

RESOLUTION R-5350

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND TO AFFIRM ITS POLICY SUPPORT FOR INCREASING TRANSPORTATION CONNECTIONS WITHIN THE CITY, TO INITIATE A PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PROCESS, AND TO DIRECT STAFF TO CREATE A CITYWIDE TRANSPORTATION CONNECTIONS MAP TO HELP FULFILL THE CITY'S POLICIES FOR IMPROVING SAFETY, CONNECTIVITY AND MULTIMODAL MOBILITY.

1 WHEREAS, one of the City Council's land use policy goals is to
2 achieve balanced transportation by reducing reliance on single-
3 occupancy vehicles and improving connectivity and multi-modal mobility
4 in Kirkland in ways that maintain and enhance travel times, safety,
5 health, and transportation choices; and
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7 WHEREAS, policy LU-3.9 in the Land Use Element of the Kirkland
8 Comprehensive Plan encourages vehicular and non-motorized
9 connectivity, noting that improved connectivity encourages walking and
10 biking and reduces travel distances for all transportation modes; and
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12 WHEREAS, policy T-5.6 in the Transportation Element of the
13 Kirkland Comprehensive Plan seeks to create a system of streets and
14 trails that form an interconnected transportation network, noting that
15 new connections often are required as part of land development, that
16 traffic spread over a grid of streets helps balance and minimize impacts
17 across the network, and that emergency response times are shorter and
18 more reliable when responders have routing options; and
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20 WHEREAS, the Urban Land Institute's publication *The Principles*
21 *for Smart Growth on the Suburban Fringe* advocates for the use of
22 multiple connections to enhance mobility and circulation; and
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24 WHEREAS, the National Complete Streets Coalition's publication,
25 *Implementing Complete Streets* lauds the value of connected streets
26 because "well-designed, connected [streets] make travel more efficient
27 by providing choices not only in modes, but also in routes"; and
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29 WHEREAS, Transportation Efficient Communities—an initiative
30 supported by the Washington State departments of Commerce, Ecology,
31 Health, and Transportation—cites several benefits associated with
32 improved street network connectivity, including enhanced bicycle and
33 pedestrian travel when the number of street connections and local
34 intersections in communities are increased; and
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36 WHEREAS, the City currently has "Street Connections" maps in
37 its adopted North Rose Hill Neighborhood Plan (figure NRH-5) and its

38 Highlands Neighborhood Plan (figure H-5), and as well as the City's
39 Totem Lake Business District Plan (figure TL-6); and

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41 WHEREAS, the City has found these connections maps to be
42 effective tools in identifying and causing new connections to be created;
43 and

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45 WHEREAS, at the time the community and the City drafted the
46 Finn Hill Neighborhood Plan, staff created a draft "Finn Hill Street
47 Connections and Trails" map; and

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49 WHEREAS, the Finn Hill Neighborhood Plan was adopted on
50 January 16, 2018, including its policy FH-14.2, stating, "Develop a map
51 where potential street connections should be made, with a map to be
52 inserted at a future time," and

53

54 WHEREAS, upon reflection and discussion, it would be more
55 efficient in time and effort to create a single map that identifies potential
56 transportation connections citywide rather than on a neighborhood-by-
57 neighborhood basis; and

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59 WHEREAS, having experienced the value and effectiveness of
60 such transportation connections maps, and foreseeing future benefits,
61 the City should adopt a citywide map to help fulfill the City's policies for
62 improving safety, connectivity and multi-modal mobility.

63

64 NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City
65 of Kirkland as follows:

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67 Section 1. The City Council affirms its support of existing City
68 policies related to transportation connections and encourages their
69 application.

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71 Section 2. Staff is hereby directed to initiate a public
72 engagement process that includes broad community participation for
73 discussing and evaluating proposed transportation connections
74 throughout the City.

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76 Section 3. Staff shall create a citywide transportation
77 connections map, which shall identify the type of and the rationale for
78 each connection.

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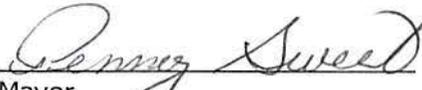
80 Section 4. The final draft citywide transportation connections
81 map shall be included in the 2019 annual update of the *Comprehensive*
82 *Plan*.

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84 Passed by a majority of the Kirkland City Council in open meeting
85 this 2nd day of January, 2019.

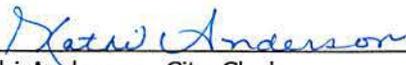
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Signed in authentication thereof this this 2nd day of January,
2019.



Mayor

Attest:



Kathi Anderson, City Clerk