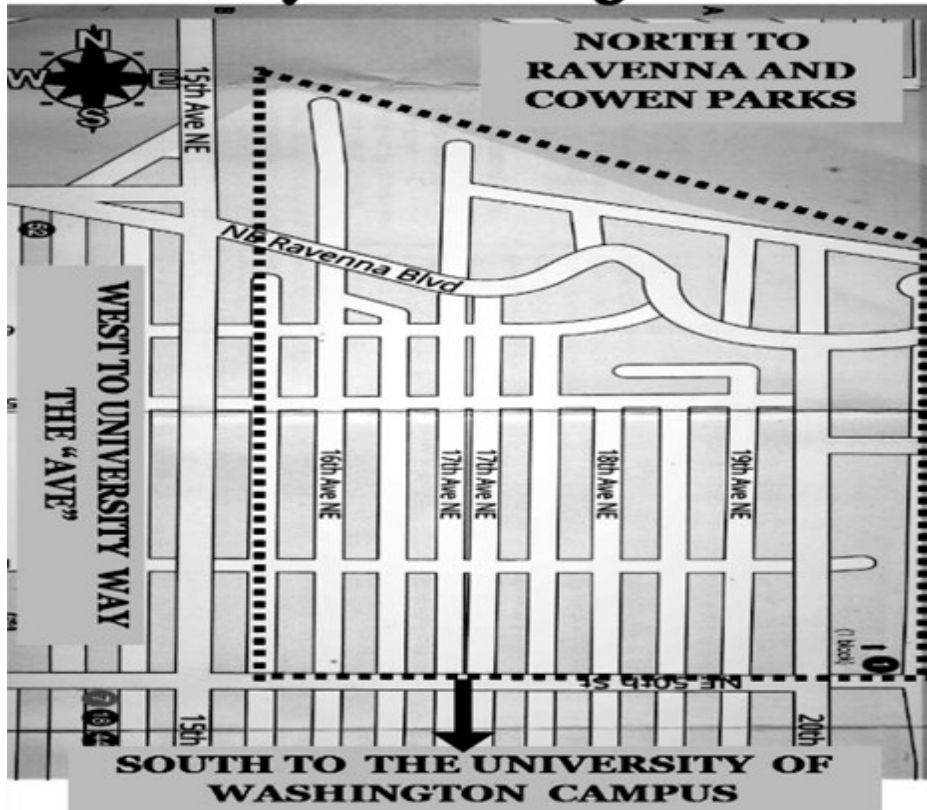


UPCC NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2022 EDITION



University Park Neighborhood



UPCC BOARD MEMBERS 2022

Dave Rodgers
Ray Kraft - Treasurer and Website Manager
Aileen Langhans - Secretary
Kent Wills
Mary Louis

50th Anniversary of UPCC is 2025

What is our future to be?

Dear UPCC members:

Due to many forces outside of our control, life in our neighborhood has been altered, perhaps for many decades. Unfortunately, the City of Seattle and its officials have also sought shelter... but this has been a retreat from any accountability and outreach to its many neighborhoods.

This is the time we need to show our neighborhood spirit and identity. Without showing a unite front to the City, ours and other neighborhoods will become overrun by developers, with the help of the Planning Department, whose goals are profit and power, not quality of life, especially for families.

Here are some potential opportunities for our organization to renew or explore, but they all hinge upon your participation.



Our annual meeting, perhaps in conjunction with a family picnic. What time of year would be best?



Quarterly meetings, as we had in the past, with guest speakers. What ideas do you have?



“Block captains” from the 1970’s: keep an eye on any local issues that need urgent attention; welcome new owners and renters; pass along news.



The Night-Out-Against Crime block parties. How can we make them interconnected while still being spread out among various blocks?



How can we reach out to long-term renters to make them feel part of the neighborhood? How can we reach out to those with disabilities or other needs?



How should we reach out to surrounding neighborhoods for mutual support and collaboration? How can we work together to establish an HUB for disasters?



Please consider volunteering for the board and/or special projects, such as cleanups, helping with the newsletter, flyers, the picnic, outreach to other neighborhoods, block captains, etc.



How concern are you about the intrusion by the City and developers on our community?



How can we preserve our architectural history and memories of the past as we prepare for our 50th Anniversary?

Remember: this is our community.

Let’s celebrate our uniqueness by protecting it and preserving it.

Let’s make it an inviting place for families—buyers or renters.

Let’s be ready to celebrate UPCC’s 50 years in 2025!



HOW DO YOU WANT TO PARTY?

A personal message from Secretary, Aileen M. Langhans

Dear UPCC neighbors,

I must apologize for my own silence this past year, but many unexpected health and financial issues kept our family busy and distracted, especially the fact that during the past three months we have been hacked over and over. My vision has also been on the decline.

I know that 2023 will bring in me a new spark of energy and I hope we can revitalize our wonderful University Park Neighborhood. With help from all of you, let's come together in support of our amazing community—keeping it a delight to all passersby and a draw to new long-term residents, especially families. Let's work to ensure that the City honors the 'family neighborhood' zone, not to be invaded by aggressive developers under the guise of 'urban renewal'. Let us celebrate our unique contributions to Seattle historical achievements.

The time is now, so let's not delay! *Your editor, Aileen*

Barbara Quinn A salute to our board member

The entire board would like to honor long-time, super-active, board member, Barbara Quinn, whose historical ties to our neighborhood spanned many decades. She and husband recently sold their house and moved. Here is a bit of her resume:

- ♦ Walking tours of the neighborhood, its history and architectural marvels.
- ♦ Representative on various other boards, such as CUCAC (City University Community Advisory Committee)
- ♦ Actively engaged in monitoring development, especially those that would affect our neighborhood, by working with the city and developers to influence its design, etc.

Thank you, Barbara, for your passion, your optimism, and your dedication!

University District in the Past

How many of you recall these treasured memories?

- ♦ The sororities and fraternities would create large displays and fun activities in their front yards every year during Homecoming Week. There were competitions among the various exhibits. Families came from all around for these events, walking up and down the various streets to enjoy the displays. No problem with drinking and rowdiness. Just fun times.
- ♦ During Seafair, there was a Kiddies' Parade on the Ave. We children were often in the parade itself. It wasn't a fancy event—just a neighborhood gathering.
- ♦ There were two soda fountains on the Avenue: Woolworth and Kress's. Their milkshakes were delicious. (In the early 70s there was another Ice Cream Parlor, The Churn, with red checkered tablecloths; it was closed down by anti-war rioters!)

WAKE UP TO SEATTLE'S 'ONE SEATTLE PLAN'!



**IMPORTANT
"ONE SEATTLE PLAN"
WORKSHOP
FOR DISTRICT 4
TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2023
8 - 10 P.M
MEADOWBROOK**



Over the past years, we have repeatedly been reassured by the City about its support for family neighborhoods; but we have never been convinced of its honesty. Now the truth is being revealed. Do you remember the recent past, when city officials made these promises and predictions?

	City's promise/prediction	Truth/lie?
?	Relaxing the DADU/ADU regulations will increase the stock of affordable housing and provide additional residences for extended families; but it will not negatively harm family neighborhoods.	
?	The U District Up-Zone will rapidly increase the stock in low-income and affordable housing units for families in close proximity to the light-rail station on Brooklyn Ave NE	
?	A transition/buffer zone has been established to guarantee the integrity of the peripheral family neighborhoods and protect them from the invasion of high-density development.	
?	During the City's effort toward the "One Seattle Plan", we will have organizations reach out to communities throughout the city. (Have you been approached or invited to participate?)	
?	The City's effort to help marginalized family find permanent housing is the reason why it needs to increase density in family neighborhoods, especially those with expensive, exclusive property values. (It's apparently our fault for obstructing the City's efforts!)	
?	Don't worry, we are just changing the name from "single-family" neighborhood to "family neighborhood" to reflect reality, but not to increase the density or up-zone those neighborhoods.	
?	No, we are not working with the State of Washington Legislature and Governor to eliminate family neighborhoods statewide, especially in cities with a population greater than 500,000 residents.	

We have been anticipating this major clash of the City's vague ideas and unrealistic promises for years and the time has finally come for us to formally express our concerns, while proactively and positively participating in truly practical, flexible, and sustainable solutions, ones that will be accountable, effective and reflective of the amazing complexities of the city's diverse family neighborhoods.

In the past, the city has repeatedly made bold promises which have not been fulfilled; it has made deals which were not transparent and honest; and it has created false narratives which have been revealed. In the past decade, the City has substituted access by neighborhood associations to the government process with community organizers, instead of simply widening the access to include both. And yet, the City's constant chant of "affordable housing for all, especially marginalized families" has remained out of reach. The fact is that housing stock for low-income families has not been greatly increased at all in the U District. But then, the City's true ambition has always to gain control over the single-family neighborhoods. Now that City Planners have failed at attaining their goals within our U District Up-zone, their ambitions, along with developers, have been amplified— to dissolve the transition/ buffer zone and invade University Park neighborhood. What is most disturbing, is that there is no evidence that this latest rendition of the Comprehensive Plan will even achieve its stated idealistic goals, even with the assistance of the State or subsidies.

NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT-ATTEND THE WORKSHOP, WRITE A LETTER, OR EXPRESS YOUR IDEAS TO THE BOARD!

WAKE UP TO SEATTLE'S 'ONE SEATTLE PLAN'!

Dear University Park Neighbors,

- Ask yourselves the following questions before you allow Seattle to push through this massive comprehensive plan update. Cleverly called the “One Seattle Plan”, it is ...
- ♦ based on hidden motives,
- ♦ misrepresentative of the City’s true intent,
- ♦ misleading and misdirecting in its prose,
- ♦ and filled with promises which are hyperbolic and unattainable.

If you wish to share your answers, please forward them to me on time for the January 10th workshop:

- ♦ aileenmargaret@yahoo.com
- ♦ 5215 19th Ave NE 98105 (mail or just drop it off!)
- ♦ Sorry, no phone #, as we have been hacked)

Or attend and/or write a letter

Topics	Yes/no	Reason/concern
Do you want 6-plexes throughout our neighborhood with up to 40 units per acre? This is the goal of the State of Washington.		
Should the City’s new plan be identical for all neighborhoods or should it be responsive to the individual needs and historical character of each neighborhood? Remember that our U Park has extra burdens caused by our close proximity to the UW. Unless the City recognizes these factors, its promise to bring in more family housing by increasing density will just encourage more student housing—transient populations. Note: that a true sense of community relies on a more permanent population!		
What features in our neighborhood would you like honored and encouraged, going forward? - our unique architectural diversity, our beautiful gardens with wonderful colors and fragrances, our amazing yards where children can gather and play, inviting entrances that face the streetscape and say ‘hello’ to the passersby, or write your own ideas here.		
Now that the State of Washington eliminated the maximum of 8 unrelated adults per house, how will that negatively our neighborhood?		
What negative impacts concern you? - Garbage, parties, parking, traffic, dumping, etc.? Will the new comprehensive plan address these issues in a positive way?		
Do you think that the City should reintroduce the idea of Conservation Districts—an idea it promoted in the early only a decade ago? This concept could be revised, so that developers are required to design homes that incorporate general features that are compatible with the character of the neighborhood (not the detailed requirements of historic zones).		
Do you think that the City should readdress the negative impacts caused by their revision of DADU/ADU regulations, which have spawn a rapid construction of such buildings, many of which eventually get subdivided and sold separately? These are no longer “accessory” homes!		
Do you think that the new comprehensive plan will truly give rise to a major increase in affordable housing for families in our family neighborhood or just more housing for single adults, especially students?		
Do you believe neighbors and the neighborhood association should receive notice about any construction or major remodeling in or adjacent to their communities, so that they can be actively engaged with the City and developer during the design process?		
Should the City be required to sustain and enforce the transition zone between our neighborhood and the U District urban center up-zone as promised and implemented in that ordinance?		
How should the City be required to prove that any of their objectives will be reached by constant monitoring and objective real-time assessment? This obviously was neglected when they promised that the U District Up-Zone would rapidly increase low-income housing for families near the light-rail station on Brooklyn!		

ARCHITECTURE 101: The Marvels of University Park Will they soon be erased?



Do you want to preserve this?
Beautiful older homes of elegance



Architectural and historical diversity



Graceful, colorful, and functional gardens

Inviting and engaging entrances



OR... do you want the city's version of our neighborhood?



- ◆ Where are the beautiful gardens ... to entice the senses, to engage the passersby, and to befriend our non-human neighbors, such as butterflies, bees, rabbits, etc?
- ◆ Where are the safe yards for our children to play in, especially should we get lockdowns again?
- ◆ Where are the inviting entrances to invite people to stroll along the city blocks in this 'pedestrian-friendly city'?
- ◆ Since when did the City of Seattle become so accepting of cement as an acceptable alternative?
- ◆ Why is the city promoting townhouses with multiple floors accessed by stairs?
- ◆ What is the city doing to providing affordable housing for those ethnic families that live in multi-generational homes or families that are seeking housing that will last them into retirement?
- ◆ Why not invite families into neighborhoods such as ours by contracting with landlords who lease their larger houses to groups of students? Many of them lie empty and unused.

IMPORTANT UPCC REMINDERS

HOW TO REPORT NUISANCE STUDENT PARTIES, TO WHOM, AND WHY IT IS SO IMPORTANT!

Here are some resources provided by the City of Seattle and the UW:

- ◆ For information regarding noise ordinances, please refer to the University Park Information Booklet or visit the Seattle Police Website. The residential noise ordinance is enforced beginning at 10 p.m. Sunday – Friday and 11 p.m. on Saturday and applies if the noise can be heard beyond 75 feet from the property.
- ◆ For UW regulations, please visit the UW Community Standards and Student Conduct page. There you will be able to access the Student Conduct Code section, which includes a specific subsection, titled: “WAC 478-121-120 Creating a public nuisance in neighboring communities”. Here is the content in its entirety:

To create a paper trail and documentation of each incident, the UPCC and the UW offer this approach to reporting and following up on any chronic student behavioral issues:

- ◆ Make a formal report to the Seattle Police Department. Even if there is no active response, this action will still provide a documented record of the issue. (call 911 or 206-625-5011)
- ◆ Contact the following UW departments and provide them with the specifics listed above:
 - ahoard@uw.edu
 - dhotz@uw.edu
 - cssc@uw.edu
- ◆ Contact the UPCC board member in charge of safety issue and nuisance properties: raykraft@gmail.com

We are a family community, and we can be most effective working together to keep our neighborhood safe and family friendly.

NOTE: We also want to be welcoming to those student houses that wish to be part of our community in a positive way; many of them strive to respect their family neighbors, and to them we should extend our appreciation and outreach.

(FULL UPCC STATEMENT CAN BE FOUND ON
OUR WEBSITE: www.upcc.org)

KEEP THESE CONTACTS
HANDY
FOR FUTURE REFERENCE



NEW NEIGHBORS TO UNIVERSITY PARK? Are there new neighbors on your block?

Invite them to learn more about our wonderful neighborhood by offering them a copy of our very practical and informative booklet. Note that it covers all sorts of information for the entire neighborhood, for both homeowners and renters.

Just contact our secretary, Aileen M. Langhans at upark.secretary@gmail.com to obtain some copies of this booklet.

NOTE: a pdf version is available on our website: www.upcc.org

Our City at Work to Keep Seattle Safe

WINTER STORMS

Seattle Public Utilities and Seattle City Light are getting storm ready!

■ With storm season upon us (rain storms, not the WNBA's Seattle Storm), it's a great time to prepare.

■ Seattle Public Utilities (water/sewer/garbage) crews have been preparing for the rainy season. You can prepare too and help prevent flooding in your neighborhood by raking leaves and safely clearing storm drains of leaves and debris. Find out how you can be prepared, stay safe, and get informed at seattle.gov/utilities/weather.

■ Seattle City Light knows it's that time of the year when the weather can go from bright and sunny to dark and stormy in a matter of minutes. Seattle City Light (electricity) has tips and resources to keep you safe, informed, and comfortable this storm season. Visit powerlines.seattle.gov/stormprep to learn more.

■ You can also register for AlertSeattle, the City of Seattle's official emergency alert system.



Clean City Initiative, November 28-December 3

■ In the 2021 and 2022 budget, Alex Pedersen, our District 4 City Councilmember, advocated on behalf of the "Clean City Initiative." This program invests \$9.3 million in Seattle Public Utilities, Seattle Parks and Recreation, and Seattle Department of Transportation to remove trash, needles, and debris from public spaces. From November 28-December 3, SPR crews removed 39,960 pounds of trash and 333 needles from 73 park encampment locations throughout the city.

Adopt A Storm Drain

<https://www.seattle.gov/utilities/protecting-our-environment/volunteer/storm-drain-care/adopt-a-storm>

■ Join volunteers across the city to keep your local storm drains clear of debris to reduce flooding and protect waterways. The Adopt-A-Drain (AAD) Program online tool lets you adopt a storm drain in your neighborhood.

■ What does it mean to "adopt" a drain? By adopting a drain you will be making a commitment to monitor and maintain a drain of your choice. Volunteers dedicate around fifteen minutes, twice a month, to provide care to their drain. We ask that you make a volunteer profile so we can keep track of the amazing work you've put into building a stronger and cleaner community!

- As a volunteer you will be able to create positive impact by:
- ◆ Preventing flooding in your neighborhood by keeping drains free of debris.
 - ◆ Preventing pollutants from entering our lakes, rivers, creeks, and Puget Sound, which impact the habitat for fish and other wildlife.
 - ◆ Helping the city maintain our infrastructure, especially during fall months when rain increases and falling leaves block the drains.

The 2022 Season of Cheer: Candy Cane Lane in Ravenna

The lights and decorations of Candy Cane Lane begin on Saturday, December 3, 2022, at 4 PM. Candy Cane Lane is a circle of houses all decked out for the holidays, located on Park Road NE off of NE Ravenna Blvd.

Beginning on Saturday, December 3, 2022, through New Years Day 2023, you can drive through or walk through Candy Cane Lane nightly. Hours on Sunday through Thursday nights are from 4 PM to 9:30 PM. Friday and Saturday night hours are 4 PM to 11 PM.

You are encouraged to bring food donations (canned food or dry food like spaghetti boxes) for the Food Bank barrel at the end of the lane.

These beautiful houses on Park Road NE, were developed in the 1920s under a master architectural plan, which gives the area a sense of purpose and historical continuity that continues to this day. The site was owned by the Beck family who developed the Ravenna neighborhood.

Come with family and friends, new and old, to enjoy this decades-long tradition during the Festive Season.



THE OFFICIAL UPCC WEBSITE:

www.upcc.org

Please visit this site to learn more about our organization and the various issues we are currently addressing, as well as upcoming events.

The website also contains the following information:

- ◆ Our bylaws and membership information
- ◆ Our recent newsletters and flyers
- ◆ **"WELCOME TO UNIVERSITY PARK - Where things are and how stuff works." (PDF Version)** This is an introductory booklet to our unique neighborhood. Be sure to share this valuable resource with your neighbors, especially those new to University Park.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Aileen M. Langhans, UPCC board secretary:
upark.secretary@gmail.com

For public safety issues and nuisance property concerns:
Ray Kraft
raykraft@gmail.com