Peaks Island Neighbor: July 2002

Peaks Island Neighborhood Based Plan

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Everyone is encouraged to participate!

Community Planning Workshop to Be Held

Your help is needed to shape a Neighborhood-based Plan! This planning workshop offers the best opportunity for all Peaks Island neighbors to have their opinions about the Island heard and included in the plan.

For the past five months, a dozen task teams (see p. 2) have been collecting and researching data, and developing lists of issues in an effort to present a series of future options to the community. August 4th will be the time for your comments and suggestions. During the Workshop, each task team will display its findings at individual dialogue tables. Community members will move from table to table to discuss research results with the team members and add their own ideas and suggestions. And everyone will be asked to contribute to a Vision of Peaks Island in 2020.

All this information will be compiled by the task teams, and then edited and written into a Draft Neighborhood-Based Plan for review and comments by the community in the Fall. Please help us decide the future of our special Island! Once it is complete, our Plan will be sent to the City of Portland’s Planning Department.

Islanders Hear Survey Results

About 40 Island residents attended a meeting on June 19th to learn about the results of the Community Survey. The Survey results were presented in both graphic and verbal forms. Islander Jenny Yasi, Nate Gray (Island Institute Intern), and Tom Fortier (Portland’s Island liaison) explained some of the highlights of the Survey results. One important fact is that 561 surveys were returned by Island property owners and voters, an astounding 55% rate of return!

Copies Available at Library

Nate Gray has typed all the data responses into a database, including pages of written comments that were part of the survey responses, and created all the handsome pie charts that made the data more understandable. He described the locations for storing both the original survey forms and the transcribed data. Electronic and paper copies of the survey will be available on reserve at the Peaks Island Library, as well as at City Hall and the Portland Public Library. These copies of (continued on page 2, see ‘Island Survey Results’)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total number of responses</th>
<th>561</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Males</td>
<td>266 *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Females</td>
<td>286 *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirees</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeowners</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commuters</td>
<td>251</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mainland vehicles owned by responders | 530
Cars/trucks on Peaks owned by responders | 427

* These two numbers together do not equal the total responses because participants did not necessarily answer every question.
Island Survey Results
(continued from page 1)
the results will be available
to everyone in the commu-
ity, but will be password pro-
tected and cannot be altered.
Copies of the summary results
were handed out at the meet-
ing and can be found upstairs
in the Library.
Jenny Yasi, who has pushed
the survey process from begin-
ning to end, discussed some
of the ways in which the sur-
vey’s cross-linked data base
 can be used to ‘shake out’ ad-
ditional information about
the Island. For example, it is
possible to find out how
many people in a certain age
bracket favored or opposed a
particular item in the survey,
or to discover if there are
wide variations in opinion
between summer people and
year-round residents.
Written Comments Useful
Jenny hopes many “people
will become interested in the
as-yet-unharvested information
waiting to be tapped” in the
survey results. She also
feels that the written com-
ments compiled from the sur-
veys were very informative
and reveal lots of positive
feelings about Peaks Island.
While this stage of the
survey process has been very
successful, the results of the
survey are not static. Current-
ly, they represent a snapshot
of community views on the
issues asked about in the sur-
vey. Another step is to de-
cide how to use the informa-
tion in other meaningful
ways. The task teams are uti-
лизing information for the
Neighborhood Planning pro-
cess. Come to a Planning
meeting in July to suggest
various ways to use the data
to benefit the Island. ↓

The Task Teams: an Update
Population (Nancy Hall, Nate Gray): Compiled Census
2000 data about Peaks Island and made it available to other Teams.
Water, Topography & Soil Resources (Art Astarita): Developed map of Island’s 25 watersheds and is compiling
additional information about groundwater resources.
Natural Resources (Lynne Richard): In the process of conducting field studies of the Island’s various natural
habitats.
Marine Resources (Curtis Rindlaub/Nate Gray): Have outlined marine resources and facilities; also addressing pres-
servation of access to coastal waters.
Historic and Architectural Resources (Kim Maclsaac): Collecting information on historic cultural and
architectural resources and assessing community character.
Land Use Patterns (Dick Springer/Nate Gray): Gathering land use information describing current and projected de-
velopment patterns; analyzing building permits, zoning codes.
Housing (Keith Hults/Marjorie Phye/Dick Reed): Devel-
oping a inventory of residential buildings and considering future needs for affordable housing.
Transportation (Nate Gray): Collecting information on Island transportation needs and systems, and exploring
alternatives.
Recreation & Open Space (Don Stein/Nancy Hall): Identifying public shore access points and recreational oppor-
tunities that are free to the public, involve membership in an organization or involve Island Businesses.
Public Facilities (Peter Deane): Developing data on public facilities and their usage, especially public services neces-
sary to protect the environment and the health, safety, and wel-
fare of the public.
Economy (Nate Gray): Re-
viewing neighborhood data
including Island employers, and
assessed value of residential,
commercial, and tax exempt properties.
Relationship with City
(Bill Hall): In the process of inter-
viewing both Island and City of-
icials about the adequacy of Island representation within
city government.
Images (Barbara Hoppin): In June organized photo exhi-
bition of Peaks Island.
Vision Statements (Cynthia Cole): Interviewing a sample of Island residents and planning a presentation for the
August 4 Workshop.

Look for more information about the task teams later in July.