Lowell School Community Relations Council
February 4, 2014 Meeting

Present: Doug Odom and Joe McQueeney of Lowell School;
and 3 members from the community.

Meeting time: 6:30 pm to 7:00 pm

Traffic management report:

Lowell continues to follow the traffic management plan guidelines. The beginning of the school year was a challenge to train Lowell families and visitors to follow the neighborhood parking guidelines given the constrained parking on campus; however, repeated communications and polite reminders in person soon had the situation back under control.

Lowell secured overflow parking for employees (and routine visitors) at the First United Church on 16th Street to make up for a shortage of on-campus parking during the construction project.

One community member asked that the school remind drivers not to block the alleys when waiting for the light at Kalmia and 16th street.

Lowell's expansion plans

The construction project has proceeded mostly according to plan. Some delays have been encountered along the way but the expected finish date, September 2014, has not been impacted at this point. One community member commented that the construction impact on the immediate neighbors has been less than expected.

The school is beginning to explore the next step in the expansion plan: demolishing the Fraser building. There is a special section of the Neighborhood Cooperation Agreement outlining how the School and neighbors should work together to ensure a successful completion of this phase of the plan. The preliminary plan is to be ready to start this work in about one year from now. One community member raised a concern about needing to light the vacant space after the building has been removed.

Community Relations Council business

Upcoming events:

- Lowell Spring Break March 24 through March 31.
- Next community meeting planned for April 29.

Other business:

Lowell School Community Relations Council
April 29, 2014 Meeting

Present: Doug Odom and Joe McQueeney of Lowell School;
and 5 members from the community.

Meeting time: 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Traffic management report:

Lowell continues to follow the traffic management plan guidelines. Families and visitors have generally followed all the parking guidelines. We continue to monitor for and remind people who forget the rules.

Reminder: Lowell secured overflow parking for employees (and routine visitors) at the First United Church on 16th Street to make up for a shortage of on-campus parking during the construction project.

The construction company has made a concerted effort to stop parking vehicles on 17th street by the construction site. Construction vehicles are now making use of the overflow parking at the church when necessary.

Lowell's expansion plans

The construction project has proceeded mostly according to plan. The project is still scheduled to conclude on time in September 2014.

Lowell's Board has approved plans to move forward with razing Fraser Hall in 2015. The school is now in the process of selecting a contractor(s) to perform the work to raze the building and stabilize the site afterward. The plan is to performing this work in spring/summer 2015. There is a special section of the Neighborhood Cooperation Agreement outlining how the School and neighbors should work together to ensure a successful completion of this phase of the plan. The relevant terms of the cooperation agreement were reviewed during the meeting and the neighbors agreed to convene the Task Force by the end of May 2014 as outlined in the agreement. The group present agreed that the language in the cooperation agreement referring to the ANC deciding who will be members of the Task Force doesn't make sense. Instead, Lowell will send a letter to neighbors within 200 feet of the school inviting them to participate on the Task Force and those interested in participating are welcome. The Task Force is charged with selecting an abatement expert to act as a 3rd party to represent the neighbors' interest to ensure the abatement is performed in a manner that best protects those in the area near Fraser Hall. The terms are spelled out in the cooperation agreement adopted in 2010.

Community Relations Council business

Upcoming events:

- Book Fair May 5-8.
- Various end-of-year events
- Graduation on June 11
- Summer programs June 16 to August 8
- Task Force formation meeting scheduled for May 28th at 6:30 pm (a call-in number will be provided for those unable to attend in person)
- Next community meeting planned for July 22.

Other business:

Lowell School Community Relations Council
May 28, 2014 Meeting

Present: Doug Odom of Lowell School;
and 4 members from the community.

Meeting time: 6:30 pm to 7:10 pm

Traffic management report:

A brief check in on traffic management was covered. No issues were discussed.

Lowell's expansion plans

Lowell sent a letter to the community (neighbors within 200 feet of the school) on May 14th inviting them to this meeting to launch the Task Force called for in the neighborhood cooperation agreement in preparation for the demolition of the Fraser building in 2015. The task force is to be made up of the three Kalmia households represented at the meeting and Mr. Odom of Lowell School as well as the ANC 4A01 Commissioner.

Lowell will proceed with selecting and contracting a team of professionals to perform the work necessary to raze Fraser. A work plan will be written by the professionals and shared with the Task Force so that a 3rd party expert can review the plan on behalf of the community.
A tentative timeline for the Task Force's work was reviewed with the goal of having a 3rd party selected by September and the plans reviewed by October 2014. The group agreed to have a progress check in at the next regular community meeting in July.

Community Relations Council business

- Next community meeting planned for July 22.

Other business:

Lowell School Community Relations Council
July 22, 2014 Meeting

Present: Doug Odom of Lowell School;
and 4 members from the community.

Meeting time: 6:30 pm to 7:00 pm

Traffic management report:

The traffic management check-in was focused on the parking along 17th street by construction workers. As the construction nears completion the workforce has grown and parking is in short supply. The contractors are utilizing the church parking lot that was rented by the school to help minimize the number of workers' cars on the street.

Lowell's expansion plans

Construction on Parkside is in full swing entering the final month before the new school year begins in September. It is expected that the building will open on time.

Lowell is planning a ribbon cutting and open house for the new building on August 29th in the morning.

Regarding the Fraser demolition:

Lowell has contracted with or signed a letter of intent to contract with a firm to perform the environmental remediation and demolition of Fraser as well as an industrial hygienist who will oversee the environmental safety of the project. A draft of the work plan has been received by the school and an air quality testing and monitoring plan is still being developed. These plans will be provided to the community Task Force formed at the last meeting as soon as they are available.

Community Relations Council business

- Next community meeting planned for the fall on a date to be determined.

Other business:

Lowell School Community Relations Council
November 6, 2014 Meeting

Present: Doug Odom of Lowell School; ANC 4A01 Commissioner; and 4 members from the community.

Meeting time: 6:30 pm to 7:20 pm

Traffic management report:

The school year had a pretty good start from a traffic management standpoint. Lowell reports that more students than ever are riding the school bus this year.

Parking for faculty and staff continues to be tight as there is some on-going construction activity outside Parkside.

Lowell's Fall Bazaar turned out to be on a Saturday with perfect weather and attendance was robust. The neighborhood parking was stretched to its limits for this annual event.

Lowell's expansion plans

The Parkside building opened nearly on-time after a major push to complete the project in time for the school year. Exterior work was postponed in favor of completing the interior so that the building would be ready for occupancy. The exterior work is on-going but making progress.

Regarding the Fraser demolition:

Lowell's professional team completed the detailed work plans for the Fraser project in September. These plans along with the hazardous materials testing reports were sent to Task Force member by email on September 26th.

The Task Force has not yet identified a 3rd party specialist to review the information submitted. A target of the first week of December was set for the Task Force to have identified their expert so that the review of the plans could be completed by early January. This was seen as an ideal timeline in order to have a community meeting in late January to review the details of project with neighbors.

Lowell expects to file for the raze permit before the end of November given that the regulatory review of the application could take several months.

Community Relations Council business

- Next community meeting planned for January on a date TBD.

Other business: