Restriped Eastlake Ave. will Restrict Morning Parking Between Boston & Yale

This summer, as a result of a petition by a majority of the property owners, a planted median (boulevard strip) will be installed on Eastlake Avenue between Boston and Newton streets. This neighborhood enhancement will be similar to the median already present on Eastlake Avenue just north of Allison Street (near the University Bridge). The project involves re-striping Eastlake Avenue south of Boston similar to the northern parts of Eastlake Avenue, thus creating a center turn lane and two lanes on either side.

An Eastlake Avenue center turn lane and a planted median were identified through surveys and public meetings by neighborhood residents as high priorities in the Eastlake Neighborhood Plan (approved by the City Council in 1999). The Seattle Transportation Department has designed and will construct the median, but more than half of the funding is from the Neighborhood Matching Fund and another City award that the neighborhood received for completing its plan.

The Department has recently informed us that the new lane configuration will involve a weekday no-parking restriction from 7 to 9 a.m. on the west side of Eastlake Ave. for the two blocks between Boston St. and Yale Place E. (on the east side of Eastlake Ave., a similar no-parking restriction from 4-6 p.m. has long been in effect between Boston and Newton, and parking is not allowed between Newton and Yale Place E.).

The Eastlake Neighborhood Plan recommended against any peak-hour parking prohibitions on Eastlake Avenue, but in the immediate future, we are unlikely to convince Seattle Transportation to change its position. Once

... Continued on Page 4
Laurie Stusser leads the May 22nd dedication of a renewed Rogers Playground.

A public meeting will be held this summer to kick-off planning for central Fairview Ave. from Newton to Roanoke. It will be an opportunity for residents and business owners in that area to greet one another, schedule future planning meetings, and identify volunteers to organize publicity, coordinate the meetings, and write the Fairview Green Street Design Concept. We also need volunteers with project managment as well as design layout or drawing skills. Below are the “working guidelines for the committee.” If you are interested in volunteering to organize this public meeting or would like more information, please contact Martia Denniston, Fairview Green Street Committee Cordinator, mdenniston@effectnet.com, 720-5519.

Fairview Green Street Goals & Objectives

Objective: Select design guidelines that are small scale, habitat sensitive, and preserve the ambience of the surrounding environment.

PROPOSED GOALS:

1a. Preservation of Community Ambience
   - Select design guidelines and features that respect and preserve the diversity and existing mixed-use character of the street and neighborhood
   - Utilize design features that enhance enjoyment of the visual and physical environment

1b. Small-Scale and Habitat-Sensitive
   - Select design guidelines and features that allow for a phased implementation

2. Safety and Traffic Calming Measures
   - Select traffic calming measures that increase safety for pedestrians, motorists, bicyclists, and the natural habitat
   - Utilize traffic calming features that ease public circulation without reducing parking
   - Choose traffic calming measures that address the needs of emergency and commercial vehicles, and take into consideration the impact to surrounding neighborhood streets
by Daphne Lee-Larson

The term “graffiti artist” is an oxymoron. Art is about creation, not desecration. In my opinion, someone who does graffiti is no more an artist than a person who pollutes or urinates in public. Graffiti is not a means to express ideas or “art” by the dispossessed or underclass as some apologists might argue. According to Detective Rod Hardin of the Seattle Police Department Investigations Bureau, the majority of graffiti today is “tagger graffiti,” done by individuals (ranging between the ages of ten through the early twenties and from all social, racial, and economic classes) with low self-esteem who tag to get recognition, fame, and a feeling of power. “The more prolific the tagger, the more difficult the tags are to paint (roof tops, bridges, etc), and the greater the fame.” What is society doing wrong to breed this selfish, nihilistic view of the human environment? It is simply a spineless, sophomoric, self-privileged notion of an individual’s right to expression, whatever the cost; a desecration of the public commons. It says nothing and achieves nothing.

As someone who’s buildings and land are a victim of graffiti on a weekly basis, I cannot bring myself to mince my words. As soon as a tag is discovered on our property, I make a report, then clean it up, paint it away, or call the glass company to replace the acid-etched storefront window/s, just hoping that my efforts will last a few months before the next hit. Together with Jim Simpkins of Roanoke Park, my husband and I work with the city to keep the tags away from our small stretch of Harvard and Eastlake. It means going out fairly regularly, (sometimes every week, particularly in the warmer months) but more important, what it means for us all is higher premiums, hundreds of thousands of dollars of damage to private and public property and several millions of tax dollars in cleaning it up every year.

For the city and the citizen, this seems like an incredible waste of resources! Graffiti artists go out and mark their trail and then caring citizens or tireless city agency crews waste precious time and money, and at times risk injury, to clean away the veritable mess. Sometimes this mess cannot be cleaned and the object of the graffiti is marked for good. Something needs to be done to stop, prevent, or minimize this senseless activity, in order to reinforce that there are better things to do with time and money.

We can start by not leaving the tags on longer than a day if we can help it. Report the Graffiti first, because without the police report, prosecution is difficult.
SPACE for Lease
Allison St. between Eastlake Ave. & Fairview

Artist, Crafts, Workshop ... Storage, or ??

20’ X 20’  400 square feet  clear span with 7’9” height
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Feed Songbirds, not Pigeons, Crows, or Rodents

Crows and pigeons are more numerous than ever before, squeezing out the smaller, native songbirds. Squirrels and rats are also in large numbers, and can enter attics and walls and spread disease. All are being fed by us, whether consciously with peanuts, or accidentally when garbage is not properly stowed. Please help stop this population explosion by adding nothing to the natural sources of food that are already available to crows, pigeons, and rodents. For advice on how to encourage songbirds, contact the Seattle Audubon Society at 523-4483.

Restriping Eastlake, cont.

the re-striping is done sometime this June, we must assume that parking will not be allowed on the west side of these two blocks between 7 and 9 a.m. each weekday. On a recent weekday just after 7 a.m., 20 cars were parked where parking will soon be prohibited, but there were many empty on-street parking places available within a block, including twelve on the east side of Eastlake Ave. between Boston and Newton. To expand the options, we are working to extend the Residential Parking Zone on some nearby streets where non-residents are currently parking.

The median and center turn lane will reduce speeding, make it safer for pedestrians to cross Eastlake Ave., and make it a safer street for driving and parking. We ask the understanding of those who have been parking where the two-hour parking prohibition will now apply. For questions, contact Chris Leman, ECC volunteer project manager, (206) 322-5463, cleman@oo.net.

Salvation Army and City of Seattle Help Seattle Residents at Risk of Eviction

The Salvation Army and the City of Seattle have teamed up to provide financial assistance for Seattle residents. The project ‘ERACE’ (Expanded Rent Assistance Collaborative Effort) is a crisis intervention program that will make available one-time rent assistance to eligible applicants who have experienced a short term emergency or crisis that prevents them from paying their rent. The objective of this timel and admirable program is aimed at stability and to keep people safely in their homes. Households found eligible for assistance may receive up to $750, depending on household size and need. The program is designed to assist low-income residents whose income is below 50% of the Seattle area median. There remains approximately $500,000 to help those who qualify and the program will continue through the end of this year. There are specific eligibility requirements and applicants can call The Salvation Army at 206-447-9944 for more information.

Candidates Sought for October ECC Elections

As an all-volunteer organization, the Eastlake Community Council can achieve its mission of building community and enhancing the neighborhood only if volunteers continue to step forward. Please nominate yourself or a friend (some biographical information would be helpful) to serve on the ECC board or in an officer position, to: SamMar@aol.com, 322-5463, or ECC Nominations, 117 E. Louisa #1, Seattle 98102-3203.

Oct. 8 forum airs candidates and ballot forums

Please join us 7-9 p.m. Tues., Oct. 8 at the TOPS Seward School Library to hear candidates for state and local offices, and presentations for and against the various ballot measures. The meeting begins with the Eastlake Community Council annual meeting and elections.
Flag Etiquette

The U.S. Flag Code, which Congress adopted in 1942, includes the following provisions: Do not display the flag outside after sunset unless it is illuminated; do not display in bad weather unless it is designed to be all-weather; when draped against a wall, place the field of stars uppermost and to the flag’s own right (the observer’s left); and at a rostrum, place the flag to the right of the speaker, with other flags placed on the left.

Ruth Presler visits Janet Jorgens, who is recovering from a broken hip. Presler and Jorgens shared an Eastlake News delivery route for many years.

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****SPECIAL $10.00 OFF ****
Those Eastlake senior citizens who have moved elsewhere like to hear from us, but they are sometimes hard to find. Janet Jorgens, who helped distribute the Eastlake News for many years, now lives in Magnolia. Janet is recovering from a broken hip, and loves getting visits and calls; she can be reached at 286-7689. Longtime Eastlaker Merle Woodhouse, who now lives in Lacey, also enjoys visits and calls; she can be reached at (360) 438-5393. We have lost track of Estelle Mitchell (former ECC Treasurer) and of Helen-Grace Brown (former ECC representative on the TOPS site council); if anyone knows how to reach them, please let us know. And please call (322-5463, cleman@oo.net) with name and contact information for anyone you would like to list in the newsletter who no longer lives in Eastlake but would like to hear from us.

Keep in Touch with Former Eastlakers

Eastlake Seeks Volunteers & Donated Equipment

Coordinators and other volunteers are needed for several projects: (1) renovation of Terry Pettus Park (Newton Street end); (2) design guidelines for Eastlake Avenue and for Lynn Street east of Eastlake Ave.; (4) working with the City on what to do now that Eastlake has met its housing production goals twelve years faster than called for by the Comprehensive Plan; (5) land use project reviewers; (6) weeding at local parks; (7) coordinator of a possible auction or tour; (8) compile the web addresses of local businesses and organizations for inclusion on the Eastlake web site; or (9) write a grant application to save the greenbelt along the Blaine Street stairs (leading up to Capitol Hill). We also need an A-board to put community meeting notices by the curb, desk chairs, an easel board to use at public meetings, remembrance in your will, and historical photos, clippings, video tape, audio tape, and other records about Eastlake.

To volunteer or donate: SamMar@aol.com, 322-5463, or write to ECC, 117 E. Louisa #1, Seattle 98102-3203.
Congratulations to Scott Sherman Automotive (2727 Eastlake Avenue E., 322-0886, open M-F 8-5:30), celebrating its 50th anniversary of service to the Eastlake community. This family-owned and operated company offers a full range of automotive maintenance and repair (and also fills up bicycle tires for free!). … Congrats also to KIRO-710 AM (1820 Eastlake Ave.), celebrating its 75th. Early KIRO luminaries included locals Chet Huntley and Ivar Haglund. Our neighborhood gets about the best publicity possible every weekday morning at 9 a.m. when Dave Ross leads the Eastlake Avenue Crusaders for Common Sense. The title of “talk show host” does not do Ross justice; educator and dramatist seem more fitting - just say that he is a combination of Chet Huntley and Ivar Haglund. … Eastlake Deli (2707 Eastlake Ave., 323-3750, open every day of the week) is offering gourmet salads for the summer. The popular homemade soups will return in the fall. … The Center for Wooden Boats (1010 Valley Street, 382-2628, www.cwb.org) continues to earn acclaim for its unique preservation and teaching mission, and as just a fun place to visit. Its historic boats can be visited any time, with particular events being the Lake Union Wooden Boats Festival (July 4-7) and the Norm Blanchard Wood Regatta (Sept. 27-29). … Local resident Paige Stockley (paige@speakeasy.com, 720-2920) teaches cello privately and plays in the Odeon String Quartet, which is in residence at the Cornish School of the Arts. She has studied cello in Seattle, New York, and Europe, played in orchestras in Mexico City, Spain, and Connecticut, recorded for movie and television soundtracks, and toured with the singer Rickie Lee Jones. … A-1 Time, (325-0590) a local business operated by Eastlaker Mayur Sheh, repairs all kinds of watches. … Seattle Caviar (2833 Eastlake Ave. E., 323-3005) was recently Featured in Sunset magazine and the Seattle P-I.

Residents of Boylston Ave. E. are applauding the street cleanups by volunteers at Pima Medical Institute (1627 Eastlake Ave., 322-6100). There are plenty of other streets available, if your business would like to help keep the neighborhood looking nice. Call Adopt-a Street at 684-7647. … Sophie’s Donuts (2238 Eastlake Ave. E., 323-7132) owner Susan Kaplan was recently quoted in the Seattle Weekly: “Seattle is not a doughnut town. I come from Atlanta, where Krispy Kremes are definitely not held in the same regard…. When people try us, they see the difference.” … The American Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Society (2517 Eastlake Ave. E. #200, 223-1120 www.aofas.org) is a non-profit organization of actively practicing orthopaedic surgeons who publish educational materials and provide surgeon training in the recognition, prevention, and treatment of foot and ankle problems (which can be extremely disabling to an otherwise healthy individual). The Society seeks help in a global initiative to send foot care teams overseas to treat landmine injuries suffered by 28,000 people a year (30-40 per cent of them children). … Hiroshi’s Japanese Restaurant (2501 Eastlake Ave. E., 726-4966, www.hiroshis.com) is the new name for Eastlake’s very popular sushi place. The menu’s similar, but portions are bigger, and catering is also offered. … It is great news that Subway of Eastlake (2240 Eastlake Ave., 325-5632) will keep its historic New York City subway decor. Franchisees now are being encouraged to drop it in favor of a European look with gold stucco and stone-like floor tiles. The many Eastlakers who are from New York or love it should give their thanks to owner Artan Vukaj for sticking with the New York theme. … CompuStar (2373 Eastlake Ave. E., 329-3840) repairs and sells computers (you can get a new system for as little as $499, and used for as little as $199), and also can help you sell your old system for top dollar … Lake Union Mail (117 E. Louisa St., 329-1468) offers a full range of mailing and packing services, office supplies, and Lake-Union-related merchandise. Good luck to Jennifer Leach, a longtime employee who is leaving for graduate school in Tennessee. …

It was good to see the Virginia V steaming along on Opening Day and to hear its haunting whistle. The historic wooden relic of the “mosquito fleet” is being faithfully restored by Lake Union Dry Dock (1515 Fairview Ave. E.), which has seen the Virginia ... Continued on Page 9
BlueWater Bistro calls the shore of shimmering Lake Union home. It’s an urban bistro that specializes in fresh seafood, juicy USDA prime steaks, and an intimate neighborhood atmosphere. Gaze across Lake Union from the water-level windows, or venture upstairs to the cozy 2nd level dining room, equipped with fireplace, floor to ceiling windows, and leather furniture. On sunny days, enjoy the sunset from the waterfront deck and outdoor cabana bar. Two kitchens and three bars make it possible for BluWater to expertly manage full-service catering and private dining needs for 10 to 300 people.

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ATTENTION RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES ALONG EASTLAKE AVE EAST: SEATTLE CITY LIGHT IS BEGINNING A PROJECT TO REPLACE POWER POLES FROM ALLISON TO MERCER.

Seattle City Light is going to be working in our neighborhood for some time as they replace the current street power poles with larger ones in order to string larger lines. There will be disruption to parking and traffic delays. As each segment is worked on, the affected homes and businesses will be notified of possible power disruptions, no parking zones, etc. Work will begin at Allison and continue south. Questions and concerns may be addressed to Len Korslund, Construction Facilitator at 206-386-4565 or len.korslund@ci.seattle.wa.us.

If you did not receive this in the mail with a label attached with your name, then you are not a paying member of the Eastlake Community Council. We need your support, and you will receive benefits in return, so please send in your membership application today!