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See inside for news, events and more!
The Eastlake News is a quarterly publication of the Eastlake Community Council. We welcome comments, articles or images for possible publication; please include a contact phone number. Articles may be edited for length and clarity. Articles in the newsletter represent the view of the author and not necessarily the ECC.

Please send submissions to info@eastlakeseattle.org or by U.S. mail to the return address on the back of this newsletter. For advertising contact Detra Segar at advertising@eastlakeseattle.org.

Publication schedule is as follows:
- Spring - March, April, May
- Summer - June, July, August
- Fall - September, October, November
- Winter - December, January, February

ECC PRESIDENT’S LETTER

The summer of 2022 seems to be filled with promises. More daylight hours and more of your neighbors out for a stroll. Our restaurants are filling up with customers happy to be dining out again. The lake front is ready for the return of people enjoying the water and view.

We have a July Sounds of Summer (July 8) in the works. Watch our website for updates.

The ECC Nominating Committee has begun its important work to bring you a slate of board members for the September election. Our membership has increased and we have great people volunteering.

Think about what you could contribute to your community by serving on the board. Last year was the first year under our new by-laws. Board members have 2-year terms with a rotation that assures that the board always has experienced members as well as new ones coming in.

We act as a resource to the community and try to stay informed on topics like safety, the lake front and green spaces, the retail community and development in Eastlake. Maybe there is a topic that you are passionate about or a skill that we could all benefit from.

New ideas and energy are important to the vitality of ECC. The board has made a commitment to bring on new members, including new residents to Eastlake. You do not need to have board experience. If you are interested and would like to have a conversation about being a board member, we want to hear from you.

Maybe you know someone who would be a good board member. Approach them and ask. Board members Judy Smith and David Taft are chairing the nominating committee and can be reached at info@eastlakeseattle.org. A conversation is a good way to begin.

GET INVOLVED

See the back page to find ways to get involved in the Eastlake neighborhood through volunteer opportunities, joining committees, helping at events and, of course, donations.

To volunteer and/or become a member of the Eastlake Community Council, please fill in & mail the form on page 3, OR join online at: http://eastlakeseattle.org. For questions: info@eastlakeseattle.org. If your homeowner’s association or apartment complex board would like to bring its residents into ECC membership, we can help you with that. Please contact Peter Haley, ECC Membership Coordinator, through our website at info@eastlakeseattle.org.

Scan the QR Code to become an ECC member & learn more about neighborhood volunteer opportunities.

Find and “Like” Eastlake Community Council to stay up to date on all the latest ECC news!
THANK YOU, EASTLAKE NEWS DELIVERY VOLUNTEERS

The Eastlake News would not have existed for the past 51 years without the dedication and tireless effort of the Delivery Volunteers and coordination by Chris Leman. Special thank you to Chris for his dedication to the Eastlake News and endless Eastlake & Seattle history knowledge.

If you are interested in being part of the Eastlake News delivery team, reach out to: clem@oo.net

Delivering The Eastlake News is the perfect way to stroll the neighborhood and be involved in the community—all at the same time!

THANK YOU, EARTH DAY VOLUNTEERS!

Thanks to all the great volunteers who showed up to clean trash and invasive plants from the lake front. Harmon Rogers once again gave us excellent direction and arranged with the Parks Department to have the debris removed.

We had an active group of workers, on both days, who did an amazing job from start to finish. From the Fairview Bridge to Blaine and even a stop at Lynn Street. There were many who did even more by picking up trash on the east side of Fairview and in the parking areas.

Tools are always a challenge and everyone managed to bring what was needed or borrow from Harmon’s generous supply.

Thank you to Eastlake Coffee & Café for the coffee that fueled the efforts.

FEATURE YOUR WORK IN THE EASTLAKE NEWS

Attention Eastlake artists, photographers, poets and writers! The Eastlake News is always open for submissions of written and visual work to be featured in this quarterly newsletter.

If you are interested in sending us article pitches, creative writing or artwork to be featured, please reach out to us at: info@eastlakeseattle.org.

EASTLAKE FUTURES FUND

How wonderful to have generous neighbors who want to support ECC! Thanks to all who have become members and/or who have made contributions totaling over $2100 in the past few months.

We were happy to be able to gather with you again at the two successful bird walks and the two Earth Day clean-ups on Fairview. We also had a successful online meeting with architects for a proposed development and anticipate more meetings in the coming months.

Other activities and events are coming this summer and fall, and we look forward to seeing you there. Look for news about neighborhood issues, events and activities at our website eastlakeseattle.org and our Facebook page.

The Board welcomes your suggestions at: info@eastlakeseattle.org. Please join us in helping fund or volunteer for this important neighborhood work at: https://www.eastlakeseattle.org/join-donate-volunteer

SIGN UP & JOIN VIA MAIL

Eastlake Community Council membership is open to all who live, work, or own property in Eastlake.

We invite you to check off one or more interest(s) below & complete the form to the right.

- Events and fundraising
- Help with website, database, social media, or video
- Art walk or public art
- Parks and open spaces
- Traffic and parking issues
- Bus/transit service
- Review building proposals or legislation
- Crime prevention or emergency preparedness
- Newsletter content/production
- Door-to-door newsletter distribution

name(s): ____________________________

street address: __________________________

phone: __________________________

e-mail: __________________________

Check a box below for membership dues or donation:

- Individual Membership $35
- Student / Senior / Low Income Membership $10
- Business Membership $75
- Donation $______

Thank you, Eastlake News Delivery Volunteers!

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EASTLAKE VOICES NEEDED AT SEATTLE REDISTRICTING COMMISSION OPEN FORUM JUNE 9

The Seattle Redistricting Commission will hold an open forum for District 4 residents on June 9th at 5:30PM.
Based on 2020 census data, Districts 3, 4 & 7 have grown faster than the other districts in the city.
Seattle’s district system requires equal representation from all districts, requiring higher populated districts to shrink and lower populated districts to grow every ten years.
As a result, District 4 will need to shed around 6,000 of its current 111,000 voters to neighboring districts.
The four current draft maps released by the commission each place Eastlake in vastly different circumstances for the next decade.
One proposal would keep all of Eastlake in District 4 (Pedersen), one proposal moves everything south of the Ship Canal into District 3 (Sawant), and another proposal splits the neighborhood in half, creating a district boundary running down Lynn Street.
The commission needs to hear from as many Eastlake voices as possible to ensure the entire neighborhood is fairly represented.
As our little slice of Seattle continues to grow faster than the rest of the city, speaking up now can have serious long term benefits for years to come.
The commission has scheduled public forums by district and D4’s will be held on June 9th at 5:30pm.
As of press time, a location for the meeting has not been announced, so please watch the ECC website or social pages for critical updates.
For more information on the redistricting process, visit: https://www.seattle.gov/redistricting

UPCOMING EVENT: SUMMER SOUNDS, JULY 8 5-8 PM ROGERS PLAYGROUND

ECC will be hosting three local musicians live at Rogers Playground on July 8.
The line-up includes local bands and Eastlake residents: Your Downstairs Neighbors, Larsen Gardens and JERF.
Watch for updates on the ECC website, FB and blog as more details come together.
A new opportunity to relax with your neighbors on a summer evening.

See the back page for opportunities to volunteer and help coordinate events this summer and beyond!

HAPPY 48TH ANNIVERSARY TO THE EASTLAKE ZOO TAVERN

In May, The Eastlake Zoo celebrated its 48th anniversary with a weekend of festivities including live music and a Ping Pong tournament. Cheers to 48 years of beers at The Zoo!
CONSIDER RUNNING FOR THE ECC BOARD OF DIRECTORS THIS FALL

By ECC Nominating Committee

If you’ve ever considered getting more involved in the community, now is good time. The Eastlake Community Council’s nominating committee is seeking volunteers to serve in board and officer positions.

Board members are encouraged to contribute time to their particular interest or skill area and need to be able to attend monthly board meetings.

ECC’s bylaws require that members, board members and officers reside, work, own property, or do business in Eastlake, and that they be “persons whose background, experience, and interest indicate that they will support the purposes of the Council.”

The ECC invites you to step forward to serve on the board of directors, and/or encourage someone else to do so. The nominee’s background information is always welcome. Nominees need to be, or become, members of the ECC. (Join on our website or see the membership form in this newsletter.)

Annual elections for the Eastlake Community Council Board of Directors are the first Tuesday in late September.

Please volunteer, suggest someone else, or pose any questions, to the ECC nominating committee at info@eastlakeseattle.org or c/o Lake Union Mail PMB #1, 117 E. Louisa Street, Seattle, WA 98102.

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Seattle Department of Transportation officials updated the Eastlake Community Council on the status of the RapidRide J Line in late April - a plan that calls for dedicated bike lanes on Eastlake Avenue East and the removal of all parking as part of new bus service.

District 4 City Councilmember Alex Pedersen, chair of the City Council Transportation Committee, who attended the Zoom meeting, said he hoped SDOT would show some flexibility on the project.

He said the project’s plan to eliminate parking on Eastlake is likely to cause an uproar similar to the dispute that erupted over a similar plan on 35th Avenue Northeast. In 2019, SDOT abandoned plans to put bike lanes along 2.3 miles of the street after the plan raised a storm of protest from residents and businesses.

Pedersen also saw an equity issue with spending money in Eastlake when areas of South Seattle have greater needs. “We could have a creative sharing of the road that would be good and save money too.”

SDOT RapidRide J Line officials briefed the ECC at its regular April board meeting. Project Manager Garth Merrill and Darrell Bulmer, Communications and Outreach Lead, presented an update on the J Line. Much of the presentation was a review of the project, including the RapidRide system, bike lanes on Eastlake and other factors. Merrill said a consultant has been added to review the Restricted Parking Zone 8 who will “balance neighborhood and business needs.”

Merrill said the comment period is open on the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Determination of Non-significance. In March, the Department of Transportation’s Federal Transit Administration (FTA) recommended allocating $60 million to Seattle’s RapidRide J Line project. It signals the project is on track to receive a grant from the FTA’s Capital Investment Grants Small Starts Program.

Merrill said SDOT could begin final design work in 2023 with service beginning in 2026.

ECC Board President Detra Segar said the residents of Eastlake continue to have the same issues with the project regarding bike lanes and load zones. Merrill said there would be a few zones on Eastlake Avenue East, but most loading zones would be moved to side streets.

Segar said there are still issues for businesses with removing parking on Eastlake. She said other businesses with parking were contacted about allowing public parking in their lots, but the idea received “major resistance” from those building owners.

Businesses along Eastlake Avenue East face a difficult fallout if the project goes through as planned, eliminating parking. “After Covid, we can’t take a hit like this,” one business owner said. There are also questions about the cost of the project. One Eastlake resident said it seemed extravagant to spend $60 million on a new bus project when the #70 bus works just fine. Also, anyone wanting to get Downtown or to South Lake Union could take the new Sound Transit light rail network or connect with the South Lake Union Trolley.

ECC Board Member David Taft asked about the project and the needs to repair the University Bridge. Merrill said SDOT was in touch with bridge experts but there was nothing specific in the project regarding the bridge.

Bike lanes on Eastlake were discussed, including moving to alternate routes. Merrill said the issue has been addressed and that safety is the key concern. He said bike commuters would still use Eastlake even if alternate routes were available. One potential alternative is for the inside lanes northbound and southbound on Eastlake Avenue East to become exclusive transit and bike lanes - from 7am to 10am southbound and from 4pm to 7pm northbound on weekdays.
Asked about eliminating bus stops on Eastlake given the increased number of new apartment buildings both constructed and planned, Merrill said stops are within a third of a mile for anyone on Eastlake and fewer stops insure the movement of buses through the neighborhood.

Pedersen said he realized that there is much to do for the project including watermain replacement and other repairs. He said he would speak to Mayor Bruce Harrell and the new SDOT manager. Pedersen said there is a need for schematics that show what the project will look like at the street level.

He also expressed concern about the apparent lack of connection between the project and the University Bridge. His concern is about a “massive investment without taking care of the bridge.”


If you think SDOT should have more flexibility on the Eastlake project, email Seattle Mayor Bruce Harrell (Bruce.Harrell@seattle.gov), the acting director of SDOT (Kristen.Simpson@Seattle.gov) or Adiam Emery, who works in Harrell’s office on equity issues (Adiam.Emery@seattle.gov).
REACHING OUT TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS FOR THOUGHTS ON DEVELOPMENT

By Judy Smith

Like it or not, even more development is coming to Eastlake. How much the community has a say in it will depend on how much the community speaks up. As one Eastlake resident noted, “What is happening in Eastlake reminds me of the ‘60s and ‘70s when the Eastlake community was faced with the end of the houseboat community and the onslaught of over-water condos and other large-scale developments, with the City Council pushing growth like they did back then.”

There is no avoiding growth now, but there is some funneling of what that growth will look like with community feedback.

A couple of years ago, the Eastlake Community Council formed a Land Use Committee. It has been tracking development in Eastlake, assisting in the public comment process, and posting information about each new project on the ECC website. One of its goals is to help define the type of development the community wants. With that in mind, the Eastlake News reached out to a handful of community activists (not by any means all) to ask for their thoughts.

A few people mentioned preserving Eastlake’s legacy businesses. “I love Eastlake for its mix from fine restaurants to heavy industry,” noted one. “A chronic worry of mine is that rising land values may drive out Lake Union Drydock and other heavy industry.”

Others hoped to save Eastlake legacy trees (perhaps in a nod to Eastlake’s growing birding enthusiasts). “No matter what the buildings look like, or function as, if they are allowed to become all hardscape without large trees, Eastlake development will continue the march to becoming a more forbidding and unhealthful place, with fewer and fewer birds.”

Trees and landscaping are high priorities as well as setbacks, variety, and high-quality natural materials. Also, more ground-level retail.

“For townhomes there should be variability in the design. Seeing the monotonous townhome buildings make the neighborhood lose character beyond being ugly. We can see some of the older townhomes are so boring and dilapidated after a few years. Greenery is a must. For larger buildings, keep including brick as this is timeless. Any developments along Eastlake Ave should absolutely include retail space/restaurant space to continue to make this neighborhood more walkable and livable without a car.”

Affordability is also a concern, “I just saw a flyer in my Eastlake mailbox that crowed about two floating home sales of over $3M each…that’s not a good harbinger for affordable housing in the houseboat community.” (Or anywhere else in Eastlake.)

The following list is a compilation of other thoughts on development. This is by no means a final list or agreed upon list. It is still an evolving conversation. Your input and thoughts would be appreciated. We welcome your feedback at: info@eastlakeseattle.org

Thoughts on Development:

Scale/facades/relationship to the street: Buildings can be made to look large and imposing or not … let’s have not, even on Eastlake Avenue; buildings set back from the sidewalk on Eastlake allowing some plants would soften the facades. Also, maintaining setbacks from alleys should be a priority. Our alleys should be respected as pedestrian walkways and recognized as the front for many residences: trash, recycling and compost bins should be located within buildings or surrounded by attractive fencing or walls.

Decorative elements:
- structural or pseudo-structural elements: e.g., columns, brackets, banding, brick set in interesting patterns,
- windows: shapes borrowed from older neighborhood buildings, inset as opposed to flush with exterior wall, framed
- authenticity of materials, e.g., no big square pieces of brick veneer that have simulated bricks. Facades with non-structural real bricks are fine.
Doorways: Clearly identified with details

Garage entries: Should not be prominent, especially leading to primary streets where we’re trying to encourage pedestrian traffic, e.g., Eastlake. If gated, the gates should be attractive, possibly with decorative elements.

Fences: 5’ or 6’ fences across front yards should be set back from the sidewalk for some plants; we could end up with sidewalks unattractive for pedestrian traffic if everyone can put up a 5’ or 6’ fence or wall along the sidewalk.

Large walls without windows or some detailing shouldn’t be allowed: Decorative screens or a frame to guide vines could break them up. Murals, sculptural elements, e.g., bas relief would also accomplish this. The fire codes prevent windows on walls along property lines, but maybe buildings in villages like Eastlake shouldn’t sit on the property lines. These feel like downtown buildings.

Landscaping and trees: Where overhead wires don’t interfere, canopy trees should be required. We should require minimum 3” caliper trees. Planting bushes and trees that are friendly to birds, bees, butterflies and other wildlife should be prioritized.

Continued on page 10
Water retention: Require properties to design natural or mechanical systems to retain the first inch of rain during a storm.

Child compatible floorplans: Children are the only essential component of neighborhood. Children create the self-interest to maintain attractive and safe sidewalks. Parents – and all others interested in our better future – want sidewalks safe for caretakers pushing strollers, and safe for children out exploring alone. Unfortunately, the economics of multi-unit construction works against 2-3-4 bedroom/2-3 bath floorplans. These floorplans are also essential for families who hire live-in caretakers during the concluding portions of the lifespan spectrum.

Ground relations: Neighborhood is different from community. A community can be a high rise where residents share the rooftop and gym room, or in a shared house where they share a kitchen. But to be a neighborhood there are certain essential dependences and relationships that are almost all based on sidewalk interactions – immediate and close by. Windows that open, balconies, sitting stoops, planting strips with flowers and vegetables help foster neighborly greetings. It’s pretty difficult to recognize a friend on the sidewalk from above the fourth floor, so housing in neighborhoods shouldn’t exceed four stories.

Re-Charging parking: We are bifurcating future populations. Housing without on-site parking as gasoline fuel becomes obsolete effectively deprives those future residents of the choice of personal all-weather transportation. Healthy housing of the future requires slow-trickle overnight re-charging. Housing without re-charging excludes gig, trades and traveling workers dependent on their personal vehicles.

Condo retail: The days of an Eastlake Avenue shopkeeper owning the whole property are long gone. But owning what the shopkeeper is tending daily is the age-old strategy to long-term personal success, with neighborhood improvement a predictable byproduct. For this reason, there is a general preference for the mixed-use projects on the arterial be residential condo over ground level retail condo.

Suggested Zoning Changes:

- Require 1 on-site parking space per unit in residential buildings but allow less – down to 3 (needed for move-in/out and the trades) - by variance.
- Roll back the Midrise-80 Feet zoning on Boylston to Lowrise-3.
- Limit all Lowrise to 40 feet in height.
• Require front setbacks that encourage conversations among residents and neighbors.
• Require all new residential structures to have a minimum 20% child-compatible floorplans.

**Desired commerce:** Recognizing Eastlake already has: bakery, pharmacy, flower shop, pizza parlors, pool tables, fine dining, casual dining, automobile repair, wedding dresses, alterations, dry cleaning, deli, wine shop, convenience stores, massage, gym, physical therapy, mental therapy, and Patrick’s Fly Shop. We might want: waterfront storage for water craft, small twin-screen movie theater, electric bike/scooter rental/repair (near Eastlake & Fairview), pre-schools (multiple), tutoring (attracts scholarly residents/employees), apartment manager/housing provider training (Eastlake becomes best practices mecca), shoe repair, for-profit community newspaper (“Ship Canal Gazette”), and an ice cream shoppe!

Again, the above list is made up of suggestions from individuals and is not necessarily the stance of the Eastlake Community Council or its Land Use Committee. Please send your comments to the ECC at: info@eastlakeseattle.org. Check out the ECC website for information about new developments in the neighborhood and how you can comment on them at: https://www.eastlakeseattle.org

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**BEAT THE HEAT THIS SUMMER**

*By Angela Shier*

Summer is upon us, and with it comes rising temperatures. If we learned anything from last year’s heatwave, when Seattle reached a historic high of 108°F, preparing for extreme heat is a matter of health and safety. Air conditioning is certainly a solution for some, but it is not always the most economic or environmentally friendly option. There are many alternative ways to stay cool without A/C:

**Block out the sun:** Cover windows using tin foil, space blankets, sun-blocking curtains or even cardboard to prevent direct sunlight from heating your home.

**Insulate doors:** Use weather-stripping to keep in cool air.

**Avoid using heat-generating appliances:** Appliances like hairdryers, ovens, stove burners, dishwashers, microwaves, clothes washers and dryers add extra heat, avoid using them until the air has cooled. If possible opt for cold food options or prepare meals ahead of time.

**Fans and ice:** Create a cross breeze to circulate cooler air while pushing out hot air.

**Utilize ice:** Keep plenty of ice stocked in the freezer. Ice can be placed in front of a fan to increase cooling.

**Stay hydrated:** The more you sweat, the more water you will need to consume to avoid dehydration.

**For those with pets:** Prevent your pet from overheating by placing a cool, wet, towel for them to lay on and provide plenty of drinking water.

**Access local cooling centers and public spaces:** Public libraries, indoor & outdoor pools, beaches and cooling centers can often be an option for getting out of the heat for the afternoon.

For information on heat related illness and heat safety visit the following links:

- CDC Guidelines: https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/heatstress/heatrelillness.html
- Wildfire Smoke Safety: https://www.seattle.gov/wildfire-smoke-safety
Hi, I’m Heather!

I live on Minor and am always walking my dogs, Skipper and Cheese. Meeting my neighbors is one of my favorite things. Real estate is my line of work and I specialize in both listing and buying. I’ve sold 26 homes in the past 12 months. I treat all of my clients like family and do not give up until they are 100% satisfied with my service. I’d love to meet you!

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EASTLAKE GRILL: THE END OF A NEIGHBORHOOD TRADITION

By Peri Olcer

Eastlake Bar and Grill, a restaurant and bar in Eastlake that has been open since 2004, is set to close its doors to the public on September 30th, 2022. The restaurant has been a long-time favorite in the neighborhood for many because of its beautiful views of Lake Union, delicious food and drink menu and dog-friendly and human-friendly nature.

Spending time at Eastlake Bar and Grill is always a warm experience, over the years the restaurant has grown a deep and diverse community that is truly hard to beat. Sarah Vincent, the general manager, was kind enough to share her thoughts on what Eastlake Grill means to the neighborhood: “What makes it special is the regulars that come in no matter the weather, no matter what time of year. We do ‘Bar customer of the month’ every so often and if you go in, you’ll see plaques with their names on it across the bar.” She also added, “When Eastlake Grill goes away, these people who have been coming in for years, almost every day, will lose that.”

Eastlake Bar and Grill is special to not only the Eastlake neighborhood, but the greater Seattle area as well, which is why it’s so sad to see it go. Vincent points out, “It’s one of the last affordable bar-and-grills in Seattle, and it’s on the water! Eastlake Bar and Grill is incredibly accessible and affordable for everyone. We pride ourselves on being very hands on and the chefs and front of house managers work very closely together to make sure the guest gets the best experience.” The closing of the restaurant not only proves the continuing urbanization of both Eastlake and Seattle, but also an alarming loss of connection and personality within our community.

So, what does the future look like for Eastlake Bar and Grill? There are still ways to enjoy it until the restaurant closes to the public in September. For example, they will be hosting live music every Saturday until the 27th of August. After their closing, they will still be open for private events. Additionally, according to Vincent, “When the new building goes up, we will have the first right of refusal since it will be condos with a retail space at the bottom. No decision has been made on whether we will be coming back to the space.” In the meantime, the owners of Neighborhood Grills are branching out to a new industry, an all-inclusive dog grooming/walking business called Pups-a-Daisy. Make sure to check out their Instagram @eastlakebarandgrill for updates!
EAST HOWE STEPS PLAZA

After seven years of planning, the development of a new public plaza is happening. The resolution to grant a special parking arrangement on the unopened right-of-way at the end of Howe Street and Fairview was unanimously approved by the City Council on April 12. (Resolution 31988). Our thanks to CM Alex Pedersen for his support of this project.

With grant support provided by the Department of Neighborhoods and out-reach to the community at many public meetings, construction will begin in the next month and be completed before the end of the summer. The design, done by HBB Design, will be a lovely addition to our neighborhood. The plaza will contain trees and native plantings, seating and a section that will be ADA accessible. The plaza also completes the hill-climb stair connection to Capitol Hill. It will serve as a rest spot for pedestrian and bike users of the Cheshiahud Loop as well as all residents simply out for a walk.

Construction costs and maintenance of the plaza will be provided by the adjacent private property owner through an innovative partnership agreement with our neighborhood steering committee. A 15-year renewable parking agreement with the property owner at 1910 made this possible.

There will be 16 private parking spaces and 4 public parking spaces all clearly marked. The private parking spaces will be used by the tenants of 1910 Fairview between 6 AM and 8 PM on weekdays. All 20 spaces will be available to the public after 8 PM on weekdays and all weekends and holidays.

The plaza will also be available for events several times a year. Details on how to request the space will be covered once construction has been completed.

As density in Eastlake increases, public spaces become more important. We look forward to the completion the plaza and a wonderful new green space added to Eastlake.

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East Howe Steps by Karen Berry
SEATTLE UPDATES ITS COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Would you like to influence the next comprehensive plan for Seattle? Beginning in May, the city will be gathering input from all residents to incorporate into the new One Seattle Plan. Seattle 2035 Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2016 and this is a required update. Exploring different approaches to growth and investment, as well as reducing displacement pressures, will be part of the discussion.

Your input is essential and a chance for your voice to be heard. For an overview of the whole program, complete with a video, visit: https://www.seattle.gov/opcd/one-seattle-plan.

You can complete a survey and sign up to continue participating as the process moves forward here: https://engage.oneseattleplan.com/en/

There will be in-person meetings in our district. Locations and dates will be announced at the links listed above.

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**PEOPLE OF EASTLAKE: BRODIE PETERSON**

by Annie Gus

Brodie aka The Brodcast lives in Eastlake and released his fourth album, “WHAT’S GOOD?” in March. I sat down with Brodie to learn more about the inspiration and creative process that fueled this concept album steeped in the imagery of the four elements: earth, water, fire, air.

**A: Congrats on the release of your fourth album! How did you land on the theme of the four elements?**

B: I’m a fan of concept albums – frameworks and balance have always appealed to me as a songwriter. I like when there’s a sense of cohesion. For “WHAT’S GOOD?”, I chose themes that unite. Politically and with the pandemic, we’re living in polarized times. I look to the aspects of life that we all share like drinking clean water and breathing fresh air. I’ve been living in Eastlake for the past eighteen months and something I value about this neighborhood is the access to Lake Union and pocket parks – places to watch a sunset and experience how elemental building blocks bring us together locally and globally.

**A: Tell me about how you got started as a musician and how you got hooked.**

B: Music moves me. I grew up in West Seattle and switched from playing piano to the guitar around age 11. I became passionate about listening to music and then I found I couldn’t listen without wanting to participate and write my own songs. I love the storytelling in music. I discovered hip-hop in high school and was blown away by the different approaches to narrative. I fell in love with how songs can explore a concept and the thoughtfulness of the lyrics. I’m especially drawn to the self-expression aspect of making music. For me, writing songs is a way to express what is in my heart. It’s deeply personal.

**A: What’s your songwriting process?**

B: Usually collaborative, but for my part, I think of each song as an experiential map. It invites the listener to take a journey and provides some guideposts, yet each individual traverses on their own. Songwriting is a powerful and personal way to communicate, and my records are like an offering, or a vision - maybe even a spell my collaborators and I cast together. My hope with each album is to conjure a vision of a better world through the songs. And it’s not even that fantastical – it’s just looking to the beauty around us and harnessing it.

**A: What’s something you hope listeners take away from “WHAT’S GOOD?”**

B: Simplicity. Getting down to basics is a concept I find compelling and inspiring, and I hope that comes through. Songs like “Imagine” and “Flickering”, for instance, gently encourage us to slow down, savor a sunset, and acknowledge our lives are precious and short. Also, I hope to nudge others to create and follow their inspiration.
**A:** What’s something you’re proud of?

**B:** As I shuffled the song titles to determine the order of the tracks, I realized they made an almost fully formed haiku. I made small edits so the final tracklist reads as a little poem. I love layered creativity like that! And I didn’t even come up with it; I just noticed it. It’s affirming to be surprised that way and feel like I’m participating in something beyond me. I’m proud of my ability to see things like that in the creative process. Last but certainly not least, I’m grateful I had the opportunity to make this album with friends I love: Ian, Jules, Kyle, Simon, Mike, and more.

**A:** Are the songs on “WHAT’S GOOD?” autobiographical? Does your mom have a garden, as you note in “Touch Ground” and how did bok choy make an appearance in the title track?

**B:** Yes, my mom did have a garden and we did roll around in it! Then, in my 20s, I lived with an avid gardener. He was the chief gardener of actual vegetable matter, and I am more of a gardener of ideas. I learned a lot from him and loved being around it. I did grow tomatoes on my balcony last year so I am stepping up my green thumb game. The bok choy reference in “WHAT’S GOOD?” popped up because that’s what my producer and I were cooking for dinner when we were writing together that night. That example is apt metaphor for this album – it’s all about seeing the inspiration and beauty in the good people and simple ingredients of your day-to-day life.

**A:** Tell me more about how sense of place is important to you.

**B:** Watching natural cycles such as seasonal shifts—and Eastlake has helped with this—has deepened my understanding of my own creation process. A shift for me as an artist, a healthy one, is acknowledging I can’t produce all the time. Sometimes I’m just living, gathering inspiration, or getting into release mode. I’ve lived in Eastlake for the last year and a half, and it has been a period of personal transformation and preparing to release this record. Now that “WHAT’S GOOD?” has bloomed, I feel called to plant other types of seeds, tend to those projects, and see which ones want to grow.

To listen to “WHAT’S GOOD?” and learn about The Brodcast’s upcoming shows visit: thebrodcast.com
A CAT’S EYE VIEW OF EASTLAKE
by Angela Shier & Caitlin Molenaar

A tour of the neighborhood’s feline favorites and where to find them! While out cat-spotting, please respect each feline’s space, only give pets when they want to be touched and avoid feeding in case they have dietary restrictions. If you spot a cat that you think should be featured in the next issue, reach out to us at: info@eastlakeseattle.org.

1 **CHARLOTTE**
Location: Franklin and Shelby
Appearance: Calico Charmer
Friendliness: ★★★★★
The Queen of L’Amourita, Charlotte rules the end of the street with an iron paw and benevolent gaze. Explorer extraordinaire, she’s been known to sneak into windows of unsuspecting neighbors. Loves sun-sitting.

2 **ZUKO**
Location: Franklin and Lynn
Appearance: Orange Creamsicle
Friendliness: ★★★★★
Neighborhood favorite Zuko loves socializing with those along the Louisa-Lynn corridor. His charming ways may tempt you to give him a treat—but don’t. This boy is on a particular diet. Snuggles over snacks!

3 **FIG**
Location: Franklin and Hamlin
Appearance: Titilating Tabby
Friendliness: ★★★★★
Cat-about-town, Fig’s defining characteristic is his sheer omnipresence. Easily mistaken for one of the neighborhood’s plentiful tabbies, look for a white-tipped jaw and muzzle to know if it’s him!

4 **CONNER BAJA BLAST BANDIT**
Location: Yale and Boston
Appearance: Titilating Tabby
Friendliness: ★★★★★★
Leash-trained 10 month-old-legend, Conner Baja Blast Bandit is well deserving of his dignified name. He is just as soft as he is friendly! This handsome hunk has been known to do the cat-version of pull ups across the hallway carpet with his claws.
As we approach the summer solstice and beyond, days are long and nesting season is winding down for many of our local birds. This is a good time of year to offer a bird bath, preferably with a small spray fountain, to attract birds to your yard or lanai. In the dry weather, they love a bit of shallow water to bathe in, and for reasons I don’t understand they are particularly attracted to small fountains (maybe it’s the sound that lets them know water is nearby). Fun to watch, and a healthy option for our land birds.

This is a good time of year to watch for young fledglings as they spread their wings to leave the nest. Even after fledging, most juvenile land birds that we see locally still need help from their parents, and often will be most notable as they beg for food. Young American Robins can be told by their spotted breasts as they learn from mom and dad how to catch worms. Young American Crows make a racket as they — what I call “teenagers” — chase after their parents demanding to be fed. Watch out, however, during this period right around fledging, as adult Crows can be overly protective of the space around their nests.

Our waterfowl that nest along Lake Union shores or adjacent structures employ a different strategy. Their young are precocious, able to run, swim and feed themselves as soon as they pop out of the shell. Canada Geese and Mallards will have completed their nesting by June, with young goslings and ducklings quickly growing into “teenage” size in early summer. Since Canada Geese mate for life and often stay in loose family clans, you might see a string of goslings (called a creche) swimming behind both parents or even a close relative who is doing childcare duty to give the parents a break. Drake (male) Mallards, on the other hand, split as soon as eggs are laid, leaving parental duties totally up to the hen. By the time the juvenile Mallards are as large as mom by mid summer, they look just like her in plumage, even if they are males. Young Canada Geese stay with their parents for a whole year before maturing to mate, while Mallards molt into full adults by their first fall, the males appearing in full adult colors by October.

Local Bald Eagles and Ospreys can often be seen along Lake Union’s shore, hunting for fish or just passing by. We have three eagle pairs nesting on nearby Union Bay near Husky Stadium. The closest eagle nest is located in a cottonwood tree at the southeast corner of the Montlake Cut. Sometimes these closest nesting eagles, or immature eagles who are not mature enough to mate, will cruise by Eastlake looking for something to eat. Bald Eagles are residents locally, but move around quite a bit in non-breeding seasons based on best fishing spots. It takes five years for a Bald Eagle to reach maturity with white head and tail; the younger ones drift around for four years before settling down. Ospreys, our local “fish hawk,” have nested in recent years by the Union Bay Natural Area and the U.W. baseball fields, after returning in April from their winter vacations in Mexico. We often see and hear Ospreys through the summer as they fly over Lake Union looking for fish. It is a treat to watch them fish, as they hover over a sighting, then dive head first toward the water, shifting their sharp-taloned feet forward at the last second to score a fish at or even a few feet under the surface; as they rise up out of the water, they always shift the fish to be head-facing-forward for better aerodynamics. But watch out, Osprey, as Bald Eagles often lurch nearby, waiting for the Osprey to catch the fish before stealing it away, a tactic called kleptoparasitism. A birder friend noted that, “the Osprey knows it has to pay taxes to the federal bird.”

Enjoy the summer weather and urban nature in the neighborhood. Keep me posted (at galvind53@gmail.com) as to what you are seeing and any questions you have as you watch bird behaviors. To me, it’s less important to worry about identification and better to simply enjoy watching birds as they go about their interesting lives.
Ever felt that tug of wanting to do something for your neighborhood? That feeling of wanting to be involved somehow?

The Eastlake Community Council has several volunteer positions for delegates or representatives with organizations that have an impact on Eastlake. The obligation is to attend the meetings – they are usually monthly and all virtual for now – and then write a short report to the ECC about what was discussed and how it might impact the neighborhood. You don’t even have to be an ECC member – just a desire to help the ‘hood. Here is a list of groups needing an ECC representative or that can use more participation by neighborhood residents.

There are several current projects that ECC is working on. This is a great way to make a contribution to your neighborhood and meet your neighbors. Please take a look and let us know what you would like to help with.

**Eastlake News Editorial and Advertising:**
Our long-time neighborhood newsletter is published once a quarter and can always use more writers and editors. We sell advertising so, if you have a business bent, you could help us as our advertising coordinator.

**Eastlake News Blog:**
If you have WordPress experience and ideas for how to grow the blog, we could use you. We’re always looking for writers and content contributors.

**Eastlake News Delivery:**
Volunteers are needed for delivery of new issues to addresses in an assigned area. Volunteers are also needed to return to specified businesses during the life of each issue to keep the copies restocked.

**Transportation:**
Rapid Ride J Line has now been funded and will impact Eastlake Ave. We need several people to help gather information from residents and businesses.

**Parks:**
Eastlake has a long tradition of neighbors taking care of public parks. If there is a public space you would like to help take care of, go for it. If you would like to be part of a regular work group, we want to hear from you.

**Event Coordinator:**
We have events in the works in need of an Event Coordinator including: Movie in the Park, ECC Fall Celebration and the Candidate Forum. See more information about these specific events below. If you have an idea of an event that you would like to create, let us know!

**Movie in the Park:**
We need a project manager for the Summer Movie at Rogers Playfield which takes place in August. The primary responsibilities include contacting our past sources for producing the show, coordinating participation and promoting the event. An ECC board member will be your liaison and funding is in place.

**ECC Fall Celebration:**
This is a loved fall social gathering. It takes place in a local restaurant sometime in early Fall. ECC has developed relationships with several restaurants and the events have been well attended in the past. Working with an ECC board member you will contact the restaurant, agree on a date and promote the event in our publications and with posters.

**Candidate Forum:**
Each Fall ECC hosts a candidate forum before the November elections. We need someone interested in local politics to coordinate. Candidates from city, county and state level positions should be considered. This event is an important part of democracy and provides residents an opportunity to speak with candidates directly. The forum is held one evening in early October. Contacting the candidate and coordinating times are the main duties.

Whether you have managed a prior project or not, we invite you to reach out. We are happy to provide you with contacts and support as you implement the plans.