
- Transportation
  - Close to freeway
  - Viaduct, S. Spokane, Mercer
- Property values down
- Need for services
- Safety for residents and neighbors
- Meet to find more alternatives
- Not a zero sum game

### Table #2

- Top 5 things to consider in siting...
  - Proximity to needed services (courthouses, social services, etc.)
  - Central location downtown, not near single family neighborhoods
  - Transportation impact to neighborhood, police, visitors, etc.
  - Social justice – consider what negative facilities each location already maintains (neighborhood morale)
  - Location that can ‘dilute’ or allow jail to blend in
- Cost Prohibitive?
  - Our concern is if this site will be yanked at the last minute

### Table #4

- What are the projections for increased jail beds based on?
- Putting a jail in any other location besides downtown away from services doesn't make sense, it also takes police off patrol and increases transportation costs
- If Seattle books the majority of people compared to NEC...it should go in downtown Seattle
- What is the mechanism for acquiring county property for use for cities
- Will some sites take less time than others?

### Table #5

- Property values, safety
  - Inmate release process?
- Traffic
- Distance from FWYs
- Light pollution
- Flooding – earthquake faults
- COST – budget, who pays?
- Impact on surrounding neighborhoods
- Undesirable businesses
  - Bail bonds
  - Lawyers
- Sprawl vs. High-rise

### Table #6

- 5 Factors
  - Economic impact on neighborhoods / businesses
  - Emotional impact on neighborhoods / fear
  - Environmental impact / density issues
  - Traffic concerns
  - Infrastructure and proximity to existing services
  - BIGGEST CONCERN: None. This (downtown) is an excellent site
- 3 Things NEC can do:
  - Conform to existing land use codes and keep jail downtown
  - Follow recommendation of “2007 Seattle Jail Capacity Need Study” and build jail near courts
  - Reevaluate the high and mid-rise solution

### Table #7

- Factors to consider:
  - Can't compare 7 acres in Kent to city
  - Proximity to neighborhoods
    - Site map of south Seattle did not show Highland Park neighborhood just to the left of the site
    - Prisoners let out
    - Property values
    - Fragile neighborhood
    - H.P. school
    - We already have a police station
  - Proximity to services – this is why it needs to be downtown
    - Transportation for inmates and their families
      - Money, time
      - 1<sup>st</sup> Ave
      - Viaduct
      - Bus?
    - Social services
    - Bail bondsmen
- Why don't you figure out environmental impacts before choosing a site?

**Table #10**

- Consider true sustainability
  - i.e. transportation, carbon footprint, use of public safety, \$ and time
- Transportation / traffic – accessibility
- Co-locate with existing services
- Access to emergency services medical, especially in earthquakes
- Ease of moving offenders court officers, attorneys, etc.
- Cost – building up

**Table #11**

- Downtown currently zoned
  - Respect zoning restrictions
- Structural boundaries – All “miles” are not created equal
- Environment
- Close to services