



For Immediate Release – September 16, 2008
Contact: Steven Paget – 206-268-0972
Jerry Dinndorf – 206-284-0061

SEATTLE – The South Lake Union Friends and Neighbors (SLUFAN) Community Council announced today that it has been briefed by the City regarding the proposed zoning alternatives for South Lake Union to be studied as part of the South Lake Union Environmental Impact Study. The City has indicated that the proposed zoning alternatives closely resemble the urban form alternatives recommended by SLUFAN with some minor changes. SLUFAN plans to review the alternatives to be presented by the City this evening at the South Lake Union Open House and seek community feedback in the next several months.

“We are pleased that the City is following the direction provided by the neighborhood in evaluating a broad range of options that take into account three years of neighborhood planning efforts,” said Steven Paget, board president of SLUFAN. “Members of SLUFAN will now turn our attention to a careful study of each option in the larger context of the neighborhood plan. We anticipate recommending a preferred alternative that will be shared through the City’s EIS process.”

South Lake Union was designated an urban center in 2004. It has been targeted to absorb over 16,000 additional jobs and 8,000 households, which is a significant portion of the city’s new growth. Since the spring of 2005, SLUFAN has been working with the City, residents, property and business owners to develop a neighborhood vision to guide the future development of South Lake Union.

“This process is about quality of life and how to achieve it. Height and density are only part of the equation. SLUFAN’s vision for the neighborhood is one of a vital, diverse and creative community. It is critical that planning and zoning efforts in South Lake Union take into account all of the aspects and amenities that are necessary to develop an alive and eclectic neighborhood where people live, work and play,” said Paget.

About SLUFAN Community Council

SLUFAN is the City of Seattle Department of Neighborhood’s designated community council for South Lake Union and steward of the neighborhood plan. The community council includes a broad-based group of stakeholders representing non-profits, schools, arts, residents, research, property owners, and large and small businesses.

In June 2008, SLUFAN submitted three alternatives representing a range of height and density options to Mayor Greg Nickels for consideration in creating the City’s zoning options for the EIS. SLUFAN’s alternatives were developed through an inclusive community involvement process, including input from groups outside of South Lake Union, spanning three-years of neighborhood planning and six months of zoning specific discussions.

SLUFAN will be co-sponsoring with other neighborhood representatives an educational forum on urban planning principles and the elements of people-centered neighborhoods in October. Information on the forum will be posted on SLUFAN’s website and distributed in the coming weeks.

More information about the South Lake Union Friends and Neighbors Community Council is available at www.slufan.org