

Board Special Meeting
Public Hearing: West Seattle Elementary School Parcel Exchange
April 20, 2021, 6:00 - 6:45 p.m.
Meeting held remotely



Minutes

Call to Order

Director Hersey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Directors Dury, Harris, and Rivera-Smith, participated with Microsoft Teams or by phone.

Public Hearing: West Seattle Elementary School Parcel Exchange

Director of Capital Projects and Planning Richard Best provided background on the West Seattle Parcel Exchange. Between Seattle Public Schools (SPS) and Seattle Parks Department regarding West Seattle Elementary School and the Walt Hundley Playfield.

A Lot Boundary Adjustment was previously negotiated and agreed upon in 1987, however the documentation was not properly filed with the City of Seattle. Therefore, part of West Seattle Elementary School is on Parks' property and part of Walt Hundley Playfield is on SPS property. In order to proceed with an addition at the school, SPS requires the land that was designated in the 1987 agreement.

Mr. Best reported that the two properties being considered for exchange are of equal size and value. He provided the addresses and an aerial view of the land. He confirmed that an appraisal was completed for the parcels and that the exchange is mutually beneficial with no costs for either organization.

The following individual gave public testimony:

1. Chris Jackins: Delivered 14 points of testimony disputing the exchange. His concerns included:
 - a. The January 6, 2021 appeal hearing did not disclose the need for a parcel exchange.
 - b. The matter was conveyed at the January 14, 2021 Operations Committee meeting, which tainted the environmental review process.
 - c. SPS should redo the SEPA process for this project.
 - d. SPS did not convey that the public hearing was required.
 - e. The locations on the map are blurred and unclear.
 - f. He questioned whether the parcels are the same as were agreed upon in 1987.
 - g. Stating that the two parties agree does not comply with state law.
 - h. He questioned whether there was a current appraisal of the parcels.
 - i. He suggested that building on one parcel would increase its value.
 - j. SPS should post information about the proposed exchange more clearly on its website.

Director Harris asked staff if the appraisal was 30 years old. Mr. Best confirmed that it was completed in recent months.

Director Harris asked if the current appraisal is available on the SPS website. Mr. Best agreed to post it there by Friday, April 23, 2021.

Adjourn

There being no other speakers, Director Hersey adjourned the meeting at 6:17 p.m.

This meeting was held remotely per the Governor's proclamation allowing public agencies to conduct meetings subject to the Open Public Meetings Act remotely to curtail the spread of COVID-19. Public access was provided remotely online and by teleconference.

Minutes submitted by:

The Office of Chief Operations Officer Fred Podesta