

Greater Kingston Community Conversation ~ October 21, 2023

Discussion Report Outline

Report on **specific actionable items** to implement.

1. Topic Area: LOCAL GOVERNANCE
Facilitator: BETSY COOPER (26 YRS)

Session 1 or 2? 2
Scribe: BETH BERGLUND (15 YRS)

2. List of Participants:

- BEVERLY GODFREY (15 YRS)
- CRAIG SMITH (20+ YRS)
- CLINT BOXMAN (18 YRS)
- STEVE HEACOCK (25 YRS)

Discussion Questions

3. Descriptions of the issues, problems, or challenges facing our community. (Briefly describe the issues shared by each individual.)

- KITSAP COUNTY GOVERNANCE
 - SPLIT ACCOUNTABILITY (STATE / COUNTY)
 - LACK OF LEADERSHIP (CLINT)
 - LOTS OF ORGS AND CITIZENS GROUPS ARE COMPETING
 - LOCAL ORGS NEED TO COLLABORATE TO LEVERAGE OPPORTUNITIES
 - DISTANCE FROM PORT ORCHARD
 - PARKS (KC)
 - OUR VOLUNTEERING SPIRIT GETS TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF
 - PARK STEWARDSHIP GROUPS
 - SILOING OF GOVERNMENT (STEVE)
 - STATE vs. COUNTY
 - DOT vs. COUNTY
 - PORT
 - LEAD ENTITIES
 - EFFECTIVENESS
 - LOW TAX / SERVICE FROM THE COUNTY

- BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
 - HIGHER POPULATION AREAS GET PRIORITY / MORE INTENSE NEEDS
- INVESTMENTS WITH NO ACTION
 - DIAMOND LOT & FERRY HOLDING LOT NOTHING HAPPENING
 - ORIGINAL CONCEPT IS A PARK & RIDE
 - NATURAL CONSTRAINTS / WETLANDS
 - HOLDING LANE LOT
 - PORT TOOK THE LEAD TO CREATE AN ILA
- TRIBAL AUTHORITY / RIGHTS
 - E.G., SHELLFISHING RIGHTS ON PRIVATE TIDELANDS
- DON'T KNOW HOW FUNDING PRIORITIES AT KC BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORKS. IS IT BASED ON...
 - INCOME FROM THE REGION? EQUITY?
 - OUR PROPERTY VALUES HAVE INCREASED AT A HIGHER RATE IN RECENT YEARS
 - NEEDS?
 - POLITICAL ISSUES?
 - CLASSIFICATION SUCH AS HIGH INTENSITY TRANSIT CENTER
 - OTHER?
- SHERIFF'S OFFICE IS FUNDED AT VERY LOW LEVEL

4. What is the group's identified main issue or a prioritized list of the group's three top issues.

- DID NOT PRIORITIZE

5. What are some possible short-term solutions (1-3 years) to the problem(s)?

- COULD OUR COUNTY CONTACTS SPEND TIME ON THE NORTH END / IN KINGSTON?
- WE COULD MAKE ALL OF OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS HEAR WHAT'S HAPPENING IN KINGSTON (BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS)
- ALEX WISNEWSKI IS A NEW KC PARKS DIRECTOR / NEW START
- KCAC COULD BE LEVERAGED TO HELP

- CONVERSATION WITH COMMISSIONER ROLFES ABOUT HOW THE KC BOARD OF COMMISSIONER PRIORITIZATION EFFORTS WORK
 - GORDON ELEMENTARY SIDEWALK ISSUE(S)
- BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT SHARED WITH CHRISTINE / BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.
- SHOULD THE VG MPD TAX RATE BE RAISED (CURRENTLY \$0.13/\$1000) TO PROVIDE SERVICES OUTSIDE OF THE VILLAGE GREEN?
- SHOULD THE PORT OF KINGSTON TAX RATE BE RAISED TO PROVIDE SERVICES OUTSIDE OF THE PORT PROPERTY?
 - e.g., KITSAP COUNTY DECAL INSTEAD OF SPONSORSHIP INCOME TO SUPPORT THE BIG BELLIES
- ANNUAL OR SEMI-ANNUAL COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITY OF ELECTED OFFICIALS / TAXING BODY REPS: e.g., CITY OF POULSBO, PUD, PARK DISTRICTS, FIRE DISTRICTS, PORT DISTRICTS, TRIBES, PUBLIC WORKS, ETC.
 - PROPOSED THAT KCAC TAKE THE LEAD
- MORE EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION (NO MATTER HOW MANY CHANNELS)
 - GET THE WORD OUT ABOUT KCAC MORE EFFECTIVELY
 - KIOSK NETWORK IN EACH NEIGHBORHOOD
 - VILLAGE GREEN COMMUNITY CENTER BEING A COMMUNICATION HUB

6. What are some possible long term solutions (4-10 years) to the problem(s)?

- FIVE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS INSTEAD OF THREE FOR BETTER NORTH NORTH END REPRESENTATION. BETTER BALANCE OF POWER.
 - PORT ORCHARD AND CENTRAL KITSAP CURRENTLY RULE
 - COULD IT BE A CARVE OUT OF CENTRAL AND A CARVE OUT OF NORTH?

7. How will the people and organizations represented here be involved in working on these solutions in 2023-2024?

- WE RAN OUT OF TIME FOR THIS

Thank you for your participation!