



A community-based newspaper serving the Puget Sound area since 1981



Neighborhood  
House

# The Voice

August  
2007  
Articles translated  
into six languages

The newspaper of Neighborhood House

## U.S. Congress considers funding, housing reform

By VIRGINIA FELTON  
Seattle Housing Authority

A flurry of summer activity in Washington D.C. has renewed Congress's focus on housing issues that affect low-income people.

Committees in the Senate and House of Representatives have rejected cuts in housing programs proposed by President Bush and their budgets include increases in some programs.

Whether this signals a turnaround in the recent steady erosion of funding for housing is not yet clear, but lawmakers have acted in significant areas.

"It is encouraging to see the new Congress paying attention to the housing needs of low-income people," said Seattle Housing Authority Executive Director Tom Tierney. "It will be a real challenge, however, for Congress to overcome the funding difficulties inherited from six years of tax cuts and war."

The House of Representatives and a Senate committee have passed appropriations for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development funding Section 8 Vouchers and Low-Income Public Housing. The full Senate will take up these funding

issues later this summer or in the fall.

The House also recently passed the Section 8 Voucher Reform Act, which would overhaul the program to allow for the issuance of 100,000 more vouchers over five years. The bill now goes to the Senate for consideration.

And in late July, the House Financial Services Committee took up debate on a new national Housing Trust Fund. The proposed legislation would allocate \$800 million to \$1 billion annually, with three-quarters of the funds marked to serve extremely low-income families.

### Appropriations up slightly

Funding for housing programs is determined in Washington by committees in both the House and the Senate.

Once the committee's work is discussed in the House or the Senate and passed, the two legislative bodies go through a process of reconciling their differences. Once that is done, the President has to sign the appropriations legislation before programs are funded.

This entire process will likely go on well into the fall or winter, so many of the suggestions in the two bills could still change significantly.

Generally, both appropriations bills  
**See "Congress," SHA News, page 2**

## Housing residents from across the nation attend social forum

By LYNN SEREDA  
Voice reporter

More than 10,000 people traveled to Atlanta, Ga. last month for the first ever United States Social Forum, a five-day social justice gathering organized under the theme, "Another world is possible, Another U.S. is necessary."

The event included workshops, cultural activities, a film festival, marches and rallies, offering a space for activists to connect causes such as economic justice, peace and the environment together in a broader movement.

Well over 100 subsidized housing residents attended the gathering from housing authorities large and small, many meeting one another for the first time. These housing activists not only discussed the current state of low-income housing and the challenges resident organizations face, but were inspired by various resident-led organizing strategies.

Five workshops were organized by tenant groups, including groups from Chicago and New York. Two featured panels of resident leaders from across the U.S., including a member of the Seattle Housing Authority's Resident Action Council who gave a presentation on RAC's pending law-

suit against a rule prohibiting the posting of signs on apartment doors.

The overwhelming consensus of the public housing tenants was that their greatest concerns revolve around the national pattern of demolishing low-income housing and the Moving to Work programs many housing authorities are opting in to.

Tenants shared stories of successful organizing strategies. A tenant group from New York's lower east side successfully lobbied public officials to contribute 120 million to offset a New York City Housing Authority budget deficit and stave off a proposed rent increase. Low Income Families Fighting, in conjunction with the Miami Worker's Center, was able to get  
**See "Social Forum," SHA News, page 3**

## New citizens welcomed on Fourth of July



PHOTO BY CRAIG ANGEVINE

Over 500 people were sworn in as U.S. citizens at Seattle Center last month.

By CRAIG ANGEVINE  
Voice reporter

A dapper member of the U.S. Navy offered onlookers a modest yet heartfelt grin while standing to be honored as one of eight immigrant members of the U.S. military to gain citizenship on the Fourth of July at Seattle Center.

Over 500 immigrants from 78 countries gathered alongside him to be honored in Seattle's 23rd annual Naturalization Ceremony.

The ceremony, hosted by the Ethnic Heritage Council and sponsored by Bank of America, was a deeply meaningful event to its participants as well as their families, friends and the greater community.

Many in the crowd clutched small American flags and red, white and blue water bottles as U.S. Circuit Court Judge Robert R. Beezer swore in the candidates.

Among the event's speakers were Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels, U.S. Rep. Jim McDermott, former Washington Governor Gary Locke and U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell, who said in her remarks that "we are a land that defines itself by our immigrants."

Narom Khath, a 60-year-old Cambodian man who received his citizenship after living in the U.S. for over 15 years, described a great sensation of happiness despite the day's high temperatures.

Khath, who speaks little English, said he

enjoyed the event very much although he experienced some difficulty understanding the speeches.

He said he was glad to finally "be united with these people," adding that he has a new found pride for the place and people he shares his life with, as well as a sense of acceptance and security within a nationality.

Khath came to the U.S. after struggling for many years under Cambodia's Khmer Rouge regime.

In Cambodia he was mandated, as most citizens were, to work in agriculture. For years he harvested and carried back-breaking sacks of rye. The hours were long and the food was sparse. He also served as a captain of infantry in the Cambodian Military.

In the U.S. Khath has found employment much more satisfying. In his time here he has cooked, painted apartments, worked for a toy company and most recently was employed by a mainstream camera film company.

Khath credited the ease with which he found employment in the U.S. to his counselor and close friend, Pheakkdei Neak.

Neak, a family support worker at Neighborhood House's Wiley Center at Greenbridge, offered Khath guidance in employment, transportation, housing and the ominous amounts of bureaucratic  
**See "Citizens," SHA News, page 5**

### A shorter Voice...

Due to staff vacations, this month's edition of The Voice is a bit shorter than normal.

Don't worry, though, we'll be back to normal next month with a full-sized issue.

There are still plenty of great stories and information inside.

Thanks for reading!

Neighborhood House  
Jesse Epstein Building  
905 Spruce Street  
Seattle, WA 98104

Nonprofit org.  
U.S. postage PAID  
Seattle, WA  
Permit #8887

# CLASSIFIEDS

THE MARKETPLACE OF THE VOICE

## MISCELLANEOUS

### HAVE YOU BEEN DENIED BENEFITS?

**SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY, SSI, VETERANS' CLAIMS & LONG TERM DISABILITY BENEFITS**

**FIGHT FOR THE FINANCIAL & MEDICAL BENEFITS YOU DESERVE**

- HOME VISITS
- NO FEE UNLESS WE WIN
- REFERRALS WELCOME

**GEORGE ANDRE FIELDS ♦ ATTORNEY AT LAW**  
206.622.5679

## RECRUITMENT & TRAINING



**PRINCESS CRUISES**  
*escape completely®*

### NOW HIRING FOR RESERVATION AGENTS

Our Reservation Agents talk to people around the world and interact with other travel professionals while helping to create dream vacations for our customers. Embark on an exciting new career with Princess Cruises and Tours, one of the most recognized cruise lines in the world!

**At Princess you will enjoy:**

- Career development potential - we promote from within!
- Employee rewards and recognition programs
- Cruise and travel privileges for you and your family
- Benefits including medical/dental insurance, 401(k), Metro Flexpass, and much more.

**Hiring throughout the summer!**  
Please Visit : [www.princessjobs.com](http://www.princessjobs.com)

### Make a Difference in the Life of a Child! Become a Treatment Foster Parent

The Downtown YMCA Family Services Mental Health Program is recruiting Foster Parents. Work with a professional team offering services to Foster Children,



including case management and weekly therapy. Earn approximately \$1,800.00 per month, 2 days respite per month and an additional 2 weeks respite per year, and a Free YMCA Family Membership.

OF GREATER SEATTLE

We build strong kids,  
strong families,  
strong communities.

For more information, contact Mark Richards-Wetzel @ 206-382-4963 or e-mail: [mrichardswetzel@seattleyymca.org](mailto:mrichardswetzel@seattleyymca.org)

### Got Stuff to Sell? Turn it into CASH!

**A Community Garage Sale is a wonderful way to pool lots of items for sale & attract lots of buyers!**

**So why not pool your resources & submit a FREE Garage Sale Coupon below.**



## Market place coupon

Do you have a couch or other item you want to sell? Take advantage of the free person-to-person classified advertising in The Voice by filling out your 24-word ad below. Remember, write only one word per line and don't forget to include your telephone number in your ad! Mail your ad before the 18th of the month and it will be included in the next month's issue.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Write your ad here (one word per line)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Check the classification: Items for sale Autos for sale  
 Items wanted Services

Mail to: PPC, 4000 Aurora Ave. N., Seattle, WA 98133 Fax: 206-461-1285  
 E-mail: [classmgr@nwlink.com](mailto:classmgr@nwlink.com) w/subject line "The Voice"

# CLASSIFIEDS

THE MARKETPLACE OF THE VOICE

## RECRUITMENT & TRAINING



**\$11<sup>00</sup> TO \$13<sup>00</sup> PER HOUR!**

**Electronic and Mechanical Assemblers Needed**

Previous experience preferred, Soldering skills a plus!

Must have mechanical aptitude and a desire to learn. ALL SHIFTS AVAILABLE! THREE GREAT LOCATIONS!

**KELLY SERVICES**

**CALL KELLY SERVICES TODAY, START WORKING TOMORROW!**

MARYSVILLE                      EVERETT                      REDMOND  
**800.863.6238                      888.217.0757                      800.454.7230**

## RECRUITMENT & TRAINING



**WorkSource Provides**

- Job Preparedness Workshops
- One on One Career Guidance
- Weekly Hiring Events

These services are **FREE** and open to the public. Translation services are available upon request.

Visit our website  
[www.worksourceskc.org](http://www.worksourceskc.org)

**Locations**

Auburn: 253.804.1177  
 Renton: 206.205.3500  
 Rainer: 206.721.6000

Seattle Downtown: 206.436.8600

North Seattle: 206.440.2500  
 Redmond: 425.861.3700

South Seattle Community College: 206.764.5304



**TARGET®**

in Redmond

**NOW HIRING** for Great Cashiers to join our Fast, Fun & Friendly Team

**Starting Wage: \$8.25/hour**

**Apply Inside:**  
 17700 NE 76th Street  
 Redmond, WA  
 Call **425-556-9533** or Email [Stephanie.Juarez@Target.com](mailto:Stephanie.Juarez@Target.com)  
**For More Information**

*You Can Make a Difference!*



**NON-MEDICAL CAREGIVERS WANTED**

**WE OFFER:** Matching Retirement Plan, Med. Avail., Vacation Pay, Hourly Shifts to 24 hr. Shifts Avail.

**\$250<sup>00</sup> Sign on Bonus**

**CALL NOW!**  
 Home Instead Senior Care  
 South/Pierce Co. **253-943-1603**



**Community Open Houses**

**August 13, 2007**  
 7:00–9:00 pm  
 Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center, 104 17th Ave S

**August 15, 2007**  
 5:00–7:00 pm  
 Yesler Community Center

Find out what's happening with Yesler Terrace redevelopment



**TARGET®**

in Woodinville

**NOW HIRING!**

Guest Services Supervisor  
 FT Human Resources Clerical  
 FT Overnight Stocking  
 FT Early Morning Pricing and Presentation  
 Other Part Time Positions

**Apply Inside:**  
 13950 NE 178th Place  
 Woodinville, WA  
 or Call **425-482-6410**

**ATTENTION ! HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND PARENTS...**



**Earn FREE College Credit through RUNNING START!**  
 Seattle Central Community College

Get a Running Start on your education at Seattle Central Community College. THE RUNNING START program provides students the chance to have their hard work pay off twice. The classes you take at SCCC will count towards high school graduation and towards an Associate of Arts Degree or simply transfer credit!

If you will have junior or senior standing by Fall 2007 now is the time to get started to see if you qualify by taking the Compass college placement test. To be eligible students need to place into college level English and/or math.

Fall enrollment for RUNNING START begins in **August**. Take the first steps today towards a bright future!

For more information please call **(206) 587-3820** or come visit us at the address below.  
<http://seattlecentral.edu/runstart/>



No appointment necessary • Photo I.D. Required



**Looking for a job close to home in North Seattle?**

If you live in North Seattle or just North of Seattle, why not take advantage of working there also? Little things like no parking fees, no battling downtown or crosstown traffic to get to work and less fuel consumption all save both stress and dollars and make your pay go further.

**Laidlaw currently offers: \$13.00/hr starting wage**

- Medical - 80% paid for employees
- Dental & Vision - 50% paid for employees
- 10 days per year PTO
- Free training
- Extra work available

**Now Hiring! Call 206.361.3763**  
 or stop by 13525 Lake City Way NE in Seattle  
 EOE



The mission of the Seattle Housing Authority is to enhance the Seattle community by creating and sustaining decent, safe and affordable living environments that foster stability and self-sufficiency for people with low incomes.

High Point project helps

See page 4



# SHA NEWS

August  
2007

News and information about Seattle's neighborhoods

## Program makes life easier for immigrant family



PHOTO BY MOORE INK

The Shiwakoti family got a car with help from the Working Wheels program.

By MOORE INK  
Special to The Voice

To get from her home in South Seattle to her job in North Seattle, Sushila Shiwakoti used to have to get up at 4 a.m. and spend two hours riding or waiting for buses. Her return trip wasn't as bad — only one and a half hours.

Since she got her car through Working Wheels a year ago, Shiwakoti is getting a lot more sleep. Her work commute is now a mere five to 10 minutes from the family's new home in Fremont. And she has enough energy left at the end of the day to be a mom to her 8-year-old daughter, Roshani.

"It's very easy, very convenient," Shiwakoti says of life with her car.

Working Wheels, one of the many programs of Solid Ground (formerly Fremont Public Association), understands that having flexible and dependable transportation can make all the difference. Since it was created five years ago, the award-winning program has sold 317 quality used cars to low-income residents, who pay below-market prices with a low 7 percent interest rate.

Participants don't just get a great deal on

a good car. They also learn to take control of their finances and establish or repair their credit by taking a free money-management class, establishing a monthly budget and repaying their loans.

A recent assessment of Working Wheels showed that participants were able to work more hours, make and save more money, rely less on public assistance and spend more quality time with their families after they got their cars.

Working Wheels is now accepting applications.

To qualify, you must live in King County and have a valid Washington State driver's license. You must also qualify based on your income. A family of four must earn less than \$3,440 a month, for example. You can have no DUIs or vehicle-related felony convictions and no major credit problems or bankruptcies within the last two years.

You must also be able to afford a Working Wheels car (typically about \$200 a month for the loan payment, insurance and gas), and you must need a car to get to work because you face certain hardships, including a difficult or long commute on public transportation, family needs or the inability to afford to repair an unsafe or non-running car.

For people like Shiwakoti and husband, Ganesh, having a reliable car has meant an easier life. The couple, who immigrated from Nepal, didn't have the income to buy a car, yet were forced to pay for taxis when they had an emergency and had to get somewhere quickly.

Then there were those long commutes that turned Sushila's workday into a marathon. "Now I'm not exhausted when I go to work," she said.

To learn more about Working Wheels, go to <http://www.working-wheels.org> or call 206-694-6833.

Moore Ink is a public relations firm working with Solid Ground.

## PeoplePoint connects residents to services

SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY

Every Tuesday afternoon the Seattle Housing Authority's PorchLight facility in Ballard hosts a representative from PeoplePoint to inform clients about various benefits to which they may be entitled.

As of last month, PeoplePoint has shifted its hours from 1 to 3:30 p.m.

No appointment is needed.

PeoplePoint is a joint program of the City of Seattle Human Services Department and Public Health—Seattle & King County.

Susan McCallister, a coordinator with PeoplePoint, said recently that energy assistance is the benefit most often inquired about by the tenants and applicants she meets at PorchLight.

"I've helped many customers make appointments with the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program to see whether they qualify for Seattle City Light electric bill assistance, which can be up to 50 percent of their bill," she said.

Next most in demand among the Porch-

Light customers, McCallister said, is information about health insurance.

"Many of our customers' children receive medical insurance through the state, but adults in the household often have no insurance," she said.

McCallister said that information on the Basic Food (food stamps) program has been popular as well.

"Many people don't realize that they're eligible for food assistance. I can go online while we're talking and right away give them an estimate of what their food benefits might be based on the information they give me about their household composition and income."

Upon request, PeoplePoint can provide information in Cambodian, Chinese, Mienh, Spanish, Tagalog and Vietnamese.

Interpreters in nearly any other language can be scheduled with advance notice. To arrange for an interpreter, contact Toni Manjarrez at 206-239-1619 or by e-mail at [tmanjarrez@seattlehousing.org](mailto:tmanjarrez@seattlehousing.org).

## Scattered-Sites resident wins poetry contest

By CLAIRE MCDANIEL  
Seattle Housing Authority

Phi Long Nguyen, a 16-year-old Seattle Housing Authority Scattered-Sites resident, has been honored by Metro Transit, which chose one of his poems as a winner in the Poetry on Buses contest. His poem will appear on Metro buses beginning this fall.

Metro Transit received over 3,000 poems this year, more than twice the number of submissions received in 2005.

The 2007 contest theme was "dreams" and the entries were judged by local professional poets Zhang Er, Eric McHenry and Catherine Wing. The panel painstakingly reviewed all these submissions and ultimately selected 55 poems including Nguyen's.

Poetry on Buses is presented by 4Culture in partnership with King County Metro and is funded through the King County One Percent for Art ordinance.

"The panel thought Nguyen's poem had an unusually honest creativity," said Paige Weinheimer, project coordinator at 4Culture. "They found it poignant and haunting, and felt the mood of the poem created a compelling relationship to the dreams theme."

She added that the panel immediately noticed the poem's "spark of poetic spirit" and characterized it as "intriguing."

The young poet provided more information about his inspiration for the poem.

"First off, I like to draw," he said. "Sometimes I feel so passionate about my work that I want it to come to life."

He said he also likes to analyze what he creates and try to figure out what it reveals.

### bringing to life

*A green dog asks me to draw a picture.  
Try to make it come to life, he says.  
I try, but I can not.  
I give her a heart,  
a body,  
yet she still won't move.  
Her hazel eyes gaze at me,  
also longing to live.*

"The green dog is a piece of my unconscious that encourages me to draw. He represents my inspiration, my passion; a mentor who lives in my mind," he says.

Nguyen said that he feels that "when a person creates something, whether it's strawberry-filled cake, a piece of technology, writing or any kind of artwork, a piece of the person who made it is left behind. Their scent, style, personality, everything can be seen through their artwork."

This is Nguyen's first year writing poetry. He said he was surprised that he won the contest but recent success in a poetry slam at school; performing roles in school plays and getting positive feedback on his artwork have given him confidence.

### In this section

SHA News	Page 2
RAC ELECTS NEW OFFICERS	
Point of View	Page 3
WESTWOOD HEIGHTS CELEBRATES	
High Point Herald	Page 4
MONKS BLESS COMMUNITY	
Rainier Vista News	Page 5
NEW PARK IS BUILT	
NewHolly Notes	Page 6
PARK GETS FACELIFT	
Yesler Happenings	Page 7
REDEVELOPMENT TALKS CONTINUE	
Translations	Page 8

## Resident Action Council elects new officers



PHOTO COURTESY OF RAC

The new RAC officers are (back row) Lynda Musselman, Treasurer; Doug Morrison, President; Kristin O'Donnell, Vice President; Gina Owens, Ombudsperson and (front row) Jim Bush, Secretary.

By JIM BUSH  
RAC Secretary

The Resident Action Council's 2007 elections were held in late June with officers chosen to steer the organization and its Seattle Housing Authority residents for the next two years. RAC is a tenant-run organization that represents all residents of low-income public housing.

We'd like to thank everyone who took the time (and initiative) to come to Center Park to hear what all 10 candidates had to

say about their abilities, qualifications and ideas on the future direction of this dynamic organization before casting their votes.

Thirty people representing 12 SHA high-rises and Yesler Terrace voted in the elections.

The elected officers are: President Doug Morrison from Ross Manor, Vice President Kristin O'Donnell from Yesler Terrace, Secretary J M (Jim) Bush from Center Park, Treasurer Lynda Musselman from Lake City House and Ombudsperson Gina Owens from Green Lake Plaza.

## New partnerships explore ways to support residents

By VIRGINIA FELTON  
Seattle Housing Authority

How can families succeed in becoming more self-sufficient while they are living in Seattle Housing Authority housing?

This is the question driving two new projects that involve governmental, academic and social service agencies across Seattle, including SHA.

The first, called the Housing and Economic Security Project, is a research project that aims to develop new ways to help residents reach their personal self-sufficiency goals.

The project includes the University of Washington, The West Coast Poverty Center (a new UW study center), SHA and local workforce development organizations.

The group's first step was to develop a concept paper laying out the project's goals and the challenges low-income people face, said Cathy Moray, an SHA staff member working on the project.

Challenges identified included a lack of self-sufficiency services, limited funding for them and the "benefits cliff" that families can face as their incomes grow. Increasing wages can threaten well-being because a family can begin to exceed income limits for important support programs before they have enough money to ensure stability on their own.

Project researchers identified a lack of close by, living-wage jobs for low-income residents of Seattle. King County is one of a handful of metropolitan areas where wages have stayed at about the same level but living costs have increased.

Researchers in the area see real advantages to working with SHA residents because they are very representative of low-income residents across the area,

Moray said.

"Non-profit organizations, government and academics are all working toward the same goals (of helping residents become self-sufficient) and trying to do it in a different way — one that is long-lasting and creates real change," she said.

The Housing Authority is also involved in the Seattle - King County Asset Building Collaborative. Under the City of Seattle Human Services Department, the ABC involves five city departments and many non-profit organizations, including Neighborhood House.

The goal of this collaborative is to help low-income residents build their personal assets, including tangible skills and financial savings.

The Housing Authority was recently awarded funding from United Way to support a pilot project that will test various asset-building strategies with SHA residents.

One group will include SHA households at Wisteria Court in West Seattle who are just coming out of homelessness into secure housing. They will receive intensive case management and supportive services.

The other group of residents in the program will include 30 to 50 SHA families living in public housing or Section 8 who are somewhat more self-sufficient. These individuals or families have reached the "benefits cliff" but are nearly capable of renting in the private market.

Housing Authority staff members hope their participation in these initiatives allow SHA residents to benefit from new programs. Organizations that want to develop new programs and researchers who want to better understand how families can succeed in becoming more self-sufficient appreciate working with SHA residents.

## Seattle Housing Authority stresses conservation

By VIRGINIA FELTON  
Seattle Housing Authority

In 2002 and 2003, the Seattle Housing Authority worked with Seattle Public Utilities to upgrade all of the toilets in its public housing units so that they meet current standards for conserving water. As a result of this relatively simple change, SHA has been able to reduce the cost of water use by a whopping \$4.5 million.

A new agreement, recently signed, will provide \$75,000 from SPU to replace 400 toilets in apartments recently acquired by SHA. This will result in a cost savings (avoided cost) of over \$1 million over the life of these fixtures.

It is significant savings like these that have led the Housing Authority to commit to reducing expenditures for utilities by an additional 10 to 15 percent over the next three years.

This commitment is part of an agreement between SHA and Puget Sound Energy to reduce both the consumption and the cost of natural resources.

Jonathan Stine is the employee who is currently responsible for managing SHA's utilities, and as an extension of his work he will take on responsibility for being SHA's official "corporate resource conservation manager." With specialized degrees in energy management and industrial energy controls, Stine is well qualified for the job. He also worked as an energy consultant in President Clinton's administration.

"I know that SHA staff and residents are already aware of the importance of conserving our energy resources," he said recently. "I look forward to helping us become even more of a leader in this area."

Because of SHA's agreement to conserve, Puget Sound Energy is providing energy accounting software to track con-

sumption, cost and savings. The company will also pay a significant percent of Stine's salary.

Through Stine's work, SHA will soon be receiving 40,000 compact fluorescent lights (known as CFLs) that will be distributed to residents free of charge.

"This lighting upgrade will decrease residents' expenditures for electricity by as much as \$700,000 over the life of the CFLs and avoid the production of 2.8 million pounds of carbon dioxide, which is the major contributor to global climate change," Stine said.

Tom Tierney, SHA's executive director, is encouraging all SHA employees to assist with this effort.

"With all of the housing we own and manage, SHA has the opportunity to make a significant difference in this arena. We want to be as supportive as we can of the efforts of Mayor Nickels and others across the city who are working to conserve resources," he said.

Consequently, SHA has signed on as a partner to Mayor Greg Nickel's Seattle Climate Partnership. As a partner, SHA is working to reduce dependence on carbon fuels and include green building standards in its new housing.

The Housing Authority recently received a \$101,000 grant from Seattle City Light to install energy-efficient lighting fixtures in Phase II of High Point.

Stine will be working with SHA staff across the agency to look for a variety of ways to conserve resources — from major recycling initiatives and energy saving measures to simple but effective steps like turning off the lights when leaving an office or conference room.

"Our day-to-day habits can make a big difference," he said. "We just have to think about it and take action to conserve."

## Congress

Continued from front page

reject cuts in housing programs proposed by the President's budget and include modest increases in some programs. Overall, the House appropriation totals \$104.6 billion, \$5.3 billion more than FY 2007 and \$4.4 billion more than the President's request.

Funding for Housing Choice Vouchers is set at \$300 to \$500 million more than the levels suggested in the President's original budget.

The Public Housing Operating Fund, which provides ongoing subsidy for SHA's 5,200 units of public housing, is funded at \$4.2 billion, \$336 million above 2007 and \$200 million above the President's request.

Both HUD and the nation's public housing authorities have determined that \$5 billion is needed in 2008 and acknowledge

that these programs continue to be underfunded.

The Public Housing Capital Fund would be funded at \$2.4 billion, the same as 2007 and \$415 million above the President's request. This funding is used for major maintenance and rehabilitation of buildings.

Programs that fund housing for the elderly and disabled would be funded at the same level as 2007, but still above the President's request.

### Voucher Reform Act passed

The Section 8 Voucher Reform Act is the most comprehensive reform package for the program considered in nearly 10 years. It affects many aspects of the Housing Choice Voucher program, from inspections to administrative costs to how "fair market rents" are established.

The legislation reforms the Section 8

Please see "Washington" on page 5

## About The Voice

The Voice is a monthly newspaper published by Neighborhood House with financial support from Seattle Housing Authority resident participation funds.

The Voice is developed and edited by Neighborhood House with help from SHA residents and staff. It strives to provide a forum for objective news and information of interest to low-income people and those living in SHA communities.

The Voice welcomes articles, letters to the editor and columns from readers. If you'd like to submit an article, or if you have a question about anything you've read in this publication, feel free to contact Editor Stacy Schwandt at 206-461-8430, ext. 227 or by e-mail at stacys@nhwa.org.

If you have questions about SHA-related stories, you may also contact SHA Communications Director Virginia Felton at 206-615-3506 or by e-mail at vfelton@seattlehousing.org.

You can also mail submissions to: The Voice, Neighborhood House, 905 Spruce St. #200, Seattle, WA 98104. Please include your name and contact information on your submission.

All submissions are subject to editing for accuracy, style and length.

# POINT OF VIEW

NEWS ABOUT THE SEATTLE SENIOR HOUSING PROGRAM AND SEATTLE'S HIGH-RISE COMMUNITIES

**Social forum,** Continued from front page



PHOTO BY LYNN SEREDA

Forum participants demonstrate outside the Atlanta Housing Authority, protesting the Housing Authority's decision to demolish public housing.

**Continued from front page**

the Miami Housing Authority to agree to rebuild 850 low-income public housing units that were eliminated under HOPE VI. The Miami agreement is considered by many in the public housing tenant activist movement as the greatest organizing victory to date.

A workshop on national organizing provided a vision for a new coalition of resident and tenant advocacy groups.

The coalition will develop a national campaign and common platform supporting the "human right to housing for all." Tenant leaders are still refining this concept, which could lead to a National Day of Action for housing for all, which is tentatively scheduled for October 2.

The national coalition will include public housing and Section 8 subsidized tenants working together on a common platform for the first time. Two of the coalition's goals are to add the positions of the national disability rights group ADAPT and

that of rural subsidized housing (which is subsidized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture rather than the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development) to the national housing agenda.

The well-attended workshops occurred against the controversial backdrop of a plan by the Atlanta Housing Authority to demolish all remaining public housing within two years. This move would displace about 9,000 residents, although they would be issued Section 8 vouchers.

The final day of the social forum featured a rally at the Atlanta Housing Authority where two AHA resident council leaders were joined by about 50 leaders from other tenant groups to protest the decision of the Housing Authority. The Housing Authority did not comment on the rally.

*Lynn Sereda is a Section 8 tenant who attended the U.S. Social Forum representing the Tenants Union as part of the Seattle delegation of grassroots activists organized by LELO and Center for Social Justice.*

## homeWorks Phase 3 meetings scheduled

By SVEN KOEHLER AND VIRGINIA FELTON  
Seattle Housing Authority

It is hard to believe, but homeWorks is nearing the halfway mark. In fact, planning for the final phase is well underway. Just as during the first two phases, a series of meetings about the financing plan for Phase 3 is planned this August.

The construction project's goal is to make needed updates to Seattle Housing Authority's high-rises to keep them good places to live for low-income residents far into the future.

The buildings in Phase 3 include Barton Place, Ross Manor in the south and Stewart Manor, University House, Jackson Park House and Center West in the north. West Town View will also be remodeled during homeWorks Phase 3, but without tax credit financing.

At the financing meetings, residents will have a chance to learn about the tax credit and bond financing plan that will help pay for the improvements. Residents will also learn some basics about the construction that will begin in 2008. The schedule that will determine which buildings are renovated first has not yet been finalized.

All buildings in homeWorks will have their old water supply pipes replaced, which should prevent leaks and deliver a better water supply. New ventilation systems and exterior work, such as roof repairs and waterproofing the exteriors, are also common. In addition, residents will see the benefits of remodeled community rooms, larger mailboxes, and modernized e-call and intercom systems.

These repairs are needed, but paying for them has been a challenge at a time when federal dollars are scarce. The solution for Phase 3 will follow the successful model of the earlier phases, using two financing methods together.

First, SHA will borrow money for the remodels by issuing bonds that will be repaid using the capital subsidy supplied each year by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Additional funding for the homeWorks project will be obtained

by using tax-credit financing.

The government gives tax credits to investors who will join SHA as legal partners in the ownership of the buildings, and in return, the investors provide money for the construction. This type of financing is used by most low-income housing developers in Seattle to build and renovate low-income housing.

The investors in this type of project are called "limited partners" because their ownership rights in the property are very restricted. SHA remains the "general part-

homeWorks Phase 3 financing information meetings		
Barton Place	Center West	Jackson Park
Friday, August 10th 3:00-4:00pm	Monday, August 13th 3:00-4:00pm	Friday, August 17th 3:00-4:00pm
Ross Manor	Stewart Manor	University House
Monday, August 20th 3:00-4:00pm	Friday, August 24th 3:00-4:00pm	Monday, August 27th 3:00-4:00pm

All meetings are held in the buildings' community rooms.  
Open to residents of all buildings and the general public.  
Interpretation services may be requested at (206) 615-3534.

ner." This means that SHA controls building management, rent and admissions policies and all other factors that define SHA buildings as low-income public housing.

Just as has been the case in the first two phases, there will be no direct effect on rents and eligibility, and residents' rents will not be raised to pay for the construction. Units will be set aside for full-time student households who do not participate in the tax-credit program. The Department of Housing and Urban Development requires a guarantee that the housing will remain low-income housing for at least 40 years, after which SHA will regain full ownership.

If you want to learn more about tax-credit financing and homeWorks, please attend one of the upcoming meetings at SHA's high-rise buildings. All meetings will be held in the building community rooms, and everyone is welcome to attend.

A comment period for residents and other interested stakeholders will extend from August 1 through September 15. You can also call the homeWorks information info line at 206-615-3534 to get answers to your questions about the project or to leave a comment about the plan.

## Westwood community celebrates on Aug. 7

By JEFF ARNIM  
Seattle Housing Authority

Seattle Housing Authority and its partner organizations have played a significant role in transforming one of the city's most undesirable places to live into a beautiful, vibrant and diverse neighborhood.

Ten years ago, Roxbury House and Roxbury Village in West Seattle were suffering. Poorly designed and infested by gangs and crime, the neighborhood was unattractive and unsafe.

Today, things are dramatically different. Reborn as Westwood Heights, the neighborhood is much more appealing and measurably safer.

In celebration of the dramatic changes that have taken place in the neighborhood in the last decade — including the recently-completed renovation of six adjacent four-plexes — the Housing Authority is sponsoring a community block party. Westwood Heights residents and their friends and neighbors are all invited on Tuesday, August 7, from 4 to 6 p.m. along 27th Avenue Southwest between Southwest Roxbury and

Cambridge streets. A brief formal program will be followed by entertainment. Refreshments will be served.

Bad design contributed to the problems at Roxbury House and Village. The site housed populations with diverse needs and challenges — seniors and young residents with disabilities in apartments and large families in townhouses — despite their unique requirements. In addition, the layout of the grounds in the Village and the adjacent Roxhill Park created small areas isolated from the rest of the community that fostered gang activity.

At the same time, the buildings were falling apart. Rot and asbestos contamination in Roxbury Village contributed to high maintenance costs and the closing of many units, while Roxbury House had infrastructure problems and a poorly designed common area that was unsafe for residents.

Clearly something in the neighborhood needed to change.

The opportunity for change came in 1998, when SHA received a \$17 million HOPE VI grant from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development

to revitalize the community by creating two safe, livable, well-planned communities, one for seniors and the other for families.

Roxbury House was renovated inside and out, renamed Westwood Heights, and designated solely for senior residents. This distinction allowed specially-designed services to be put in place for residents.

Where Roxbury Village once stood, Westwood Court and Longfellow Court were developed by Seattle Housing Authority and the Lutheran Alliance to Create Housing. Together they contain 45 one- to five-bedroom townhouse rentals serving households with a range of incomes.

Once the revitalizations were finished, SHA found that residents were leery of renting in the new facility because of the reputation for crime and drug use in the adjacent block. The agency then set out to put a stop to illegal activities in the privately owned properties across 27th Avenue from Westwood Heights.

Housing Authority staff contacted the property owners individually and over time purchased buildings along the entire block. In many cases, when squatters occupying units discovered that SHA was taking over management of the buildings, they chose to move on. Better tenant screening, lease enforcement, upgrades to the buildings and landscaping have helped turn the block around.

The Housing Authority also worked with the Seattle Police Department and neighborhood organizations to transform the 13-acre park to the north with a new ball field, playground, wheelchair-accessible concrete picnic pads and trails and bridges.

The successful revitalization efforts of Seattle Housing Authority, its community partners and the federal government have transformed the Westwood Heights neighborhood for the better, and as you'll see at the August 7 block party, the results are worth celebrating.

# HIGH POINT HERALD

NEWS ABOUT THE HIGH POINT COMMUNITY

## Monks bless community, all strive for safe summer



PHOTO BY STACY SCHWANDT

High Point community members offer rice to Buddhist monks. With each offering, the community member makes a wish for future well-being.

By STACY SCHWANDT  
Voice editor

Holy water sprinkled down on kneeling High Point community members last month, as Cambodian monks offered a blessing to replace bad luck with good fortune.

The event, which was aimed to set the stage for a summer without violence, was organized by the High Point Khmer Association.

"We wanted to get rid of all the bad luck and bring more safety to the community," said Yon Noy, the association's president.

For more than five years, High Point youth have fallen victim to summertime violence. Last year youth from the community were injured and killed in a shooting outside a Skyway home.

"It's really hard, a shock, because things change after certain people leave the community," said 15-year-old Navy Sun, whose brother Sophea was among three killed in the incident. "If he was here he would be

celebrating with us about (the lives of) the other youth who passed away."

Sun and her friends worked with SafeFutures Youth Center to create a poster board honoring those who had died. A more permanent installation honoring the youth will be added to the Community Action Team kiosk near the High Point pond.

"The youth really wanted to let people know how this has affected them," said Marcus Stubblefield of SafeFutures.

The event, which took place in Pond Park, attracted well over 50 participants and also included lunch and dancing.

Noy said that the monks' blessing is typically performed for a family when a loved one has suffered or another misfortune has befallen them. The monks came from a nearby Seattle temple.

Staff members from Neighborhood House, IDHA, Elizabeth House, SafeFutures and the Seattle Housing Authority helped the Khmer Association organize the event.

## Environmental health projects coming to a close

By STACY SCHWANDT  
Voice editor

High Point residents gathered last month to celebrate the upcoming conclusion of environmental health and justice projects known as the Healthy Homes and Healthy Communities projects.

In 2003, two four-year federal grants totaling nearly \$2 million were awarded to Neighborhood House, the Seattle Housing Authority and Public Health - Seattle & King County. Work on both grants is expected to wrap up by October.

The first grant, from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, funded the construction of 35 homes specially built with materials that would help reduce the incidence of asthma among low-income children in High Point.

Families began moving into these "Breathe Easy Homes" in April 2006, and Neighborhood House community health coordinators provided them with ongoing information and education on how to keep their homes dust and mold free.

The families also received vacuum cleaners with special dust filters, environmentally-friendly cleaning supplies and allergen covers for their bedding.

The second grant, from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, funded resident education and community involvement concerning environmental justice issues.

It supported the formation of youth and community action teams that reached out across language and cultural barriers, developing projects to make High Point a healthier community.

The grant also supported community involvement activities, including walking groups, community potlucks and neighborhood watch groups.

Members of the action teams organized pedestrian safety meetings with government officials, helped to renovate a staircase that provides a pathway from High Point to the Delridge neighborhood below and were instrumental in getting High Point's new Neighborhood Association off the ground.

"This group is really ready to take a leadership role in the community," said Denise Sharify, community health project manager for Neighborhood House.

The community involvement activities, including the walking group and the potlucks, have proven so popular that High Point service providers have committed to finding the funding necessary to keep them going into the future.

## Phase II moves forward

By JEFF ARNIM  
Seattle Housing Authority

Construction on the second phase of High Point is going strong, and the first units of new rental housing should be ready for occupancy just six months from now.

This represents an important landmark in the High Point redevelopment project.

"The start of rental housing construction means that a project that has been a vision for many years will at last move to its final stage of completion," says Project Development Coordinator Cynthia Shick.

Bellevue's Tri-State Construction has completed more than 50 percent of Phase II infrastructure, including sewer, water supply, stormwater, phone, cable, power and gas systems. Streets are now being paved, and Southwest Morgan Street and Sylvan Way Southwest are expected to be completed and reopened by September.

New rental housing, 256 units in all, will be spread across 98 buildings in Phase II. There will be 28 one-bedroom, 71 two-bedroom, 130 three-bedroom, 25 four-bedroom and 5 two-bedroom units.

Of these, 150 will be reserved for very low-income families earning less than 30 percent of Area Median Income. The remaining 106 units are designated as affordable workforce housing for residents earning up to 60 percent of AMI.

Buildings will be similar to those constructed in Phase I, with the addition of one-bedroom stacked flats built on sloping land.

The construction of rental housing will be by Absher Construction of Puyallup, which also built the rental units in High Point Phase I. Work on the first units is scheduled to begin August 1 and be completed by the end of January. It is anticipated that all rental housing will be finished and ready for occupancy by March 2009.

At least 400 for-sale homes and condos are also planned as part of Phase II.

Along with the construction of new rental and for-sale housing, Phase II will feature four new pocket parks and three larger neighborhood parks. As with Phase I, many large trees from the original High Point site have been saved. In addition, Southwest Morgan Street and Sylvan Way Southwest will be widened and improved,

and a stoplight will be installed.

By the end of the decade, the redeveloped High Point community will comprise more than 1,600 affordable and market-rate units on 120 acres. The impact of the redevelopment is already being felt outside the neighborhood.

"High Point inspires the imaginations of planners and developers in other towns and cities," Shick said. "It challenges them to think differently about how they allow development to happen, and shows that it can be done in a way that helps people restore their sense of connectedness to the neighborhood and the community."

### Community notes

#### Fitness programs available

The High Point Medical Clinic offers two fitness programs to patients, including discounted entry to the Southwest Community Center pool.

Adult patients can use the pool for \$1, and kids swim for free.

Free fitness classes are also offered at the Southwest Community Center. The three-day-a-week program is geared towards adults looking for lower-impact stretching, cardio, balance and strength training.

For more information, call 206-461-4927, ext. 112.

# RAINIER VISTA NEWS

NEWS ABOUT THE RAINIER VISTA COMMUNITY

## New home sales at Rainier Vista remain brisk

By JEFF ARNIM  
Seattle Housing Authority

If home sales are any indication, the revitalization of the Seattle Housing Authority's Rainier Vista development is on the right track.

So far, 75 houses have been sold in Rainier Vista, and only nine currently remain on the market. More will be available as homes currently under construction reach completion. By the end of redevelopment, an estimated 337 for-sale homes could be built throughout the site. Phase I will include 152 of these.

People have been choosing to purchase homes in Rainier Vista because of the many advantages associated with living in the neighborhood.

"It's within walking distance of the vibrant and historical Columbia City business district," explains Seattle Housing Authority Senior Development Program Manager Ed Rose. "As a part of the greater Columbia City community, it is culturally diverse and rich in history and the arts."

Its convenient location has also been a factor.

"The Rainier Vista development is in a prime location close to downtown," says Rose. "It will be a 10-minute ride to downtown on the Link Light Rail system station now under construction. It's also very close to the freeways and Lake Washington."

A combination of single-family homes and attached townhouses — built by Bennett Sherman, the Dwelling Company, Habitat for Humanity, Martha Rose and The Riley Group — the for-sale homes

are interspersed among rental dwellings throughout Rainier Vista.

This contributes to the Seattle Housing Authority's vision of a truly mixed-income community, Rose explains. "One of the revitalization goals for Rainier Vista is to generally not be able to distinguish between for-sale and rental housing."

Purchased and rental homes work together in other ways as well.

"The for-sale homes at Rainier Vista are a key component of the overall development and revitalization plan to create a mixed-income community," says Rose. "Revenue from the sale of lots to builders goes toward the costs of the Housing Authority's rental housing development."

Whether a given unit is for rent or for sale, it is built with the same goals in mind. Within Rainier Vista, dwellings have been designed to contribute to the building of community. For example, low front porches and fences facilitate dialogue between neighbors. Buildings are oriented so that windows provide so-called "eyes on the street" to aid in community safety. The site itself includes many parks and open spaces, art features, landscaping and other natural amenities to encourage walking throughout the neighborhood.

Through the combination of thoughtful design, good location and cultural opportunities, the neighborhood has become a highly desirable place to live, a fact that bodes well for the revitalization project as a whole.

"The response has been amazing," says Rose, "It has contributed greatly to the overall success of Rainier Vista."

## Rainier Vista residents create their own park



PHOTO BY TAM DOAN

Rainier Vista residents start to lay soil for sod in the new Viewpoint Park.

### SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY

Rainier Vista residents and Seattle Housing Authority staffers, about 80 people in all, came together for a work party in late June to complete the community's new Viewpoint Park.

Beginning at about 9 a.m. and continuing until 1 p.m., volunteers prepared the soil and laid sod, planted trees and shrubs, set up a picnic table and chairs and cleaned up.

Staff from Seattle Housing Authority provided landscaping tools and their own hard work to the project and contributed refreshments.

The effort was spearheaded by the Rainier Vista Homeowners Association,

some of whose members had done preliminary site preparation for the new park the weekend before.

Dean Weitenhagen, SHA senior property manager, said that the park-planting event was one of the most productive and well-attended events he'd seen.

Fred Marshall, a lead grounds keeper, agreed.

"There was such good energy between homeowners and renters and the staff," he said. "Thanks to all that energy, it took a lot less time to finish the park than I had thought it would. I hope we can tap into that same great spirit for other projects at Rainier Vista."

## Washington

Continued from page 2

voucher program in order to increase the number of families receiving vouchers. It strives to eliminate inefficiencies that have resulted in \$1.4 billion in unused funds and provide incentives for agencies to assist more families.

One of the most significant changes would be authorization of an additional 20,000 new vouchers every year for the next five years. This would expand the program to serve additional households across the country at a time when housing affordability is becoming an issue for more and more households.

Since this is an authorizing bill (not an appropriations bill) there is no guarantee that this provision will be funded, but it at least establishes Congress' intention.

One troubling part of the bill is that, as written, it could require every household member to provide standard identification in order for the household to receive housing voucher assistance.

This provision likely would require the termination of assistance for many current "mixed households" which include citizens and legal residents. Currently, if some members of a household cannot provide proof of citizenship, the household receives proportionately less subsidy, but is still able to receive a voucher.

One part of the bill that would likely affect the Seattle Housing Authority is the extension of the current "Moving to Work" program for 10 years. The bill would re-

name it the Housing Innovation Program.

Designed to allow high performing housing authorities to tailor their programs to local needs, SHA has used the program to try different rent policies and use vouchers in new ways. Housing Authority staff will be watching the legislation closely to understand its effects.

### Trust Fund addresses housing gap

There's a shortage of 2.8 million homes renting at prices that would be affordable to the more than 9 million low-income renter households throughout the nation, according to the National Housing Trust Fund Campaign, a Washington-based advocacy group.

Legislation creating a new national Housing Trust Fund would initially allocate \$800 million to \$1 billion to the fund annually, with three-quarters of the funds marked to serve extremely low-income families.

The housing trust would be funded in part from the profits of mortgage finance companies Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, as well as revenue from the Federal Housing Administration. President Bush does not support the creation of this new source of funding for low-income housing, despite broad support by both parties and the housing construction industry.

The Voice will continue to cover these issues as they develop.

Sources for this article included the Council of Large Public Housing Authorities, the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Agencies and the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities.

## Citizens

Continued from front page

paperwork immigrant residency entails.

What English Khath knows he learned from Neak in weekly lessons.

Neak and Neighborhood House also helped Khath, who had no family and few acquaintances prior to his arrival, in discovering a strong sense of community.

Khath now has many friends, both of Cambodian heritage and various other cultural backgrounds.

He was particularly impressed by Neighborhood House's staff members' broad range of cultural understanding and collective ability to develop "great friendships" with their clients.

For his future as a U.S. citizen, Khath hopes to have more time for soccer, volleyball, relaxation and "no more paperwork!"

He said he also looks forward to the ease citizenship offers in getting support from the government.

Although Khath and the other newly-naturalized citizens represent only a tiny margin of the over 100,000 residents born abroad who currently reside in Seattle, the Naturalization Ceremony offers hope for all citizens to, as Mayor Nickels put it, eventually "feel welcome not only on paper but in their hearts and souls."

For more information on Neighborhood House's citizenship services, please call 206-461-4522, ext. 227.

## Community notes

### Join community for heritage parade

The 15th Annual Rainier Valley Heritage parade will take place on Saturday, August 18 at 11 a.m. This is the kickoff of the annual Rainier Valley SummerFest, which is organized by the Rainier Chamber of Commerce.

The parade will begin at South Dawson Street and head north along Rainier Avenue to Alaska Street.

Last summer the fabulous community parade showcased 600 participants in front of an audience of more than 3,000.

Please contact the Rainier Chamber of Commerce for more information at 206-725-2010.

### Enjoy the United Africa event

The 2007 United Africa Day event will be held this year at the Rainier Community Center, 4600 38th Ave. S. on Saturday, August 18 from noon to 5 p.m.

This free event, presented by the African Communities Network, will include a cultural fashion show, musicians, dancers and cultural art displays.

Information booths from local service providers will also be available and delicious African food will be served from noon to 1 p.m.

# NEWHOLLY NOTES

NEWS ABOUT THE NEWHOLLY COMMUNITY

## Lee House ready to open next month

Open house scheduled for Sept. 5



PHOTO COURTESY OF SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY

When the fireplace is complete and the floor is finished, the main room of the Lee House will be a comfortable and elegant place for a meeting or party.

By VIRGINIA FELTON  
Seattle Housing Authority

After several years of hard work by volunteers and donated labor, the Harry Thomas Community Center at Lee House is nearing completion.

It is due to open in early September, with a community open house scheduled for 5 p.m. on Sept. 5.

The old house, which was present on the property before it became Holly Park in the late 1930s, was home to the Lee family. Lee was a Seattle police officer. Once the land to build Holly Park was acquired and the family moved out, the house was used for offices and community space into the 1990s.

Because it is such an important part of the neighborhood's history, Seattle Housing Authority staff members were reluctant to tear it down. Instead, donations have been sought and volunteer help has been donated to return the old house to its original beauty and usefulness.

Polygon Northwest and Bennett-Sherman, two of the builders of for-sale homes

in the neighborhood, have made substantial contributions. Polygon applied the new siding, which was donated, and Bennett contributed the wood and labor to restore the elegant old woodwork and provide new wood floors. Volunteer carpentry apprentices installed installation and sheetrock. Many individual volunteers have also made contributions to demolition, landscaping and other finish work. The Housing Authority's Impact Property Services has provided needed labor to fill in the gaps.

The four offices on the upper floor of the old house will be occupied by Neighborhood House. The lower floor, which has two large rooms and a kitchenette, will be rented out for community meetings, parties and other events.

The open house on Sept. 5 will provide an opportunity to tour the house and say hello to former SHA Executive Director Harry Thomas. The renewed building is named after him to honor his contributions to SHA over his 13 years of service as executive director. Stop by anytime between 5 and 7 p.m. Brief ceremonies will be held at 6 p.m.

## Time for Family Fun Fest

By VOICE STAFF

NewHolly families are invited to enjoy the summer weather, have fun and let loose at the neighborhood's annual Family Fun Fest.

The event will take place on Saturday, August 18 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Van Asselt Community Center, 2820 S. Myrtle St.

This year's festival will feature children's games, crafts, entertainment, information booths and a jump toy. An outdoor stage will be set up and a barbecue meal will be provided for all, though food donations are welcome.

The day's entertainment has not yet been

finalized, but it will likely include a break dancing demonstration along with other performers.

The Community Center will also run a silent auction to raise money for its youth scholarship program. A variety of items will be auctioned off, including a couple of Japanese maple trees and some ornamental grasses.

World Vision will be giving away backpacks and school supplies.

"It's a chance to get to know your neighbors and take part in a fun event," said Randy Smith, recreation coordinator at the Van Asselt Community Center.

Organizations participating in the plan-

## Community gives Shaffer Park a makeover

By CLAIRE McDANIEL  
Seattle Housing Authority

Members of the NewHolly community's clean-up committee knew they needed to organize work parties to address the graffiti problem at Shaffer Park on the corner of South Holly Park Street and Shaffer Avenue South.

The park's wooden play equipment was scrawled with four-letter words and name-calling phrases.

"I brought my niece over to the playground, and when I got there I was embarrassed by what was written on the playground equipment," said NewHolly resident and committee member Catherine Glavan.

The first work party, which took place last month, was for adults to use power tools to sand off graffiti that was the worst in terms of content and removal difficulty.

The second weekend work party was a family affair.

Kids from the community were given sand paper and asked to be involved in the graffiti removal to give them a feeling of ownership and responsibility with regard to taking care of the park.

To make the event more fun, the children were given drawing supplies and asked to make artwork representing what they like

equipment so that it will be more difficult for graffiti to stick to the surface.

NewHolly resident Helen Walker, did her part for personal reasons.

"My neighbor invited me to come out to the work party. My daughter plays in this park, so I wanted to try to come out and help do what I can," she said.

The NewHolly Clean-up Committee, which is made up of residents who are

interested in making the community a cleaner and more vibrant place, meets on the first Wednesday of each month from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the NewHolly Campus living room.

They have already organized an Earth Day celebration and a neighborhood clean-up.

The committee is also considering creating an art installation wall near Bunker Park at 39th Street, where a large concrete wall has attracted graffiti.

Nearby neighbors have complained that the problem has spread to private

property and bus stops, and they are eager to find a solution.



PHOTO BY CATHERINE GLAVAN

Residents Lance and Brandi Sterling sand graffiti off the play equipment at Shaffer Park.



PHOTO BY JOY BRYNGELSON

NewHolly resident Helen Walker takes a power washer to the play structure at Shaffer Park.

best about the park.

One piece of artwork was selected for permanent display in the park.

Selam Mehanzel, VISTA volunteer at NewHolly, said, "After the kids were done with their drawings, they each put on gloves and grabbed a block of wood and sand paper. After the sanding was complete, the kids were rewarded with ice cream, and the adults commented on how good of a job the kids were doing and really appreciated all their hard work."

Seattle Housing Authority staff members will return to Shaffer Park in the weeks to come to stain the wooden playground

ning and funding of the event include Seattle Parks & Recreation, Seattle Housing Authority, Atlantic Street Center, Seattle Public Library and World Vision.

Volunteers are still needed for the day of the event, and there are still openings for family-friendly entertainment. Call 206-386-1921 for more information.

### Community notes

#### Educational center closes

After several years of service to the NewHolly community, the University of Washington's Educational Opportunity Center is closing.

Housed in the South Seattle Community College office on the NewHolly campus, the center has been helping low-income adults pursue higher education by providing them with information on admission procedures and financial aid.

The center offered tutoring, mentoring and help in finishing applications to a number of colleges, including UW.

The center, one of 82 nationwide, was funded by a five-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

# YESLER HAPPENINGS

NEWS ABOUT THE YESLER TERRACE COMMUNITY



## Reader's viewpoint

*Readers of The Voice share their ideas*

### Resident comments on redevelopment meetings

By KRISTIN O'DONNELL  
*Special to The Voice*

Yet another set of community meetings on redevelopment were held in July. As the meetings go over the same subjects again and again and again, fewer and fewer and fewer residents attend.

At one meeting, we put stickers on a map to answer the questions, "Where do you live?" (Yesler Terrace. Duh.) "Where do you work?" "Where do you shop?" (Planners were surprised that few people shopped near Yesler Terrace — this *could* be related to a shortage of nearby grocery stores) and "Where do your children go to school?"

Incidentally, there were no dots on the map for Bailey Gatzert Elementary School. Because a lot of local kids *do* attend that school, this just might mean that the results of the two-hour sticker sticking process doesn't reveal a whole lot about what most residents here do.

Well, we all *do* live in Yesler Terrace, but should it take two hours to figure that out?

At earlier meetings, Seattle Housing Authority Executive Director Tom Tierney promised that all residents of Yesler Terrace who remain eligible for public housing would be able to return to the redeveloped community.

At the July 23 meeting we heard from planner Judith Kilgore that "residents will decide" who gets to come back.

It wasn't explained exactly how we are expected to vote people off the island...

Those who attended the meeting had several suggestions on how to reach more people and how to get better information from Yesler Terrace residents on what they want.

1. Have fewer meetings
2. Combine information with celebrations such as potlucks or barbecues

3. Have child care at meetings
4. Gather the information needed to make good decisions, and share this information with residents

5. Do a random survey to find out what the people who don't attend meetings are thinking

6. Make decisions in public. (Some people think that the Citizen's Review Committee is meeting in secret. Several decisions "from the CRC" certainly have not been discussed in public. If "secret meetings" exist, they are also secret from many committee members.)

7. Let's start talking now, not in six months, not a year from now, about what the Seattle Housing Authority wants to build in Yesler Terrace

The Housing Authority's Project Manager Judith Kilgore says with a "Girl Scout's honor," that we will start talking in August about what the Housing Authority is planning to build in Yesler Terrace.

We will see.

In other news, the Yesler Terrace Community Council has been accepted as a client by the King County Bar Association.

Soon we will have a lawyer to help us get our questions about redevelopment answered and to get SHA's promises in writing.

The council is having a brief meeting on Aug. 7 to get new people involved in council leadership and decision making.

At our Aug. 28 meeting (one week later than usual because of the primary election), the council will consider where we now stand on redevelopment. Several years ago our membership said we wanted to keep Yesler Terrace the way it is.

Is this what we still want?

*Kristin O'Donnell is a Yesler Terrace resident, the president of the Yesler Terrace Community Council and a member of the Citizen's Review Committee.*

## July brings meetings on redevelopment

### Community workshops planned for August



PHOTO BY STACY SCHWANDT

Yesler Terrace residents put red dots onto a map to show where they live as part of a community involvement exercise on Yesler Terrace redevelopment.

By STACY SCHWANDT  
*Voice editor*

A series of meetings on Yesler Terrace redevelopment took place last month, with the Seattle Housing Authority's Board of Commissioners holding its monthly meeting in the community.

The seven-member Board of Commissioners oversees the Housing Authority's operations and will make the final decision on plans for redevelopment.

Members took public testimony at the opening of the meeting. Several elderly immigrants and refugees asked questions, many with the help of interpreters.

"At the core of their apprehensions was the uncertainty of their future and the question, "Who will take care of me," said Neighborhood House Executive Director Mark Okazaki, who attended the meeting. "It was sad to hear these testimonials. I wanted to say to these elders, 'Don't worry aunty, don't worry uncle, we will take care of you.'"

At a community meeting earlier in the month, Judith Kilgore, SHA's Yesler Terrace project manager, presented a handout that included answers to frequently asked questions on the topic of relocation.

She said that her department will be creating similar handouts on topics such as types of housing, the Housing Authority's guarantee to residents that they can return to the community, day care, home ownership, parking and property management, among others.

The redevelopment conversations will continue this month with at least three meetings.

Two workshops will be held concerning guiding principles for the redevelopment that were put together by the Citizen's Review Committee. These principles which center around social equity, economic op-

ing like they are selling drugs or doing something they should not be doing, you need to call the police. If everyone calls 911 when they see things that are amiss, the bad people will not feel comfortable here, and they will go somewhere else to commit their criminal acts.

portunity, environmental stewardship and one-for-one replacement housing will guide the Housing Authority as it plans for a new Yesler Terrace.

The meetings will take place on August 13 at 7 p.m. at the Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center, 104 17th Ave. S. and on August 15 at 5 p.m. at the Yesler Community Center, 917 E. Yesler Way.



PHOTO BY JIRO RAMJI

With the help of an interpreter, a citizen makes a statement to the Seattle Housing Authority Board of Commissioners during its meeting in Yesler Terrace last month.

The CRC is made up of Yesler Terrace residents and stakeholders from the City of Seattle and nonprofit groups and has been meeting since October.

## Notes from the Manager

By JUDI CARTER  
*Senior Property Manager*

Last month there was a shooting in Yesler Terrace. One person died and a second person was seriously injured. This was a terrible tragedy which might have been avoided.

If anyone threatens to harm you or if you hear them threaten to harm someone else, it is important that you call 911.

Never take such threats lightly.

The alleged shooter, in this instance, had been saying things that did not make sense to his neighbors. He had accused them of doing things that they were not doing. He was having some problems, and he threatened several people.

Washington state has laws that can be used to compel a person to receive medical care when they don't want it, especially if that person is becoming gravely disabled or dangerous to themselves or others.

Someone is considered gravely disabled if they stop eating and lose a lot of weight or stop paying attention and wander into traffic, or something like that. A person who makes threats to harm themselves or some-

one else should always be taken seriously. They could act on the threats, and as in this case, someone could be seriously hurt.

When in doubt, it is best to call the police and the management office. The police can arrange to have the person hospitalized.

And speaking of calling the police, several residents have not dialed 911 when bad things have happened because they believe that Shelton Robinson, our community police officer, can take care of any police matter.

It is important to understand what Officer Robinson can and cannot do.

He works with other officers who respond to calls in Yesler Terrace. He lets them know about problem areas. He, however, only works a 40 hour week. He is not here late at night when incidents frequently occur.

If residents do not call 911 when something happen, Officer Robinson will not find out about them. In order to be safe in the community, it is important for all of us to do our part. When you see people trying to break into a car — even if it is not your car — you should call 911.

If you see people milling around, look-

### Community notes

#### Yesler sculptor showing work

Local sculptor Charles Parrish will be showing his work at the Not Terminal Gallery, 2045 Westlake Ave. in Seattle, from August 5 to September 5.

There will be an artist's reception on August 11 from 1:30 to 6 p.m. Refreshments will be provided.

Parrish's show will include five sculptures and two pen and ink drawings and will be part of the exhibit "Hidden Masters," the gallery's Third Annual Northwest African American Fine Art Exhibit.

Other local artists' work will be included in the show.

# TRANSLATIONS

TRANSLATED ARTICLES FROM THE VOICE

## SHA considers policy change

### ក្រុមអាជ្ញាធរផ្ទះរដ្ឋក្រុងស៊ីអាតឡា សម្រេច

#### ថា នឹង កែប្រែច្បាប់

ច្បាប់ពីរដែលត្រូវបានផ្លាស់ប្តូរក្នុងបច្ចុប្បន្ននេះយើងកំពុង អនុវត្តន៍ ។

ដំបូងក្រុងអាជ្ញាធរស្វែងរកម្រាបអំពីប្រាក់ដែលត្រូវចំណាយ និងចំណូលសម្រាប់កម្មវិធីផ្សេងៗ។ ប្រាក់ចំណូលនេះ ដែលជួយដល់កម្មវិធីស្បៀង, សង្គម, កម្មវិធីសន្តិសុខ និង ផ្នែកសុខភាព ដែលនៅក្នុងសហគមន៍ គឺទទួលបានមក ពីរបស់ដែលលក់តាមម៉ាស៊ីន ក្នុងសហគមន៍មួយៗ ។

ក្នុងការទាមទារឲ្យមានប្រាក់ចំណូលថ្មីសម្រាប់បំរើតាម មតិស្តីពីការងារនិងឲ្យមានកំណើនឡើងនោះ ក្រុមអាជ្ញាធរមានសកម្មភាពប្រាក់ចំណូលថ្មីជារៀងរាល់ ឆ្នាំ។ ដើម្បីជួយបញ្ឈប់ការផ្តល់សេវាឲ្យមាន នៅក្នុងសហគមន៍ទៅថ្ងៃក្រោយទ្រុឌទ្រោមចាំបាច់ពីងទៅ លើរបស់របរតាមម៉ាស៊ីនឡើយ ។

មួយទៀត, ក្រុមអាជ្ញាធរស្វែងរកផ្នែកខាងរដ្ឋបាល ចំកម្មវិធីជួយដល់ប្រជាជនដោយខ្លួនឯងឲ្យកាន់តែមាន សភាពរឹងមាំខ្លាំងឡើងហើយដឹកនាំប្រជាជនទាំងអស់ នោះឲ្យមានជំនឿខ្លាំងឡើងចំពោះផ្នែកការជួយដល់ពួកគេ គឺគាត់សម្រាប់អនាគតថ្មីដែលពួកគេគិតត្រូវការនោះ ។

តាមបញ្ជីរដ្ឋចំពោះប្រជាជនដែលមានលក្ខណៈមិនតម្រូវឲ្យមានការស៊ើបអង្កេតចំណូលនោះ, ត្រូវតែចូលរួមក្នុងកម្មវិធីការងាររដ្ឋ, តាមកម្មវិធីសារដែលអាច ជួយដល់ពួកគេគឺបាននិងចូលរួមការប្រឹកប្រឹកផ្នែករក ការងារជាចាំបាច់ជាមួយអង្គការរដ្ឋបាលការងាររដ្ឋ ក្នុងសហគមន៍របស់អ្នក ។

## ЖУС обсуждает изменение установок

Жилищное управление в настоящее время обсуждает изменения двух установок.

Первое изменение касается путей финансирования Жилуправлением деятельности жителей. В настоящее время они используют доход от автоматов розничной торговли для поддержания проектов, пропагандирующих укрепление общества, образование, предупреждение преступлений или здоровый образ жизни.

Предлагаемое изменение, в ответ на увеличившуюся затрату времени руководителей программ, предполагает годовое финансирование вместо того, чтобы доступные фонды зависели от поступлений доходов от автоматов розничной торговли.

Жилищное управление также обсуждает изменения в общественных службах и в политике самообеспечения, ликвидируя требования общественных работ и концентрируясь на участии жителей в достижении чётких целей самообеспечения.

Согласно обновлённым требованиям все жители, не имеющие освобождения, будут обязаны участвовать в экономической программе самообеспечения, которая может включать трудоустройство через Трудовые связи (Job Connection) или профессиональное обучение. Жители, имеющие инвалидность или те, кто ухаживает за маленькими детьми, включаются в большое число людей, имеющих освобождение от этого требования. Некоторые члены комитета поддерживают изменение, говоря, что добровольная работа никогда не должна быть принудительной.

Жители, желающие прокомментировать изменения требований общественной работы, должны представить свои замечания Доне Фос через электронную почту по адресу: dfoss@seattlehousing.org или по почте по адресу: Seattle Housing Authority, P.O.Box 19028, Seattle, WA 98109.

Замечания по поводу предлагаемых изменений в финансировании деятельности жителей будут рассматриваться вплоть до принятия окончательного решения.

## SHA considers policy changes

### ស្ថិតិសាស្ត្រ យល់ឃើញ ថា ទម្រង់ ការងារ របស់ អ្នក គ្រប់គ្រង អាច មាន ផ្លាស់ប្តូរ

កាល ឯង ឯង ឯង ស្ថិតិសាស្ត្រ យល់ឃើញ ថា ទម្រង់ ការងារ របស់ អ្នក គ្រប់គ្រង អាច មាន ផ្លាស់ប្តូរ ។

ដំបូង គឺ យើង ត្រូវ ដឹង ថា យើង កំពុង អនុវត្ត ច្បាប់ ពីរ ដែល ត្រូវ បាន ផ្លាស់ ប្តូរ ក្នុង បច្ចុប្បន្ន ។

ដំបូង គឺ យើង ត្រូវ ដឹង ថា យើង កំពុង អនុវត្ត ច្បាប់ ពីរ ដែល ត្រូវ បាន ផ្លាស់ ប្តូរ ក្នុង បច្ចុប្បន្ន ។

ដំបូង គឺ យើង ត្រូវ ដឹង ថា យើង កំពុង អនុវត្ត ច្បាប់ ពីរ ដែល ត្រូវ បាន ផ្លាស់ ប្តូរ ក្នុង បច្ចុប្បន្ន ។

ដំបូង គឺ យើង ត្រូវ ដឹង ថា យើង កំពុង អនុវត្ត ច្បាប់ ពីរ ដែល ត្រូវ បាន ផ្លាស់ ប្តូរ ក្នុង បច្ចុប្បន្ន ។

ដំបូង គឺ យើង ត្រូវ ដឹង ថា យើង កំពុង អនុវត្ត ច្បាប់ ពីរ ដែល ត្រូវ បាន ផ្លាស់ ប្តូរ ក្នុង បច្ចុប្បន្ន ។

ដំបូង គឺ យើង ត្រូវ ដឹង ថា យើង កំពុង អនុវត្ត ច្បាប់ ពីរ ដែល ត្រូវ បាន ផ្លាស់ ប្តូរ ក្នុង បច្ចុប្បន្ន ។

ដំបូង គឺ យើង ត្រូវ ដឹង ថា យើង កំពុង អនុវត្ត ច្បាប់ ពីរ ដែល ត្រូវ បាន ផ្លាស់ ប្តូរ ក្នុង បច្ចុប្បន្ន ។

## Nha Cấp Phát Gia Cư Seattle – SHA đang cân nhắc việc thay đổi về chính sách thuê mượn nhà

SHA-Nha Cấp Phát Gia Cư Seattle hiện nay đang cân nhắc để thay đổi 2 chính sách thuê mượn nhà.

Một là, thay đổi về việc Nha Cấp Phát Gia Cư SHA tài trợ cho các cuộc sinh hoạt của cư dân. Hiện nay thì họ dùng tiền lợi tức từ các máy bán nước ngọt để chi dùng cho việc phát triển cộng đồng, giáo dục, phòng chống tội phạm, hoặc chương trình về sức khỏe tốt.

Dự tính thay đổi cho chính sách này là, để đáp ứng lại với việc đòi hỏi về thời gian cùng với cộng việc hành chính, thì có thể ngân sách chi tiêu cho các sinh hoạt nên được dự trù theo ngân sách hàng năm, thay vì chỉ dựa vào mức lợi tức của các máy bán nước ngọt.

Nha Cấp Phát Gia Cư cũng cân nhắc các thay đổi cho việc phục vụ cộng đồng, chương trình tự túc, rút đi điều kiện đòi hỏi liên quan đến các dịch vụ cộng đồng mà chỉ nhắm hướng tới vào việc các thành quả trong các chương trình tự túc mà cư dân tham dự vào.

Theo các điều hướng dẫn vừa mới được cập nhật, thì tất cả mọi cư dân không nằm trong thành phần miễn trừ, đều buộc phải tham gia vào chương trình tự túc, có thể bao gồm cả việc tham gia vào chương trình tìm việc làm Job Connection hoặc các chương trình học nghề.

Cư dân bị tàn tật, hay người chăm sóc con nhỏ là thuộc trong số người được miễn trừ dựa theo chính sách qui định. Có một số thành viên ủng hộ việc thay đổi này, họ bảo rằng những công việc thiện nguyện thì không thể bị bỏ buộc.

Các cư dân muốn phê phán về những thay đổi trong việc luật đòi buộc làm việc cộng đồng, xin gửi lên cho cô Donna Foss, qua điện thư e-mail ở dfoss@seattlehousing.org, hoặc bằng thư tín vào địa chỉ : Seattle Housing Authority, P.O Box 19028, Seattle WA 98109.

Các lời bình phẩm về những dự tính thay đổi cho ngân sách sinh hoạt cư dân sẽ được tiếp tục đón nhận cho đến khi chính sách được duyệt qua và hoàn thành.

## SHA waxay rajeynaysaa siyaasadda beddelaad

Seattle Housing Authorityhadda waxay tixgelinaysaa labo is beddel ah.

Kan hore waa waddada SHA ku maalgeliso deegeenka shaqooyinka. Hadda waxaa la isticmaalaa machinessi loogu caawimommashruuca taas oo dhismaha Jaaliyadda ah, waxbarashada, ka hortagga dembiyada ama caafimaad wanaagsan.

Soo jeedinta siyaasadda waxay ka jawaabaysaa sii kororka waqtiga oo la xiriiira mashruuca taas oo dakhliga shaqooyinka ku sallaysan, inta la fiirin lahaa hadba wixii la heli karo.

Housing Authority wuxuu kaloo xitaa tixgelinayaa is beddelka jaaliyadda shaqada iyo dadka iskood u dhaqaale raadsada.

Is beddelka iyo dhammaan dadka deegaanka waxaa laga rabaa inay is

beddela ku sameeyaan Iskood wax u raadsadayaasha mashruuca iyadoo lagu darayo shaqaalaha iyadoo la isticmaalayo la xiriirka shaqooyinka Waxbarashada ah.

Dadka deegaanka ahi oo curyaamiinta ahi iyo kuwa haysta caruur yar yar ahi iyo qaar ka mid ah ma saamaynayso siyaasaddaan. Qaar ka mid ahi xubnaha Guddiga waxay taageereen is bedelka iyadoo leh Shaqo iska wax u qabso ah waa in la sameeyaa. waa qasab.

Deegaanka raba inay wax ka dhahaan is beddelaka ahi waa inay soo gudbiyaan ra'yigooda iyadoo u soo gudbinaya Donna Foss, iyadoo u soo e mailgareynaya dfoss@seattlehousing.org, ama habka Boostada ahi Seattle Housing Authority, P.O. Box 19028, Seattle, WA 98109.

Wixii wax ka dhahid ah oo ku saabsan arrintaan oo ku saabsan arrinta Jaaliyadda waa la aqbalayaa inta aan la go'aamin.

## SHA considers policy changes

የሲያትል የቤቶች አስተዳደር በቅርቡ ሁለት ፖሊሲዎችን ለመቀየር አስቧል።

የመጀመሪያው የሲያትል የቤቶች አስተዳደር ለኒዮዎርክ የሚያደርገውን ፈንድ መለወጥ። አሁን ፕሮግራሙ የሚረዳው በአካባቢው ባለት የቪንዲንግ ሚሽኖች ገቢ ሲሆን ለኮሚኒቲ ግንባታ፣ ለትምህርት፣ ወንጀልን ለማቆምና ለጥሩ ጤና ለመሳሰሉት ፕሮጀክቶች ነው።

ባሁኑ ሰዓት የታሰበው ፖሊሲ፤ ለፕሮግራሞች አስተዳደርና በጊዜው የተጠየቀውን ጭመራ፤ ለቪንዲንግ ሚሽኖች የሚኖረውን ፈንድ ከማግኘት ይልቅ በዓመት ለተለያዩ ነገሮች የሚወጣውን ፈንድ የሚወስን ይሆናል።

በተጨማሪም የቤቶች አስተዳደር ለኮሚኒቲ አገልግሎትና ለራሱ መርዳት ፖሊሲዎች፣ ለኮሚኒቲ ግልጋሎትና ለመሳሰሉት እንዲሁም በግል የመሳተፍና ፍላጎትን ከግብ ለመምራትና ለማድረስ የሚጠቁትን መሰናክሎች ለማስወገድ በማሰብ ላይ ነው።

## ባሁኑ ጊዜ ባለው መመሪያ ስር፣ ከታክስ ነፃ ያልሆኑ ኗሪዎች በአኮኖሚ ራስን መምራት በሚያስችሉ ፕሮግራሞች መሳተፍ ግዴታ ሲኖርባቸው፤ ይህም ስራ መስራትን፣ የስራን ግንኙነትንና የተመላላሽ የትምህርት ፕሮግራሞችን በመጠቀም ይሆናል።

አካለ ስንኩል ኗሪዎችና ህፃናት ልጆችን የሚንከባከቡ ሰዎች ሁሉ ከታክስ ነፃ ከሚያደርገው ፖሊሲ መካከል ናቸው። አንዳንድ የኮሚቲ አባሎች ይህን ለውጥ በመደገፍ የበጎ ምግባር ስራ ቁጥጥር አያስፈልገውም በማለት ይናገራሉ።

ለኮሚኒቲ አገልግሎት በሚደረገው ለውጥ ላይ ነፃዎች አስተያየት መስጠት ከፈለጉ፤ ለደና ፎስ በኢ.ሜል: dfoss@seattlehousing.org ወይም በፖስታ Seattle Housing Authority, P.O. Box 19028, Seattle, WA 98109 ይላኩ።

ለኮሚኒቲ ድርጊቶች ፈንድ በሚደረገው ረቂቅ ላይ አስተያየት መስጠት የሚችሉት የፖሊሲው ግልጽ ተጠቃሎ ከመውጣቱ በፊት ነው።