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NORTH/EAST CITIES REGIONAL MUNICIPAL JAIL PLANNING  
EIS SCOPING MEETING

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January 13, 2009

6:30 p.m.

South Seattle Community College  
Brocky Center  
6000 16th Avenue Southwest  
Seattle, Washington

KATHERINE CULLMAN, CCR 3001

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Reporter:

KATHERINE CULLMAN  
VAN PELT, CORBETT & BELLOWS  
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Seattle, WA 98104

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AARON RIENSCHÉ

Hello, my name is Aaron Riensche. I live on 7300 7th Avenue Southwest of Seattle. That's about five blocks from the Highland Park site.

I just wanted to really quickly mention that I've walked up the hill in that -- I get off the bus across the street from the Highland Park location and walk up the hill, so every time we pass the greenbelt that's there, and I see quite a bit of wildlife there, and I don't find that the wildlife is constrained necessarily to the greenbelt that's on the opposite corner from the site. I've seen, nearly stepped on a snail with a perfect round shell, making its way across the sidewalk. Where it was going, I have no idea.

I saw a heron one day just sitting -- standing at the bus stop just outside the woods.

We regularly hear a woodpecker pounding on the trees around there. We know it's a woodpecker and not a machine gun because it dropped by our house one time and pounded on the -- on the power pole on the street corner for a while.

So my point would just be that if you look at the topical map of the location, you can kind of see the corner of the greenbelt; you can also see that there's a modest wooded area in the proposed location, and my thought being seeing the wildlife that I do making its way across the street and around an

1 area is to look at the possibility that the wooded areas, that  
2 the smaller wooded areas that surround the greenbelt, may serve  
3 as some sort of a modest expansion of the habitat of those  
4 creatures and perhaps contribute somehow to migratory patterns.  
5 I don't know, I'm not a biologist, but it's just an observation.  
6 Thank you.

7 MR. BLUMEN: Thank you.

8 We have Melissa Saxe followed by Dorsol -- looks  
9 like D-O-R-S-O-L.

10 MR. PLANTS: Dorsol.

11 MR. BLUMEN: Okay. Sorry.

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MELISSA SAXE

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Hi, my name is Melissa Saxe, and I live on 7926 12th Avenue, Seattle 98106.

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My comment for tonight is I wanted to convey that the EIS notification process is not acceptable, that setting notification to only within 500 feet of the site location and not informing our neighbors and the small businesses in the community. Most of us live within a mile of the site location. So I wanted to stress that we did not get enough notification about this process, and some of our neighbors don't have access in -- have a computer for e-mail.

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What I understand from the gentleman here, the planner, that the locations were also -- our news organization was informed of this process starting the 18th, but because of all the weather, I really don't think that was a sufficient job in notifying the community.

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I wanted to comment that the jail proposal will have an adverse environmental impact to environmental justice. At our neighborhood we have a mix of low-income, middle-income folks, elderly, and we have a very diverse ethnic community. And I think we would have had a lot more participants at this EIS scoping meeting if there was a better job of notifying the community.

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And also I feel that we'll also have an adverse impact

1 to transportation, especially with the news of today about the  
2 tunnel project, that the state and King County and the city is  
3 supporting. That's going to be a nine-year project. I believe  
4 that if the city and county can participate in a 4 billion dollar  
5 tunnel project, that they can set aside a few million dollars for  
6 our proposal location to be at the King County downtown site  
7 location.

8 Highland Park community is a great community, and we  
9 want to keep it that way. Thank you.

10 MR. BLUMEN: Thank you.

11 Dorsol Plants followed by Rory Donovan -- Denovan.

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## DORSOL PLANTS

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Good evening, my name is Dorsol Plants. I'm the chair of, the outgoing chair, of the Highland Park Action Committee, and I am a resident of Highland Park, 9032 18th Avenue Southwest.

Two of the things I want to discuss about, one of them really struck me on my way here. I ride the bus here, and while waiting for the bus I was waiting in front of the Salvation Army gym. And a family of four, you know, husband, a wife, and a son and a daughter were walking after dark from their home to the gym. You cannot, underestimate not, understate the importance of the cultural impact that the jail will have on wherever you decide to place the jail.

I did some research and the Journal of Urban Health, in the June 2001 issue had this to say. "Correctional systems have direct and indirect effects on health. Indirectly, they influence family structure, economic opportunities, political participation, and -- community values on sex, drugs, and violence. Current correctional policies also divert resources from other social needs. The profound effect that this jail will have on the community is amazing. It will affect the economy; it will affect the families; it will affect the very soul of the community, especially placing it at the gateway to the community such as you have in the south end.

The other thing that cannot be understated, I work as

1 a social worker. We do not in the south end have the means to  
2 provide for individuals transitioning from out of jail back in  
3 society. Another quote from the Department of Health and Human  
4 Services in a study they did called "From Prison to Home,"  
5 stated, "A slightly different aspect in the process involves the  
6 creation and dependency upon the institute to control behavior.  
7 The process of institutionalization in a correctional setting may  
8 surround inmates so thoroughly with external limits, that  
9 internal controls atrophy or in the case of especially young  
10 inmates -- all together.

11 If we put these young men and these women in a jail  
12 facility that does not have the services to provide them a safe  
13 and healthy transition out of there, we are dooming them to a  
14 life of failure.

15 It is important when discussing the environmental  
16 impacts to discuss both the psychological health factors on the  
17 community and the people that live there and the psychological  
18 health factors of people that will be released from that jail  
19 site. Thank you.

20 MR. BLUMEN: Thank you.

21 Rory Denovan and -- I'm really sorry about this, but  
22 it looks like Becca --

23 MS. FONG: Fong.

24 MR. BLUMEN: Okay. Sorry.

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RORY DENOVAN

My name is Rory Denovan. I live at 7779 10th Avenue Southwest.

You've got a good start with -- but I think you also need to include in your assessment and do an adverse environmental impact at this site, on the jail proposal at this site. You also need to include climate; under air category, you need to include heat island effects; you need to include air quality from increased use of combustion engines at that site due to the distance from courts and the police facilities. You also need to include, under plants and animals category, an assessment of the wildlife migration routes. As mentioned earlier, this is a nexus between the wetlands at First Avenue South Bridge and the large parcel of intact habitat at the West Duwamish Greenbelt.

Fish in the estuary habitat at First Avenue South Bridge is important, and you should also be addressing effects there as runoff, light, pollution, and other impacts, including as well as heat is -- potential heat island effect will also probably -- heat island effect will also impact salmonids, juvenile salmonids, in that habitat.

You also need to, under Energy and Natural Resources, you need to include impacts to the senior group that is the First Avenue South Bridge.

You need to also consider the amount of energy and

1 fuel consumption due -- that will be increased for police and  
2 court fleets.

3 You also, under Environmental Health, need to include  
4 assessment of the releases of homeless inmates into the West  
5 Duwamish Greenbelt, as those people there is no facilities there,  
6 and currently there is already a large amount of feces from that  
7 population.

8 You also need to look at recreation impacts of the  
9 West Duwamish Greenbelt. It's a regional park, and this will  
10 impact use of that facility.

11 You need to also include an impact on utilities and  
12 services and -- for such a large facility there. Thank you.

13 MR. BLUMEN: Thank you.

14 Becca and then Nicole Mazza.

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BECCA FONG

Hi, my name is Becca Fong. I live at 7779 10th Avenue Southwest in Highland Park. And what I want to say is that this jail proposal at the Highland Park Way site is going to have significant environmental impacts to the surface and groundwater on the site and in the adjacent riparian and bird-bearing systems.

As we all know, I mean, this site is right at the bottom of a large hill, which a lot of us live at, and that greenbelt filters a lot of that water as is the Highland Park Way site as it moves on into the Duwamish corridor, and there's adjacent wetlands that are right next to the site.

And as we all know, the Duwamish Riverway is a Superfund site, and there have been an incredible amount of efforts to work on cleaning that entire rivering system.

And I think that the development at that site, we need to really look at the impacts of using that site. I want to see an assessment of the soil compaction; what's going to happen from all the construction in and around the site; the increase of impermeable surface; the disturbance of the contaminated soil. Some of the soils on site were dredged from the river, and that site has been used for a lot of different purposes, some of which have been hazardous waste generators. And so I think that we need to do a complete assessment of the wetlands, delineate the

1 wetlands not just on this site but also the associated areas, as  
2 well as the buffer zones that go along with those sites.

3 I think that with the really shallow groundwater  
4 table, I believe it's between four feet and eleven feet, which is  
5 pretty shallow, and for that site we're going to be affecting a  
6 lot of that soil, which is acting to filter a lot of the runoff  
7 that's coming from the existing neighborhoods.

8 MR. BLUMEN: Thank you.

9 Nicole Mazza followed by Laura Drake.

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NICOLE MAZZA

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My name is Nicole Mazza, and I live at 1227 Southwest  
Othello Street.

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I think the jail proposal, the proposed jail site,  
will lead to significant adverse environmental impacts to the  
transportation issues in our area. The first one would be the  
impact on public transportation. As our area's only stop, the  
Highland Way park site, is only serviced by one bus route that  
runs every 30 minutes. And it only services between White Center  
and downtown.

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This will be inadequate for the needs of jail staff,  
inmate visitors, and inmates upon release.

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Additional transportation issues would be the  
decreased traffic access during construction; increased traffic  
with jail operations; parking accommodation for staff and  
visitors and support vehicles; and then the transportation that  
will increase due to the transportation of inmates to courts and  
other public services.

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I think that I would like to see an impact assessment  
done on these transportation issues, public transportation and  
the congestion issues associated with it.

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MR. BLUMEN: Thank you.

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Laura Drake followed by Ed Sherman.

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LAURA DRAKE

Hi, I'm Laura Drake. I live at 8146 13th Avenue Southwest, Highland Park.

And the people before me have spoken rather succinctly, and I'm just looking -- I just looked at the sheet here.

Yes, the greenbelt that's there is the largest greenbelt in the city of Seattle, and to put seven acres of concrete right next to it, I don't think it's a good idea for the birds or the creatures that this young man spoke about earlier or anything else.

Also, I have sat at the First Avenue Bridge and I've timed myself. Fifteen minutes for both of those bridges to go up and go down and the traffic to go across it. And I'll bet you anything those city vehicles are not going to turn their engines off while the bridges go up and down because they gotta keep the heat going for the inmates or whatever to get downtown. So you're going to have cars sitting there for fifteen minutes running gas, waiting to go across that First Avenue Bridge, back and forth, back and forth, back and forth.

There is a wetlands right next to it. How can you not know that already before you even decide on this site? There is a wetlands there; there's birds and ducks in the water. I don't understand why you would choose this because of that.

1                   Also, I'm a schoolteacher at Highland Park Elementary  
2                   School just up the hill, less than a mile from the spot. I don't  
3                   think it's healthy psychologically or physically or any other way  
4                   for there to be a jail near an elementary school. Thank you very  
5                   much.

6                                           MR. BLUMEN: Ed Sherman followed by Carolyn  
7                   Stauffer.

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ED SHERMAN

Hello everybody. Do you mind if I turn this around just so I can address also the folks here?

COURT REPORTER: It may not be easy for me to hear you, Sir.

MR. SHERMAN: Okay.

COURT REPORTER: So maybe you can turn the mic just a little bit more sideways.

MR. SHERMAN: Yeah.

COURT REPORTER: Thank you.

EDWARD SHERMAN:

My name is Edward Sherman, and I attended the environmental scoping meeting on the downtown Seattle site the other night. I was allowed to speak, for which I appreciate.

My -- my business is located within a stone's throw of this jail site, Pacific Plumbing Supply Company, and we're concerned for employees and our businesses.

Having said that preamble, I have prepared a new list of items to check out this environmental study. And I would like to verbalize just a few of them very briefly.

There should be some sort of a ten-year and twenty-year evaluation in regards to the amount of extra money that's going to be spent on transporting all these inmates from downtown Seattle, of course, to Highland Park, and then back

1           again.

2                           And there should also be a ten-year evaluation, a  
3           twenty-year evaluation. By that I mean, after this jail is built  
4           for a ten-year period and a twenty-year period, how much more  
5           money we're going to be spending at the Highland Park location  
6           for duplicate employees which will be eliminated if we do the  
7           downtown site. And you have to consider that. It's not just the  
8           cost of building this building; it's what are the costs after  
9           this thing is up and running?

10                           The city and county are trying to conduct their  
11           business as businessmen. Seems to me that if this particular  
12           item isn't covered by the EIS, then it should be -- a separate  
13           study should be done.

14                           And next, the supplemental infrastructure buildings  
15           that will -- the monies will be wasted in building them down at  
16           Highland Park. I'm talking about bail bondsmen; I'm talking  
17           about restaurants; I'm talking bars; I'm talking grocery stores.  
18           None of that stuff is there, but it's right there in downtown  
19           Seattle to help these inmates get adjusted afterwards.

20                           And I think, most importantly, I'd like to demonstrate  
21           something to you, if I may. Here's a lighter, [indicating] and  
22           here's some money. Huh? See that? I'm going to burn it. See  
23           that, money being burnt? This is what's going to happen if we go  
24           ahead with this plan for Highland Park. Let me explain it to  
25           you like this. Hundreds of residents have invested in their

1 homes. They expect their homes not only to be a safe domicile  
2 for their families, but God willing over a period of ten to  
3 twenty years, those homes are going to increase in value along  
4 with inflation, so that ten or twenty years from now the homes  
5 will be worth more. When they're ready to retire, when you're  
6 ready to retire, maybe there'll be some money for a nest egg for  
7 you or for your children.

8 Ditto for businesses surrounding this site. There is  
9 probably 50 businesses all told surrounding this site. Every one  
10 of those business owners or the people that they lease from, they  
11 have purchased that property, and they purchased it to have a  
12 quiet enjoyment and the protection of the zoning laws, which is  
13 the manufacturing industrial zoning laws.

14 And as I said before, those zoning laws, about a  
15 hundred of them, on number 50, it clearly shows permitted and  
16 non-permitted uses. And it says under Jails, in the English  
17 language, not permitted; it says under Work-Release, not  
18 permitted. So what's going to happen is, if this site is forced,  
19 the city is going to have to blithely change the law. That's not  
20 changing the law, that's breaking the law. We don't deserve that  
21 treatment. We're honest people; we're paying our taxes on time;  
22 we're all good people; we obey the law.

23 So now -- I don't understand this --

24 MR. BLUMEN: Ed, excuse me. Can I ask you  
25 to conclude, and then when everybody's done speaking, if

1                   you want more time, that would be fine. But, you know --

2                   MR. SHERMAN: All right.

3                   MR. BLUMEN: -- just to be equitable here.

4                   There are other people that are signed up to speak.

5                   MR. SHERMAN: You bet there are.

6                   MR. BLUMEN: Okay.

7                   MR. SHERMAN: Okay. Give me 30 seconds.

8                   MR. BLUMEN: Fine. Great.

9                   MR. SHERMAN:

10                   So -- I forgot where I was. Yes. Okay. We have  
11                   these -- these jailed inmates who unfortunately, unwittingly  
12                   perhaps, broke the law. Okay? So now what's going on here,  
13                   we're going to benefit them by giving them another jail, but  
14                   who's going to get penalized? It's all of us homeowners and  
15                   business owners. Let's see, if somebody does something good,  
16                   they ought to be rewarded. What did you do that's -- that you  
17                   shouldn't be rewarded? Did you do something bad? You paid your  
18                   city taxes; you did everything right; you followed the zoning  
19                   laws and so should the city. Thank you.

20                   MR. BLUMEN: Thank you.

21                   Carolyn Stauffer followed by Billy Stauffer.

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CAROLYN STAUFFER

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Hi, I'm Carolyn Stauffer, and I'm at 7777 10th Avenue

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Southwest.

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A lot of what I've already -- a lot of my thoughts

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have already been said, but I wanted to reiterate a couple of

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points. Rory brought up the increased hard surface area,

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especially the seven acre site as compared to downtown, say. He

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brought up concerns of heat island --

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COURT REPORTER: Excuse me. Could you

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speak just a little bit closer to your mic. You have a

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very quiet voice. Thank you.

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CAROLYN STAUFFER:

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So Rory brought up concerns about the heat island

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effect with the increased hard surface area of the seven acre

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study. I'd also like some assessment done on urban soil health,

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and -- as well as impact to surface water runoff and adjacent

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water quality concerns.

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I also would like some impact assessment about the

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increase in need for energy to run a facility of this size as

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compared to the one in the downtown site. And wetlands have been

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covered. I'd like an assessment on increased light pollution in

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the area for the huge seven-acre facility.

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The greenbelt has been covered in terms of the

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wildlife, and I think, I'm not sure, but I think that -- I don't

1 know if it's been covered so I'll bring it up, the impact on the  
2 recreational, volunteer, and educational opportunities in the  
3 greenbelt and the restoration efforts that might happen in the  
4 future.

5 And the last one is on transportation. The cost of  
6 fuel and time, not only the cost of the emissions -- but the cost  
7 of fuel and the officer time used sitting there, especially with  
8 the light and construction. That's all. Thank you.

9 MR. BLUMEN: Thank you.

10 Billy Stauffer followed by Monica Cavagnaro.

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BILLY STAUFFER

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All my choices are being whittled away here. I'd like to see an eelgrass survey done, a biological survey done, of whether or not across the street is a tidal wetland. And we all know that eelgrass is the backbone of salmon migration habitat in the Northwest. It seems like there's a lot of energy that we put into preserving salmon habitat, and I think that's important. I think the city of Seattle thinks that's important also.

Let me see here. Cultural historic preservation. I think we need to have a little bit of assessment to figure out, and I think it's obvious, the cultural significance for the Duwamish Tribe in this area. I mean, in the late 1800s, you know, the settlers came and they burned, you know, -- what are they? Long --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: Longhouses.

BILLY STAUFFER:

-- Longhouses, and they just built a new one. And it's like, that's a step forward. I think that building a jail down there on this sacred river that's already been decimated in so many ways is kind of sacrilege on the -- doesn't the city feel this way? I know we all do.

That's all I have to say. Thanks.

MR. BLUMEN: Thank you.

Monica Cavagnaro followed by Dan Mullins.

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MONICA CAVAGNARO

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Hi, my name is Monica Cavagnaro, and I live at 7776 10th Avenue Southwest. I've lived in that neighborhood for 18 years. Wow, have I seen changes; some real good changes.

I think that the jail proposal will lead to significant adverse environmental impacts to the recreational opportunities that the greenbelt provides. I would like to see an impact assessment about the impact on recreational, volunteer, and educational opportunities in the greenbelt.

So uses. So I would like to talk about recreation first. Well, number one, it's a great local walk to hiking places for singles, for people who just like to be in the green and natural. It's a great place to rest, to meditate, to get away from the hard-edged industrial district down there. It's important for people who like to dog walk, for nature observation and exploring, for mountain bike riding, bird watching. Hiking is a solution for stress reduction in our city today.

For the educational opportunities, I would say over the years the Nature Consortium and the Youth Conservation Corps has spent many months and years, year after year, removing invasive plants and planting them with native species. The land and the trees are suffering. The trees, mostly from the ivy overgrowth.

I've also worked in there removing ivy with the kids,

1           and this activity produces a true result for a stable soil and  
2           green environment.    [Inaudible] -- they learn about gardening;  
3           they learn about plants; they learn about construction, tool-use  
4           skills and team work.  It gives them a sense of ownership.  This  
5           is our neighborhood.  This is our city's neighborhood; this is  
6           our city's greenbelt.

7                                 And for volunteering, I have volunteered in the  
8           greenbelt recently working with an environmental artist whose  
9           name is Lynne Hull.  Lynne installed several bird identification  
10          wooden posts making great profiles of birds that rest here along  
11          the flyway to the north.  We've also built a triangular critter  
12          space where we stacked logs, placed organic materials for bird  
13          and animal hiding spaces.

14                                I really think that we need an impact statement for  
15          this area.  Thank you.

16                                MR. BLUMEN:  Thank you.

17                                Dan Mullins followed by Shawn Mazza.

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DAN MULLINS

My name is Dan Mullins. I'm a member of the Highland Park Action Committee. I live at 7330 6th Avenue Southwest. I've lived in that neighborhood for 18 years. And if you look at the enlarged picture of the property with the site in red, you can see my house in the bottom left-hand corner. I'm about 0.26 miles from the site. It might be designated industrial, but we all know that the neighborhood is very close.

I'm very concerned about -- I'm very concerned about all the things that everybody's brought up, You know, every person who gets up here wants to have an important topic, and they keep getting whittled down. But I'm also very concerned about the fact that this is a possible liquefaction zone. As far as I know this site is not technically designated as a wetland. I think that's probably because of the roads that have been put in, the culverts that have been dug, the redirecting of creeks and waterways. It's obvious to anybody that drives by there and sees Canada geese and swans walking across that property, that that should be a wetlands. That really is a wetlands.

But it's also been designated a liquefaction zone, and I'm concerned about the impact that that is going to have on the construction phase of a -- construction of a jail there. They're going to have to really beef up that building with massive

1 amounts of construction for pilings and to earthquake proof that  
2 building, and I think that could definitely have significant  
3 impact on the area.

4 And as a citizen of Seattle and a citizen of that  
5 neighborhood, I really have to insist that a geologic hazard  
6 assessment be made, including the studies of the effects of the  
7 liquefaction process, the seiche effect, which is the movement  
8 of water back and forth, the lahar effect and the -- it's basi-  
9 -- what I've read, if a tsunami was to happen, the effects could  
10 be felt -- effect could be felt all the way up to Tukwila, so I  
11 think we also need to investigate and -- the effects of a  
12 tsunami in that area.

13 Thank you.

14 MR. BLUMEN: Thank you.

15 Shawn Mazza.

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SHAWN MAZZA

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Hello, my name is Shawn Mazza. I live at

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1227 Southwest Othello.

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And the jail proposal will leave significant adverse

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environmental impacts to animals in the area. I'm concerned

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about the removal of vegetation, the jail impacts on the

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migratory birds, and use of adjacent wetlands in the greenbelt as

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a habitat.

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I would like to see an impact assessment about -- or

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to determine the impact on the removal of trees and shrubs that

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the wildlife habitat corridor from the greenbelt to other areas

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of the city, how the jail operations impact the wildlife using

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adjacent habitat, whether it's birds landing on the barbwire or

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what, what other ways they will be injured as a result of this.

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I'm also concerned about the noise pollution that will

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happen, not only during the construction but also the daily

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operation of the jail, to, again, the animals in the area and

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also the residents. And I believe that those two issues should

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be addressed. There should be an assessment done on both.

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Thanks.

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MR. BLUMEN: Thank you.

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That was the last person signed up. If there's

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anybody else that wishes to speak, you can come forward.

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Yes. We'll take them one at a time here. Go ahead. If

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you can give your name and address, please.

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BLAIR JOHNSON

My name is Blair Johnson. I live at 9002 13th Avenue Southwest. I am a member of the Highland Park Action Committee, and my concern is about air quality and transportation with the Island Park Way facility. If -- one thing that's going to happen soon is the South Park Bridge is either going to fall down or get torn down. And when that happens, that will increase the amount of traffic going over the First South bridge, which will compound the problem presented by having all of the vehicles that have to come to and from the jail going over that bridge as well. So I think that that, the effect of the South Park Bridge no longer being there has to be included in the environmental assessment.

MR. BLUMEN: Okay. Thank you.

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LEIGH KERR

Hi. I'm Leigh Kerr, and I live at 7944 7th Avenue, Southwest.

Kirk Primus [phonetic] of the King County Jails downtown is that when they picked up somebody and they've spent their time in jail, they let them out the back door. One thing that I'd like to make sure that's included in this assessment is, what's the mitigation plan for those people that are going out the back door and what keeps them from coming up the hill. I'd like to know the cost of that mitigation plan and a comparator of all the sites, since Shoreline is right in the middle of a public community, so there's got to be some associated costs with that mitigation plan so I'd like to understand that.

Also, I'd like to understand, or at least an assessment of the impact in other cities where they have placed jails such as this in an entrance of their communities.

Thank you.

MR. BLUMEN: Thank you.

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RORY DENOVAN

My name is Rory Denovan, 7779 10th Avenue Southwest.

Two things: One is the -- your historic and cultural preservation assessment also as, briefly touched on, needs to include public art in the West Duwamish Greenbelt. Not only are there installations, permanent installations, but there are also temporal, Andy Goldsworthy-type installations that also function as habitat features, and your assessment should include a look at that impact of public use of the public art in the West Duwamish Greenbelt.

I also would like to comment on the public input and available -- information available to the public as part of this meeting. Your sign at Highland Park Way is improperly sited. The distance from the road is improper; you cannot access it as there are no pressing -- no trespassing signs and fencing in-between the road and that sign. That's an improper siting of your sign. That impacts the number, both the number of people here and the breadth of comments you received as part of this process.

Your project is also not listed on DPD's project website. The parcel data is not on the DPD Web site, and you're -- it is also not listed as a project, especially a SEPA project on the DPD GIS Web site. There's an improper listing, projects listings, and you need to fix this so that you can get a broader

1           scope of input from the public. Thank you.

2                                           MR. BLUMEN: Thank you.

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DORSOL PLANTS

Hello. My name is Dorsol Plants again. Really quickly, I just wanted humbly to request one thing about all of this. One of the heartbreaking things that came about, and this slightly goes to what Rory was just speaking of, was having to explain to individuals in our community what the word "jail" in English actually means. When you think about distributing the EIS draft, I implore you to not just put it out in English, not even just in Spanish, but there are people who make up our community as Vietnamese, Cantonese, Korean, that they need to know about this. The entire time we've gone through this process from community forum to now, the minorities that are not just minorities in the south end of Seattle are not being properly represented. And part of the reason for that is there has not been enough outreach in individuals' first languages to allow them to be able to participate and not just be steamrolled by big government. Thank you.

MR. BLUMEN: Thank you.

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LAURA DRAKE

This is Laura Drake again, and I just want to piggyback on what Dorsol just said, because as a teacher at a neighborhood school in that area, the white kids are the minority in that school. So that neighborhood is extremely diverse, and these people need to know about it. Thank you.

MR. BLUMEN: Thank you.

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EDWARD SHERMAN

Very quickly, contamination. I think the EIS should check for contamination on the subject property. There's particular businesses that's been in the garbage business for years and years, and they're right nearby, you know. I don't know what goes on with some of that stuff seeping over to the Highland Park jail site. That's one thing.

The other thing is I want to sincerely commend all the city administrative personnel and all those concerned with this for the job that they're doing. They are doing exactly what their bosses have told them to do. They're under the direction of our mayor and our deputy mayor, and they are doing a great job. So all of these comments that may be negative, including mine, are not directed personally to any of you. I think you're doing great, and I think you're owed a round of applause for the job that you do.

And lastly, through this whole process, the Highland Park Action Committee has been in operation at least six months, maybe nine months, and they've been doing a lot of talking. They've been saying why they don't want the jail here, and this process, I think, is lacking something, because up 'til now there has been no official comment back from the mayor, the deputy mayor, saying, Well, Highland Park people or Interbay people, we hear you, and I think regardless of this plan, I think they

1           should answer, perhaps in the format of a television debate, with  
2           the members of the community with two or three members of the  
3           mayor and his staff. Let them -- let them turn around and lift a  
4           finger now, because up 'til now all they've done is hold the  
5           strings. We're like pawns in this chess game. There's a chess  
6           game going on between the county and the city as to who's going  
7           to pay for what on that big jail site. And so, now the city is  
8           saying, Well, we're going to get some leverage, and we're going  
9           to look at all these other communities that are maybe available,  
10          use them in negotiation. That means we're all pawns to this  
11          chess game, and it shouldn't be like that.

12                         The city and county should cooperate together,  
13          cooperate together to build that jail right where it belongs,  
14          downtown Seattle, and we've had enough of having to -- one-way  
15          conversations of what we all think. Why don't they come up and  
16          say something? Let them come to a televised debate and let's  
17          have at it.

18                                 MR. BLUMEN: Thank you.

19                                 Anybody else that wants to offer comments about the  
20          EIS? Thank you.

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BLAIR JOHNSON

Yes. Blair Johnson, 9002 13th Avenue Southwest.

On the subject of stormwater, I drive down Highland Park every morning on my way to work, which I pass the Highland Park Way site. And when it rains, the water accumulates at the bottom of that hill. It takes a long time for the water to subside in that area because it's at the bottom of a steep hill, and there's a flat area going into the wetlands that go into the Duwamish. But we need to make sure that we look at the ability of the soil all the way from the hill to the wetlands into the Duwamish to absorb the runoff and slowly release it into the Duwamish.

MR. BLUMEN: Thank you.

Anybody else?

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ADAM ABEL

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Hello, my name is Adam Abel. I live at 8415. I'm at 9th Avenue Southwest, and I've got a couple comments that I know we're hear to talk about environmental issues. We've hit on quite a few of those. One of the big ones seems to be water runoff. And I agree with the last gentleman, you know, the last time we had a heavy rainfall, which was just the other day, where do you think all that water went? If you look on your picture right here, you'll see two huge wetlands next to what's actually not 509, that's actually 99. So if you can't get a picture right, I'm not sure if you can get the jail right.

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With that said, the -- all that water runoff created a big lake at the bottom of the hill. That in turn, right along that property site, there's like a six-foot ditch. That was full of water that spilled in the street eventually runs off into the Duwamish River, which is still wet, whereas across the street from that also is a pumping station for the sewage. When you add another jail there, that's going to add more stress onto that. You think it's hard to put a jail in? Try to get another sewage pumping station in the neighborhood. Thank you.

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MR. BLUMEN: Thank you. Anybody else that wishes to speak? Yes.

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BECCA FONG

I'm still Becca Fong, and I still live on 10th Avenue Southwest, and I have two things to say.

It was already brought up once about the cultural and significant impacts and doing a cultural value assessment of that site. I noticed that it is designated outside of the meander line. However, as we all know, the course of the Duwamish River has been changed many, many times over its historic period, and I think that you have the fact that the Duwamish longhouse is about a mile and a half just north of where this jail site is. There's no way that this site was not used for the Native peoples, and I encourage you to do a thorough cultural assessment.

Unfortunately, the Tribe does not feel comfortable being here. I don't know if everybody in the room is aware of the fact that they are currently not a federally recognized tribe. And we had talked with one of the Elders; she came out in support of us at some of the public meetings that happened at the beginning of the summer. And I had the pleasure of sitting next to her, and she was very supportive of all of our efforts, but, however, did not feel comfortable to be able to voice their opinions about this site. So please, we speak on behalf of the Duwamish peoples there.

The other thing that I wanted to implore you guys to do is a carbon footprint and to do an assessment of that. We

1 live in the age of global climate change, and how I want you to  
2 see that as it impacts this site, it's also something that you  
3 need to take into consideration for the additional six sites. I  
4 mean, this is how we've gotten into this mess is that we tend to  
5 look at things very, very locally, but after all we need to  
6 understand global climate change is something that happens on a  
7 very, very large global scale. And I think if you look at a lot  
8 of the issues that have been brought up about stormwater runoff,  
9 about greenhouse gases, about additional transportation,  
10 additional construction costs, you're going to see those as you  
11 do a carbon footprint for each of these sixth sites for the  
12 constructions, for the 24/7 operation, and the transportation and  
13 all the support services. Thank you.

14 MR. BLUMEN: Anybody else who wants to  
15 offer comments? Okay.

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DORSOL PLANTS

I promise I'll stop after this one.

I wanted to bring up on your population housing section, there's brand new senior housing that's going in. Thankfully, the city saw fit to remove the jail site that was literally on the same block as the senior housing. But it's still within a mile, a mile and a half, of the site that we still have. I mean, it used to be in this country we respected our elders. We didn't just shove them into some off-the-way place, certainly not some off-the-way place that lies in the shadow of a potentially dangerous facility, both the King County Jail downtown and the Regional Kent Center have had escapees at times standing there for several years of operation.

So I think it's important we consider the impact on these seniors that will be moving into the home. And as I would point out, the original -- city municipal jail has the same number that is -- that is going to be the total beds for the senior housing.

MR. BLUMEN: Thank you. Anyone else?

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RORY DENOVAN

Rory Denovan again, real quickly. The -- both the city and the port have done shoreline plans, and you're -- you need to look at the impact to -- as to those plans. The port has also done a restoration plan, and a restoration site is listed adjacent to the jail -- proposed jail site, at the bottom of the hill. Also, the Duwamish vision ex -- of the wetlands at First Avenue South Bridge, and you're -- you need to look at the -- your impacts on both the port and the community to do further restoration efforts and how that will impact the future health of the Duwamish River. Thank you.

MR. BLUMEN: Thank you. Last call.

Okay. With that, we're going to close the public testimony portion and throw it back to Andy.

[Scoping Meeting Concluded at 7:55 p.m.]



