



Healthy Community Coalition

March. 15, 2018

Minutes

The primary purposes of this group are to be:

- A shared learning community around health and wellness
- A platform for "think tanking" on ad hoc concerns attendees bring to the table

Announcements

King County:

Hopelink: Relaunching their financial assistance program. The hope is to encourage people to seek help early.

Sno-Valley Senior Center: Health and Wellness Fair April 3,

CareNet: CareNet operates alongside CarePoint. New medical mobile unit has been purchased and will be expanding to the eastside

CarePoint: Based out of SVA, New Executive Director, Tammy Jones

Encompass: Rise & Thrive breakfast is coming up April 24th at the Snoqualmie Golf Course "The Club"

Snoqualmie Valley Hospital- Survive & Thrive Event happening today to provide support to those who have survived a stroke/are supporting someone who needs care support

Snoqualmie Valley Community Network- The Be the Change Youth Summit is Saturday

Learning Highlight- Affordable Housing

Rob Wotton & Nicole Sanders joined us to provide an overview of the issue and to offer an update about affordable housing in the valley.

How did we get here?

- 1990 Growth Management Act- this has driven up property values
- 1991 Puget Sound Regional Council was re-envisioned to administer growth and traffic related policies
- SR-18 now has 12,000 people leave Snoqualmie and North Bend daily
- Out of 6,000 valley jobs available, another 4,000 folks are driving in to the valley to work- some of these people are commuting 40, 60, 100 miles each way.

King County Affordable Housing Coalition

- This is a newly formed group looking at the issue across the region.
- The valley has been identified as a “severely burdened population”
- Those under 30 and those over 65 are experiences the greatest impact

Social and Economic Impact

- We need diversity of all kinds to make the systems work well. Right now, families are here until their kids launch and then the parents move out of the area.
- Transit to employment outside of the valley is abysmal.
- The community suffers the impact of commuters coming in because it doesn’t really have a positive economic impact, but does impact the infrastructure.

What are Possible Solutions?

- \$15 per hour as a livable wage (\$15 hour= \$780 in rent)- the problem is that we do not have rentals available for this amount (even if it was a couple or two incomes)
- Low Income Housing Tax Credits- this is run by the state and only a certain amount of money is available annually.
- Transit Oriented Development- there is a (\$10,000,000) grant that will support the Snoqualmie to Issaquah I-90 corridor
- Rob shared a prototype of how some development could look using the tax credit solution
- Nicole shared examples of how cities can incentivize developers to include more affordable housing

Concerns that come up include questions about crime, run down buildings, added traffic, etc.

- The reality is that properties need to be managed for a long period of time and builders typically build them to last 20-35 years.
- This will actually positively impact traffic. It’s better to have people who are local fill local jobs. This would positively impact employee retention.
- Rob showed pictures of Velocity (an affordable housing complex in Kirkland). Incorporates space for after-school programs and community meals. A similar low

income housing complex is going in on Snoqualmie Ridge. This unit is being developed with DevCo and will be 191 units.

What nonprofits are involved in this work?

DASH, Imagine Housing

Rob's Message- It's Up to Us- how we can help?

We need to be holistic communities that have living spaces for young, older, and in between. Community involvement is key.

Public policy- creative, flexible

Resources- nonprofit or willing builder

Community support- build awareness, gain buy in

Discussion Related to the Learning Highlight

Ross suggested "aPodments" as an option. He currently lives in one in Seattle and really likes it.

Gene asked about tiny homes.

Nicole talked about the need to let builders (individuals) know about the options that the code will allow. She also talked about mother-in-law units and incentives for incentivizing for lower rent.

Susan shared about senior-only housing- currently 62 units. One of these is up for sale and we have a risk losing 28 of those because current owners are hoping to sale and convert to market-rate. It will take about \$2mil to make this NOT happen and to allow Mount Si Senior Center to purchase. Susan has been reaching out to elected folks and is asking us to do the same. The idea came up to talk to the King County Housing Authority (an entity that is NOT connected to King County government).

Sam wondered what's the definition of "cottage". There are "cottages" in North Bend that are actually large homes (1700 square feet).

Next Meeting April 19th from 11-12:30pm at the Fall City Library

Learning Highlight: Childhood Obesity Panel