



January 22, 2010

The Honorable Michael McGinn
Mayor, City of Seattle
Seattle City Hall
PO Box 94749
Seattle, WA 98124-4749

Re: Update on South Lake Union Neighborhood Planning and Rezone

Dear Mayor McGinn:

The South Lake Union Community Council (SLUFAN) looks forward to working with you and your administration towards a more walkable, livable, sustainable, and vibrant South Lake Union. We are passionate, active and involved. We are a diverse organization and represent all aspects of our community from residents, to nonprofits, to businesses of various sizes. We would like to share with you the results of our years of volunteer effort.

The City's Department of Planning and Development (DPD) released in December a set of revised height and density EIS alternatives and will soon publish the final recommendations and implementation strategies outlined in the South Lake Union Urban Design Framework (UDF), the result of a collaborative community process that addressed livability, character, and urban design matters in the neighborhood.

Reaching these two major milestones in our urban center planning process, we thought it would be informative to review with you, mayoral staff and the City Council how we got here, the extensive involvement of neighbors, and next steps.

Over the past five years, SLUFAN has organized numerous planning workshops, meetings, and community processes in order to proactively define what it means for our neighborhood to be an urban center and how we want that growth to take shape. Here is a summary of planning processes we have undertaken:

- **2005 – 2007 Neighborhood Plan Update and Priorities** adopted by City Council in Sept 2007
- **March – June 2007 Uptown/SLU Joint Visioning Charrette & Recommendations Package** involved more than 40 stakeholders from Queen Anne Uptown and South Lake Union urban centers

- **January – November 2008 Urban Form Study** where workshops, open houses, and many meetings were held to solicit community input and feedback on a draft EIS scope and alternatives
- **May – December 2009 Urban Design Framework**, a collaborative effort between SLUFAN, Cascade Neighborhood Council, Lake Union Opportunity Alliance, and SLU Chamber of Commerce to establish a shared design vision and implementation strategy for the future of South Lake Union, particularly in anticipation of zoning changes in the neighborhood

As you can see, South Lake Union stakeholders have put in countless volunteer hours over the past five years, producing four substantive visioning and planning documents, each building upon the previous work. SLUFAN believes that with this strong and inclusive set of processes and plans, the neighborhood is ready for the next step in the neighborhood rezone process.

DPD has scheduled for the EIS study to commence this month with the goal of completing the analysis and making recommendations for appropriate height and density zoning changes in early 2011. SLUFAN urges the City to stay on schedule and looks forward to seeing the results of the study and final zoning recommendations in late 2010.

To that end, the full SLUFAN board would like to meet and share with you our hopes and concerns regarding the neighborhood development and rezoning and to answer any questions you have about our planning work. We look forward to continuing to work closely with neighborhood stakeholders, the larger community, City staff and other interested parties on this process. And most of all, we stay hopeful and committed to achieving a vibrant urban center that is not only a great place to live and work, but a proud example of a sustainable urban community.

Sincerely,



Steven Paget
SLUFAN Board President

SLUFAN Board members:

Steven Paget, President SLUFAN CC Board

Dawn Oliver, Vice-president SLUFAN CC Board

Robbie Phillip, Treasure SLUFAN CC Board

Pearl Leung, Secretary SLUFAN CC Board

Jerry Dinndorf, Co-chair SLUFAN CC Planning & Policy Committee

John Savo, Co-chair SLUFAN CC Planning & Policy Committee

Lloyd Douglas, Cascade Neighborhood Council Representative

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Jason McKinney, SLU Chamber Representative
Bob Grossman
Michael Blumson
Dan Foltz
Lorie Groth

cc: Seattle City Council members
Diane Sugimura, Director DPD