Land Use Committee Items

1. Zoning Text Amendment – Swimming Pool Fences

In December the Planning Commission conducted a public hearing to consider a text amendment to the Kent Zoning Code. The proposed amendment expands the space allowed in pool fencing from 3” to 4” between panels. The Planning Commission voted 4-0 in favor of the Amendment. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation
Support staff’s recommendation to amend the zoning code.

Council Action
Authorize the proposed text amendment changes.

2. Neighborhood Zoning Violations/Compliance Status Report

Given Council’s recent questions about the status of the staff efforts to enforce zoning and housing code violations, Gary Locke and I thought it would be worthwhile to have staff provide a brief report on their work activities over the last couple of months. This information should also be useful as a lead in to Health and Safety Committee discussion on neighborhood issues overall. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation
Receive the staff report and ask questions as appropriate.

Council Action
No action required at this time.

Health and Safety Committee

3. Update on Nuisance Activities

In conjunction with the zoning and housing code violations report, the Police staff will provide an update on the police activities in the neighborhoods in response to nuisance complaints.

Along with this information, Bill Lillich and I would like to go through the items that we’ve been working on concerning neighborhood issues that were raised by Council back in October 2006. What we’re trying to do is lay the groundwork for a more comprehensive “neighborhood enrichment” program that would allow us to be more strategic in anticipating and responding to neighborhood problems. We’ve attached materials that are the beginning of a report that will serve to outline this broader initiative. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation
Receive the staff report and ask questions as appropriate.

Council Action
No action required at this time.
Community Development Committee

4. Celebrate Kent! Grant Program
Mike Weddle has re-worked the application and reporting process for the City’s Economic Development Promotions grant program.

Administration Recommendation
I believe Mike has made it easier and more-user friendly for Kent applicants to seek funds to use for community events, and I support authorizing staff to initiate the application process for 2007.

Council Action
Authorize the “Celebrate Kent!” grant program revisions for use in 2007.

5. Downtown Main Street Program Update
I asked Mary if she would provide Council a short update on the status of the Main Street program and the work activities that she and her Board members have been busy working on.

Administration Recommendation
Receive Mary’s report and ask questions as appropriate.

Council Action
No action necessary at this time.

Streets, Sidewalks and Utilities Committee

6. Fairchild Avenue Bridge ODOT Right of Way Agreement
Chris Tolnar has been working on moving the Fairchild Avenue Bridge project forward based on the schedule included in the City’s capital plan. He has prepared the right of way documents that are required for the next step in the process, and he is seeking Council’s authorization to proceed. Since the Fairchild Bridge was one of the items that was questioned by Council in the retreat, this may be a good time for more Council discussion on the future of this project.

Administration Recommendation
Since the bridge project is adopted in our 2007 Capital Plan, I support Chris’ request for Council approval in order to keep the project on schedule as approved.

Council Action
Authorize staff to enter into the ODOT ROW Agreement for the Fairchild Avenue Bridge project.