A community agenda for revitalization OUTIONS

















from the steering group
June 1, 2009

After months of hard work we are pleased to present this Skyway Solutions report! We, the members of the Skyway Solutions Steering Group, in cooperation with King County's Community Enhancement Initiative, Equity and Social Justice Initiative, and Pomegranate Center, enthusiastically support this plan for community-driven revitalization.

The Skyway Solutions project reflects the ideas and recommendations of the community members that participated in our seven month planning process.

Over 100 Skyway residents were involved in developing this plan. And as thrilled as we are about that level of involvement, we realize this still represents a small percentage of Skyway's overall population. As Steering Group members and residents, we worked hard to ensure the process considered what is best for the entire community as we helped distill many ideas into the final six goals.

The six goals outlined in this plan represent, in our judgment, the best ways Skyway can become a vibrant, just, and sustainable community.

But this plan is only the beginning.

We know that the real meaning of these goals is how they are realized in the years to come and how well they are adapted to meet the future needs and opportunities of our growing, changing community.

We can all play a role in bringing this plan to life. Some of these recommendations need large amounts of funding and additional planning; others simply need good will and energy from community members. As you read this document, think about how you personally can get involved. Check out page 18 and the Appendix (page 19) to learn how you can participate or learn more about a specific project.

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that we, the Skyway Solutions Steering Committee, endorse the community's ideas and recommendations represented in this report. We believe they are representative of the wishes of the Skyway community.

Sincerely,

But Bo

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Participants



Skyway Solutions participants working together at the May 9th, 2009 "Action Circles" meeting.

Community members

Andre Benjamin* Andriel Moore Angela Kraft Barbara Reich Barbara Santos-Johnson Bill Bowden* **Bobby Tucker** Brenda Pope Brooke Vail Carol Lynn Cole Carolyn Velez* Carolyn Sopher Cece Jones* Chris Patin Christopher Hunt* CJ Dancer* Cynthia Green* Dale Christie Dandre Glas... Danicka Kinzy Dennis Cole* Diane Gaylord Don Patin Don Wieckowicz Dr. Israel Barsh

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Kayla Grayson* Kathleen Sidwell Kevin Piepel Kirsten Wilhelm* Klaus Liebetanz Kolin Frantz* Larry Lafrance LeMarco Vassar Lenard Howze Lewis Brandon Linda Cassée* Loren Davis Lou LeCroy Lynn Bartlett Mark Velez* Makela Steward Marcus Harden Marquita Shoecraft* Maxzell Blanchard Meg Pitman* Michael Keller Michael Majeed* Michael Williams Michael Tedin

Michèle Savelle* Michele Thomas Nancy Berry Nicholas Laurits Sidwell Pari West Paul Patu* Paul Berry Rev. Jesse Townsel* Rev. Steve Baber Richard Rivers Richelle Frantz* Rob Detzner* Robert Delgardo Roberta Sutton Rodney Wing Ruby Patin Ruth Frickle Sam Simone* Sherry Dione* Shyla Butler* Sonja Bowden* Stefanie Fox Stephanie Lafrance

Syretta Whitehurst*
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Patterson
Deputy Martin Hodge
Stefanie Fox

Pomegranate Center Staff

Milenko Matanovic Bree Delgadillo

UW Student "Learning Observers"

Amada Wysocki Kiley Thornton Fazel Rabi Haqbeen Jean de Heau Rakocondrdnihdnina





"We have an opportunity to build what we want the community to be. It starts with the kids."

- Gil Goins, Skyway resident

^{* =} Steering commitee member



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Renton Boeing plant ~ 1960s



Skyway Community Council meeting notice



Skyway Solutions meeting

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Background

Skyway is a collection of neighborhoods at the top of West Hill, an unincorporated area of King County bordered by the cities of Seattle, Tukwila, and Renton in Washington State. Perched on a hill, it is blessed with stunning views of Mt. Rainier and the Olympic Mountains. Historically, Skyway was a community of sparsely settled farms and pastures. Beginning with an influx of servicemen coming home after World War II, it is now home to nearly 15,000 residents. These residents have come to cherish the following community assets:

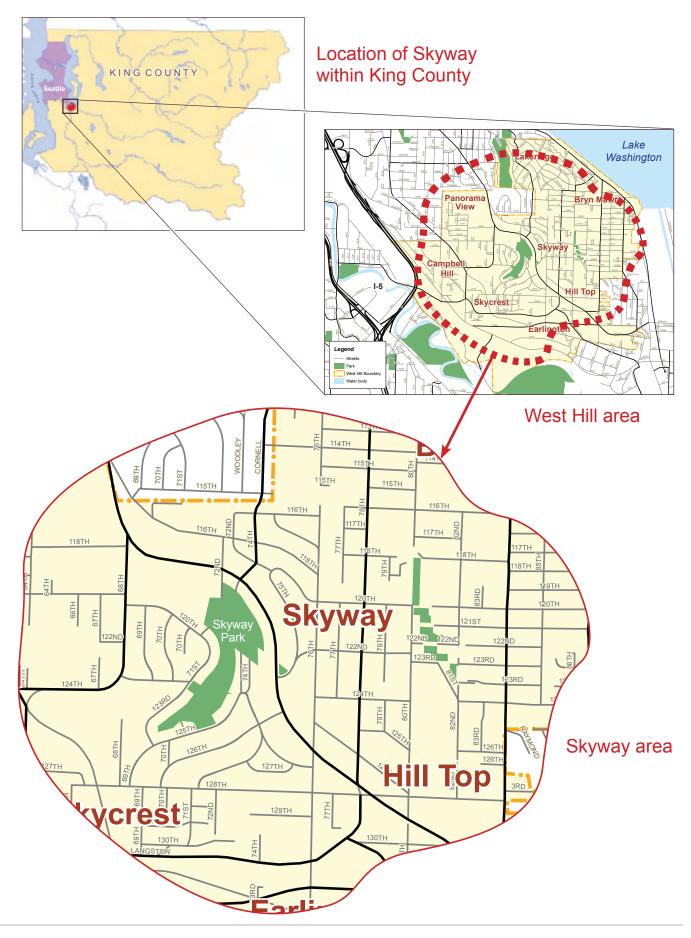
- ► Parks: Skyway Park, Dead Horse Canyon, Earlington Park, and nearby Kubota Gardens
- ▶ People: the spirit of neighborliness, youth programs, long term residents, caring families, and rich diversity (ethnic, cultural and economic)
- ➤ Nature: views of the water and mountains, maple trees, wooded areas, and Taylor Creek
- ▶ Institutions: post office, library, churches, schools, Boys and Girls Club, regular neighborhood clean-ups, Fire District #20, and Renton Area Youth and Family Services (RAYS)

At the same time, Skyway faces a number of challenges. Among other things, there are grave concerns about high turnover in the business district, lack of jobs, concerns of crime, lack of pride, too few gathering places, not enough positive activities for youth, low morale, and racial polarization.

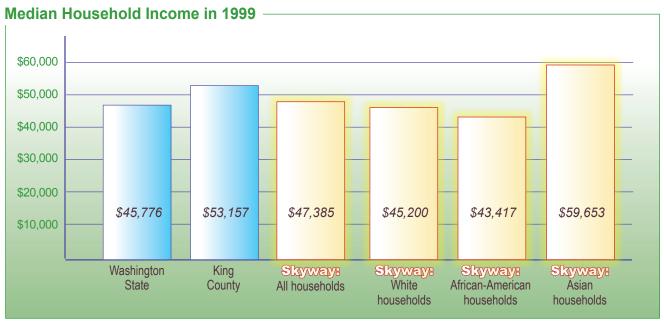
Today, Skyway is poised for transformation.

In October 2008, King County's Community Enhancement Initiative (CEI) enlisted Pomegranate Center to facilitate and work with the Skyway community to develop the Skyway Solutions plan through a seven-month community-based planning process. CEI is a program grounded in the principles of equitable development, social justice and a fundamental respect for community-driven change. CEI helps create communities where everyone has an equal opportunity to reach their full potential.



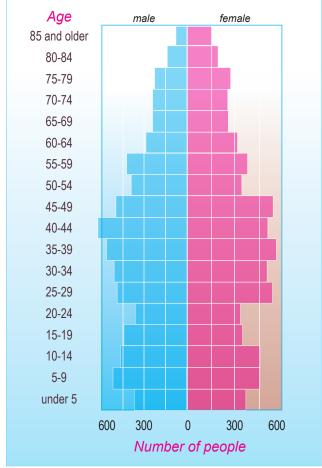


KEY DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION



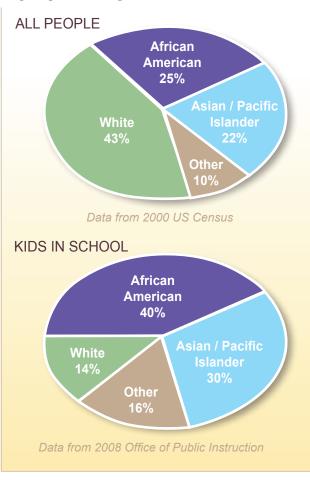
Data from 2000 US Census





Data from 2000 US Census

Skyway Ethnicity



Planning process



"It's up to us. We can't expect our government officials to do something if we aren't willing to get out there ourselves."

- Skyway Solutions participant



Outcomes:

Community Conversations and Community Meeting #1

Identification of Skyway's assets and areas for improvement and articulation of a vision

Community Meeting #1 and Feb 21 Action Circles

Identification of potential goals that support the vision and actions that support those goals

Community Meeting #2 and May 9 Action Circles

Refined goals and development of Action Plans

Community Celebration, June 6

Implementation of key actions and celebration of the community's work

"What I'm excited about is that some of us get to engage with adults and create a relationship because of this project."

- CeCe Jones, teenage member of the Skyway Solutions Steering Group Skyway community members, King County, and Pomegranate Center collectively designed a unique planning process in an effort to engage meaningful community participation. This planning process, Skyway Solutions, began in November 2008 with over 50 Skyway residents who participated in a series of informal "living room" discussions. During these Community Conversations residents identified assets, weaknesses, and opportunities in their neighborhood.

In December 2009, a group of 25 Skyway community members formed a "Steering Committee." This group met six times during the planning process to provide leadership, outreach and ongoing coordination with Pomegranate Center and King County staff.

The first of three Community Meetings was held in January 2009.

Residents developed over 40 ideas for how to improve their community.

Over the following months, in Action Circles and another Community Meeting, community members:

- organized their ideas based on overarching themes, goals and values;
- prioritized their ideas using the Project Criteria if an idea satisfied all or many of the criteria it became a priority;
- identified which actions can build upon already existing momentum and analyzed opportunities to renew or initiate partnerships;
- committed to get personally involved in leading their ideas into reality; and
- developed initial Action Plans

The outcome of this work is a vision for a positive, equitable Skyway – 6 key goals and menu of actions that support those goals, all of which were carefully filtered through the Project Criteria. These criteria which were developed by the Skyway community members, King County and Pomegranate Center to promote safety, sustainable development, environmental stewardship, health, equity and community capacity building.

To celebrate their hard work the community gathered in June of 2009. This Community Celebration marked the transition from planning to implementation. A completed Skyway Solutions report was broadly distributed, long-standing participants were thanked and honored, newcomers were welcomed and "action" was taken through a series of community-wide service projects.

Criteria -

- 1. Does the proposed action serve all or only a select group?
- 2. Who might this action harm?
- 3. Does the action promote health?
- 4. Is it safe?
- 5. Is it good for the environment?
- 6. Is it aligned with the community's vision for the future?
- 7. Are there people in the room prepared to make it happen?
- 8. Is there existing momentum in place?
- 9. Does the action have the power to transform the community for the better?

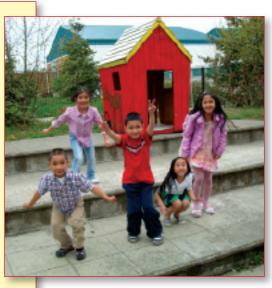
articipants in the planning process engaged in an honest examination of what changes are needed to create a vibrant community. They knew that their priorities could only be realized if they lead this charge themselves and leverage their initiative and energy to find further support for the plan's realization. They also understood that planning for the future of their community without a shared vision is simply not productive, that without a shared vision different individuals and organizations would pursue separate goals, unintentionally compete with each other and in the process waste precious time. resources and good will.

151017 In the future, Skyway will be a community:



Skyway Outdoor Cinema wall painting party

- Rich in pride and with strong ethics of participation.
- Where all people feel safe.
- With a positive identity, filled with distinction and local character.
- With a vibrant business district with strong local representation.
- Known for its commitment to young people and creativity.
- Where people have access to safe parks, walking trails and connections to healthy foods.



Skyway Boys and Glrls Club



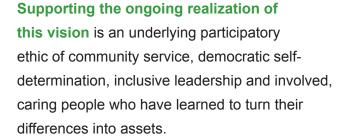
Earth Day cleanup





Students volunteer to remove invasive blackberries

→ Implementation → Revisit and improve



The purpose of this document is to move this vision forward. The planning participants identified six key goals to realize this broad vision, with each goal consisting of specific actions to support their implementation. The Action Plans, found in the Appendix (page 19), are initial recommendations for how each action can be realized.

Imagine!

A participatory community rich in pride

Kiosks will be created at critical intersections throughout Skyway to announce community events.

Improved safety for everyone

Traffic calming circles will increase safety.

A community filled with creativity, art and character

Artistic gateways at major points of entry into Skyway and leading into Skyway Park.

A vibrant business district Busy business district will thrive through a "shop local" campaign, supporting the needs of the community.

Programs that foster youth development and engagement

Skyway Youth Council organizes community projects.

Recreational opportunities and improved health for all

Community Center will be a home away from home for people of all ages. A thriving community garden in Skyway Park involves members in leading a healthy lifestyle.



Goals and Actions

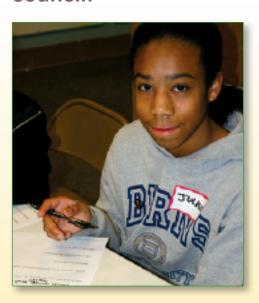
(See the Appendix, page 19-21, for details of this action plan.)

Goal #1

Create a participatory community, rich in pride

Skyway will encourage citizen groups and individuals to collaborate in their work to change our community for the better. We will promote initiative, promote ownership and empower the next generation of community stewards.

Julius wants you to join in the youth council:



"Help me empower youth leadership and organize a foundation for a future."

- Julius Jones, Skyway resident and goal group leader

Actions





If people know one another they feel safer, more able to support each other in times of crisis and know how to navigate local resources.

1.2 Develop community logo and slogan

Help create a new, positive and futureoriented identity for Skyway.

1.3 Improve community-wide communication

Develop effective ways to communicate as broadly as possible while preventing duplication (see also action 4.6).

1.4 Organize events that engage a broad range of community members

Help connect neighbors, project a positive image and have fun.

1.5 Connect existing associations, efforts and activities with each other

Ensure that leaders and participants know of each others' work to increase collaboration and efficiency.



Goal # 2 (See the Appendix, page 22-24, for details of this action plan.)

Improve safety for everyone

Skyway will be a community where people feel safe. We will build on the momentum of the Public Safety Initiative to focus on connection, visibility and preparedness.

Actions

2.1 Form a group to coordinate all efforts related to pedestrian and traffic safety

Public safety is important for everyone and all efforts should be synchronized.

- 2.2 Increase the number of block watches
 - Grassroots effort to increase safety for all
- 2.3 Ensure reliable funding for community policing
- 2.4 Increase pedestrian safety throughout community (see also action 6.5)
- 2.5 Advocating for traffic control projects where needed in the community



Bill and Sonja want you to join in:



It has been an incredible experience being involved in Skyway Solutions. We have met some of the nicest, most talented friends and neighbors we wouldn't have met otherwise, and the fact that we are working together to improve our community makes it doubly rewarding.

We have also deeply appreciated the support of Pomegranate Center and King County in this endeavor, and we look forward to seeing the results.

- Sonja and Bill Bowden, Skyway residents and goal group leaders

Skyway Fire Station team

Goals and Actions, continued

(See the Appendix, page 23-27, for details of this action plan.)

Goal #3

Develop a community filled with creativity, art and character

Skyway will be a vibrant, beautiful community that attracts sustainable development.

Syretta and Dennis want you to join in:

"Skyway
Solutions
gives us
parents an
opportunity
to set a
healthy
example



for our children and youth at large by demonstrating our involvement in the community - it has been an incredible experience for my son Julius and me to build a future together."

- Syretta Jones Whitehurst, Skyway resident and goal group leader



"Pride of place is the seed of renewal!"

- Dennis Cole, Skyway resident and goal group leader

Actions



Instigate coordinated activities to increase pride through events, celebrations and beautification.

3.2 Place artistic gateways at major points of entry

Create a new image for Skyway and foster creativity.

- 3.3 Host a competition to design the Skyway logo and slogan
- 3.4 Coordinate with business district leaders to beautify Renton Avenue

Make storefronts more welcoming.

3.5 Promote the installation of neighborhood art lofts

Artists bring creative energy and naturally encourage participation among different groups, fostering renewal.

Goal # 4 (See the Appendix, page 28-30, for details.)

Stimulate a vibrant business district

Skyway will have a thriving, locally supported business district realized through creative investments and partnerships.

Actions

4.1 Conduct a study to learn what is needed for viable businesses to thrive in Skyway

Successful businesses will support a vibrant local economy.

4.2 Develop a process for attracting businesses to the neighborhood

People of Skyway need to meet their shopping needs locally.

4.3 Beautify Renton Avenue

Collaborate with property owners and code enforcement agencies to upgrade and beautify Renton Avenue.

4.4 Establish a business cooperative / incubator

Turn an empty building into a "business greenhouse" where new entrepreneurs share expenses and support each other.

4.5 Initiate a "shop local" campaign

Help local businesses stay afloat and personalize otherwise impersonal transactions.

4.6 Build kiosks that promote community awareness and local businesses

Inform about community events, organizations and businesses.

Linda wants you to join in:



"We already have a great location on top of the hill which is just waiting for more business! Now, let

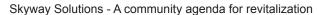
us bring in that business and support it. I say: let's go shop at the top!"

- Linda Cassée, Skyway resident and goal group leader









Goals and Actions, continued

(See the Appendix, page 31-33, for details of this action plan.)

Goal #5

Foster youth development and engage young people in community life

Skyway will be a community that recognizes, nurtures and respects its youth.

Actions

5.1 Leverage and strengthen existing programs

Make the best use of existing resources and support programs that target at risk youth.

5.2 Organize events specific to youth

Instigate events that offer young people something to do and an outlet to connect with each other in a positive way.

5.3 Involve youth in community arts projects

Make Skyway more beautiful and give all people something to be proud of.

- **5.4 Promote multigenerational activities** (see also action 6.6)
- 5.5 Form a Skyway Youth Council
- **5.6 Lay foundation for future Community Center**

Create momentum to build a Community Center to serve as a glue to hold the community together and become a home away from home for many young people.



Skyway Park planning participants

Paul wants you to join in:



"Be the change you want to see in the world!"

- Paul Patu, Skyway resident and goal group leader (shown with Julius Jones, right, and Kayla Grayson, left)





Goal # 6 (See the Appendix, page 34-36, for details.)

Strengthen recreational opportunities and improve health for all

Skyway will have lots of opportunities for community members to exercise, meet new people, stay healthy, and have fun.

Actions

6.1 Implement Skyway Park Community Vision

Skyway Park, once revitalized, will provide a safe place for many activities for all generations: games, walks, celebrations, art, gardening, etc.

6.2 Implement Healthy Lifestyle Initiatives

Increase walking opportunities and access to healthy foods

6.3 Create a Farmer's Market

Provide a gathering place that also stimulates health and local economy.

6.4 Test plots for P-Patch gardens

Enhance healthy living and stewardship from community members of all ages.

6.5 Identify walking trails / routes

Promote a network of trails to enhance health and fellowship.

6.6 Form a Gardening Club with Youth

It will build stronger bond between youth and adults, enhance healthy lifestyles, and beautify the community.

Ginny wants you to join in:



"I think Skyway Solutions provides a way for the community to come

together, not only to identify problems but also to explore ways to resolve them. It's easier to see that we can make a difference when I meet others who are also involved."

- Ginny Rabago, Skyway resident and goal group leader

Central "plaza" / open space Off-leash dog park Skate park Tot lot Play structure Upgraded athletic fields

Neighborhood information

For more information about Skyway Solutions: http://skysolutions.wikidot.com/

To find out more about groups helping to make this a great neighborhood:

West Hill Community Council: http://www.westhillcommunity.com/

West Hill Business Association: http://www.westhillbusiness.com/

Friends of Skyway Park: http://groups.google.com/group/friends-of-skyway-park

Skyway Park: http://www.kingcounty.gov/recreation/parks/inventory/skyway.aspx

West Hill Connects: http://groups.google.com/group/west-hill-connects

West Hill Public Safety Initiative: http://groups.google.com/group/west-hill-public-safety

Renton Area Youth and Family Services: http://www.rays.org/

Skyway Boys and Girls Club: http://www.positiveplace.org/

BuRSST (Resources for <u>Bu</u>rien, <u>Renton</u>, <u>SeaTac</u>, <u>Skyway</u>, and <u>Tukwila</u>): http://www.bursst.org/

Goal / Action leaders contact information

#1 - Create a community rich in pride: Dennis Cole 206-772-0515 windwood@eskimo.com

#2 - Improve safety for everyone: Bill & Sonja Bowden 206-446-5644 persimmon1859@gmail.com

#3 - Develop a community full of Michèle Savelle 206-817-1328 michelesavelle@earthlink.net creativity, art and character:

#4 - Stimulate a vibrant business district: Linda Cassée 206 860 2973 (home) or 206 550 9077 (cell)

linda.cassee@gmail.com

#5 - Foster youth development and Paul Patu PPatu@WorldVision.org engage young people in community life: Syretta Jones Whitehurst 206-913-2370

chefjones7@hotmail.com

#6 - Strengthen recreational opportunities Ginny Rabago 206-713-7056 r.ginny@gmail.com and improve health for all:

Goal # 1

Create a participatory community rich in pride

1.1 Form a welcoming committee

"Help us define what it means to feel welcome!"

Objectives:

Create opportunities for people to know each other, promoting a sense of safety

Build community support and access to information

- Tools to navigate local resources effectively
- · When faced with crisis, a network is in place

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- Outdoor Movie Nights
- Neighborhood Walkers
- Friends of the Library
- West Hill Website
- Fire Department
- Local Real Estate Agents

Leading the ACTION:

Nancy Berry

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Nancy Berry pnberry1@earthlink.net

1.2 Develop a Skyway logo

Objectives:

Create a new, positive, future-oriented identity for Skyway

- Support business development & urban renewal
- Build community cohesion
- Engage Youth

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- Skyway Solutions Committee working to build kiosks (see Action 4.6)
- Outdoor Movie Nights
- Neighborhood Walkers
- Friends of the Library

Leading the ACTION:

Dennis Cole, Klaus Liebetanz, Carolyn Sopher, Michèle Savelle

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately Implemented by June 2010

 Competition & selection process to be completed within one year

To join this ACTION, contact:

Goal # 1

Create a participatory community rich in pride

1.3 Improve community-wide communication

Objectives:

Provide user-friendly communication to inform interested community members about events, projects and initiatives

Use a variety of methods to reach as many people as possible

 On the street, on paper, kiosks, online, net works are in place, flyers, newsletter, at events

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- http://www.westhillcommunity.com/
- Google groups (see page)
 West Hill Connects:
 http://groups.google.com/group/west-hill-connects
- Skyway Solutions wiki: www.skysolutions.wikidot.com

Leading the ACTION:

No leader has stepped up to this task at this time

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

www.skysolutions.wikidot.com

1.4 Organize events that engage a broad range of community members

"Help us mark new beginnings, honor long-term traditions, and celebrate the seasons"

Objectives:

Connect neighbors from all walks of life to one another

Engage many hands, of many sizes, in the event planning

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- Annual Car Show
- Skyway Methodist Church Community Fair

Leading the ACTION:

Paul Patu, Nancy Berry, Anthony Shoecraft

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Goal # 1

Create a participatory community rich in pride



1.5 Connect existing associations, efforts & activities with each other

"One group's struggle helps build another's strategy"

Objectives:

Build upon existing momentum

Help people understand how different projects are connected

Prevent unnecessary duplication

Support community leaders

- Open communication invites fresh ideas from all sources
- Wise plans honor available energy, talent, and funding
- We learn as we go as we grow

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- Affiliated Skyway Solutions communication teams (see Action 1.3, 1.4)
- West Hill Website

Leading the ACTION:

No current leader

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:





Outdoor bulletin stands will be an effective way of informing the Skyway community of all kinds of events.

Goal # 2

Improve safety for everyone

2.1 Form a group to coordinate all efforts related to pedestrian and traffic safety

"Safety is inclusive. We can actively take ownership of our peace of mind!"

Objectives:

Promote safety for walkers, bikers and drivers throughout the community:

- Improve amenities: crosswalks, street lights, intersections
- Increase awareness of safety-related issues
- Activate people in taking more responsibility for safety
- Synchronize efforts of different groups

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- West Hill Public Safety Initiative & Survey
- Neighborhood Walkers
- Block Watches
- Fire Department
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions communication teams (see Action 1.3, 1.4)
- Renton Ave Corridor Study

Leading the ACTION:

Sonja and Bill Bowden

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

www.skysolutions.wikidot.com

2.2 Increase the number of Block Watches

"Help this grassroots action team get ready for National Night Out – Tuesday, August 4th!"

Objectives:

Create a coordinated network

Learn from each other

Take action to combat fear

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- WHCC website link
- Existing Blockwatch Captains
- Police & Fire Departments
- Apartment Managers
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions communication teams (see Action 1.1, 1.3, 1.4)

Leading the ACTION:

Bill & Sonja Bowden, Ginny Rabago, Nancy Berry, Anthony Shoecraft

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Marty Hodge, King County Sheriff's Office

Goal # 2

Improve safety for everyone

2.3 Ensure reliable funding for Community Policing

Objectives:

Ensure community policing storefront to address safety issues at the local level

Secure a reliable funding source for a police storefront with special district status

- similar to Fire Department funding
- not subject to yearly budgetary fluctuations

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- West Hill Public Safety Initiative & Survey
- West Hill Public Safety Google Group http://groups.google.com/group/west-hillpublic-safety
- Letters and petitions to preserve storefront for 2009
- · Relationship with Sheriff Rahr
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions communication teams (see Action 1.1, 1.3, 1.4)

Leading the ACTION:

Public Safety Initiative Coordinators

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Sonja Bowden persimmon1859@gmail.com 206-446-5644

2.4 Increase pedestrian safety throughout community

"We need you to be our Pedestrian Safety Coordinator!"

Objectives:

Make Skyway a walkable community

Create and maintain well-lit, well-maintained sidewalks & crossings

- Organize community-wide hearings to identify and address concerns
- Pursue creative funding options

Pedestrian Safety Coordinator to lead volunteer efforts

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- West Hill Public Safety Google Group http://groups.google.com/group/west-hillpublic-safety
- Neighborhood Walkers

Leading the ACTION:

Bill & Sonja Bowden

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Bill Bowden persimmon1859@gmail.com 206-446-5644

Goal # 2

Improve safety for everyone

2.5 Advocate for traffic control projects

"Individuals can write directly to King County Roads to let them know there's a broad base of grassroots interest and concern."

Objectives:

Secure a Traffic Safety Coordinator to lead volunteer efforts

Prioritize areas of most need with a community-wide survey

Make sure that it is translated for all languages

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- West Hill Public Safety Google Group http://groups.google.com/group/west-hillpublic-safety
- Block Watch Captains
- Public Safety Initiative work with DOT re: Creston Point
- Speed trailers
- Existing speed bumps

Leading the ACTION:

Public Safety Initiative Coordinators

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Sonja Bowden persimmon1859@gmail.com 206-446-5644





A planted traffic circle can make a big difference in neighborhood safety.

Goal #3

Develop a community filled with creativity, art and character

3.1 Form an art committee

"Pride of place is the seed of renewal."

Objectives:

Initiate art events and projects that celebrate Skyway

 Instigate community actions to beautify, honor culture, and build pride of place

Ensure membership represents broad specializations, a variety of ages, and a diversity of cultures

Attract regional artists to Skyway

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- Outdoor cinema & mural project
- Skyway Park Gateway Project
- Skyway Solutions wiki: www.skysolutions.wikidot.com
- Drumline PNW
- Existing art classes
- Skyway Youth Council
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions communication teams (see Action 1.1, 1.3, 1.4)

Leading the ACTION:

Klaus Liebetanz, Michele Savelle, Dennis Cole, Carolyn Sopher

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

www.skysolutions.wikidot.com

3.2 Place artistic gateways at major points of entry

"We need a couple good researchers – for permitting & grants – and people who like to plan!"

Objectives:

Create unique and identifiable markers celebrating entry into Skyway

Beautify Renton Ave

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- Skyway Solutions wiki: www.skysolutions.wikidot.com
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions teams (see Action 1.2, 1.5, 3.1, 4.6, 5.3)

Leading the ACTION:

Klaus Liebetanz, Michele Savelle, Dennis Cole, Carolyn Velez, Kimberly Stelly

Timeline:

BEGINS within 6-months... the establishment of an Art Committee is the first step.

To be COMPLETED by 2013

To join this ACTION, contact:

Goal #3

Develop a community filled with creativity, art and character

3.3 Host a competition to design the Skyway logo & slogan

Objectives:

Create a design and slogan that is broadly recognized as Skyway's brand

Organize a design competition that involves many community members

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- Skyway Solutions wki: www.skysolutions.wikidot.com
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions communication teams (see Action 1.5, 3.1, 4.2, 4.5, 4.6)

Leading the ACTION:

Dennis Cole, Nancy Berry, Linda Cassée, Mark Velez, Carolyn Velez, Michèle Savelle, Klaus Liebetanz

Timeline:

BEGINS at the end of 2009 an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

www.skysolutions.wikidot.com

3.4 Coordinate with business district leaders to beautify Renton Avenue

Objectives:

Partner with local businesses to work on beautification projects

- build planters in business district
- develop a detailed improvement plan

Collaborate with Metro to enhance bus shelters

Develop a stewardship plan in which ongoing beautification efforts are monitored and maintained

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- Skyway Solutions wiki: www.skysolutions.wikidot.com
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions teams (see Action 1.5, 3.1, 4.2, 4.5, 4.6)
- West Hill Business Association
- West Hill Community Council

Leading the ACTION:

Dennis Dennis Cole, Nancy Berry, Linda Cassée, Mark Velez, Carolyn Valez, Michèle Savelle, Klaus Liebetanz, Jeremy Valenta

Timeline:

BEGINS at the end of 2009 an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Carolyn Velez: www.skysolutions.wikidot.com

Goal #3

Develop a community filled with creativity, art and character



3.5 Promote the installation of neighborhood art lofts

Objectives:

Partner with property owner(s) to create an Art Loft plan

- encourage artists to express Skyway culture and character
- support Skyway's artists and attract regional artists to Skyway

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- Skyway Solutions wiki: www.skysolutions.wikidot.com
- Empty existing buildings
- Existing art community

Leading the ACTION:

Klaus Liebetanz, Michèle Savelle, Dennis Cole, Carolyn Velez

Timeline:

BEGINS at the end of 2010 an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:





Detail of the decorated bus shelter on Renton Ave in front of the 7-11. There are several more shelters that could be addressed.

Goal # 4

Stimulate a vibrant business district

4.1 Viability study

Objectives:

Learn what is needed for local businesses to thrive

 Boost Skyway economy through local businesses

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- West Hill Business Association
- Chambers of Commerce
- Local Real Estate Agents

Leading the ACTION:

Mark Velez, Sam Simone

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Sam Simone junk4sam@comcast.net

4.2 Develop a process for attracting businesses to the neighborhood

Objectives:

Provide Skyway residents the opportunity to meet their shopping needs locally

Identify local consumer priorities through a community-wide survey

 Ensure that the survey is translated for languages used in the community

Improve the existing business district and make it attractive to new businesses

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- West Hill Business Association
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions teams (see Action 1.3, 1.5, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.4)

Leading the ACTION:

Linda Cassée, Mark Velez, Sam Simone, Michael Majeed

Timeline:

BEGINS within 6-months... the establishment of a Viability Study is the first step. an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Mark Velez mrseal1@comcast.net

Goal # 4

Stimulate a vibrant business district

4.3 Beautify Renton Avenue

Objectives:

Create incentives for owners along Renton Ave to improve their property

Coordinate a Stewardship Plan to protect investments

Partner with representatives of appropriate government agencies to enforce code violations

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- Code enforcement officer Jen Brazeal, King County 206-296-7264
- Web referral form
- Local Real Estate Agents
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions teams (see Action 3.4)

Leading the ACTION:

Theresa McLean

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately... Stewardship Plan will be necessary to sustain beautification efforts an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Theresa McLean dmclean@blarg.net

4.4 Establish a business cooperative / incubator

"Might we partner with an intern to research sustainable development opportunities for our community?"

Objectives:

Create a sustainable development experiment

- Turn an empty building into a "business greenhouse"
- New entrepreneurs share expenses and support each other
- Successful business move into their own location and agree to support new incubators

Explore utilizing vacant commercial buildings to host new business ventures

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- West Hill Business Association
- Incubator examples online: R.S.V.P. / S.B.A.
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions teams (see Action 1.5, 3.4)

Leading the ACTION:

Linda Cassée, Mark Velez, Nancy Berry, Michael Jaheed

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Nancy Berry pnberry1@earthlink.net

Goal # 4

Stimulate a vibrant business district

4.5 Initiate a "Shop Local" campaign

Objectives:

Support Skyway businesses to build a vibrant local economy

 Local businesses refer one another to partners and consumers

Develop tools to help Skyway residents know and support locally owned businesses

- Community members take ownership by "investing" in Skyway's future
- Contributing to local economy is something everyone can do

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- West Hill Business Association
- Renton Chamber of Commerce
- Local translators
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions teams (see Action 1.1, 1.3, 1.5, 3.3, 3.4, 4.1, 4.2)

Leading the ACTION:

Nancy Berry, Mark Velez, Linda Cassée, Sam Simone

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

www.skysolutions.wikidot.com

4.6 Build kiosks that promote community awareness and local business

Objectives:

Make it easy for Skyway people to know what is going on

"Shop Local" incentives are presented in an accessible format

 Community members view business leaders as partners

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- West Hill Business Association
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions communication teams (see Action 1.3, 1.4)

Leading the ACTION:

No leader yet

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Goal # 5

Foster youth development and engage young people in community life

5.1 Leverage and strengthen existing programs

"Help us kick off a Youth Connects Resource Fair, September 2009!"

Objectives:

Develop a Youth Resources Guide

 engage youth in developing an asset map to identify existing programs

Mentoring

Skyway Library

Renton Rangers

World Vision

at Methodist Church

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- Boys & Girls Club
- Schools
- Parks
- West Hill Community Council
- Urban Family Center
- King County
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions teams (see Action 1.3, 1.5, 2.2, 4.6)

Leading the ACTION:

Carolyn Sopher, Andriel Moore, Paul Patu, Rob Detzner, Julius Jones, Kayla Grayson, Michael Majeed

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

www.skysolutions.wikidot.com

5.2 Organize events specific to youth

"Carnival, picnic, or block party- we could use your ideas this summer!"

Objectives:

Provide Youth with activities and support specific to their needs and interests

 Increase opportunities for youth to feel invested in something positive and connected to their community

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- Holiday events at VFW & Urban Family Center
- Sports teams at schools
- Boys & Girls Club
- National Night Out (Blockwatch)
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions communication teams (see Action 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 2.2, 3.1)

Leading the ACTION:

Julius Jones, Rob Detzner, Kayla Grayson, Carol Lynn Cole, Andriel Moore

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Goal # 5

Foster youth development and engage young people in community life

5.3 Involve youth in community art projects

"As we complete one mural, we'll be planning the next! Help us spread the color around!"

Objectives:

Provide public expressions of creativity that youth can take pride in

Initiate community building activities that leave a positive legacy

Use the creation of art as a youth mentoring / apprenticeship opportunity

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- 129th St. Mural Project
- Urban Family Center
- RAYS Family
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions teams (see Action 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 3.1, 5.2)

Leading the ACTION:

Carolyn Sopher, Andriel Moore, Rob Detzner, Julius Jones, Kayla Grayson

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Paul & Shantel Patu ppatu@worldvision.org

5.4 Promote multi-generational activities

Objectives:

Organize community actions that intentionally invite young people to work with adults

Increase mentoring programs

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- Urban Family Center
- Boys & Girls Club
- National Night Out (Blockwatch)
- Skyway Outdoor Cinema
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions teams (see Action 1.1, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 2.2, 3.1, 5.1, 6.1)

Leading the ACTION:

No leader yet

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Goal #5

Foster youth development and engage young people in community life

5.5 Form a Skyway Youth Council

"Give me a job, and you instantly get me involved!"

Objectives:

Enhance opportunities that nurture tomorrow's Skyway leaders

Integrate youth voices into community plans

Create opportunities for dialogue between youth and adults

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- Urban Family Center
- Boys & Girls Club
- World Vision
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions teams (see Action 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 3.1, 5.2)

Leading the ACTION:

Syretta Whitehurst, Julius Jones, Paul Patu, Shantel Patu

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Paul & Shantel Patu PPatu@WorldVision.org

5.6 Lay foundation for future community center

"Let's have grant writing underway by the end of 2009! Writers, researchers...we need your skills!"

Objectives:

Develop a realistic vision and identify the needs that a community center could accommodate

- provide a safe, creative, healthy homeaway-from-home for youth
- create a place that serves many generations and functions

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- Solutions community-planning model (community conversations, steering group, action circles)
- Foodbank Move
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions teams (see Action 1.4, 1.5, 2.1, 2.2, 2.2, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 5.1)

Leading the ACTION:

Carolyn Sopher, Paul Patu, Rob Detzner, Michael Majeed, Julius Jones, Kayla Grayson, Andriel Moore

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Paul Patu ppatu@worldvision.org

Goal # 6

Strengthen recreational opportunities and improve health for all

6.1 Implement Skyway Park Community Vision

"Pulling out weeds, or pulling in funds – there's a place for you in the making!"

Objectives:

Ensure that Skyway Park is a well-used community asset and use the Skyway Park Community Vision as a guide for improvements

 Skyway Park provides healthy opportunities for the people of Skyway – walks, sports, nature, learning & celebration

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- Friends of Skyway Park
- Neighborhood Walkers
- Urban Family Center
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions teams (see Action 1.4, 1.5, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.2, 4.6, 5.1, 5.2, 5.4, 5.5)

Leading the ACTION:

Ginny Rabago, Nancy Berry

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Ginny Rabago rginny@gmail.com

6.2 Implement healthy lifestyles initiatives

Objectives:

Promote safe trails that lead to a variety of recreational opportunities

Connect gardening, nutrition, stewardship and community

Ensure that all generations and cultures have access to healthy food

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- Friends of Skyway Park
- Neighborhood Walkers
- Local restaurants
- Earlington Greenhouse
- Urban Family Center
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions teams (see Action 1.1, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 2.4, 4.6, 5.1, 5.4, 5.5)

Leading the ACTION:

Ginny Rabago

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Ginny Rabago rginny@gmail.com

Goal # 6

Strengthen recreational opportunities and improve health for all

6.3 Create a farmers' market

"Help us create a weekly tradition, and celebrate local bounty!"

Objectives:

Create access to the healthy foods from local farms

Provide a place for community gathering, around food, music and art

Encourage networking with artists, master gardeners and local entrepreneurs

Contribute to the local economy and the vitality of the business district

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- West Hill's Farmer's Market Association
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions teams (see Action 1.4, 1.5, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.4, 4.3, 4.5, 5.4, 6.2)

Leading the ACTION:

Ginny Rabago, Bill Bowden, Sonja Bowden, Sam Simone

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Sam Simone junk4simone@comcast.net

6.4 Test plots for P-Patch gardens

"Raised beds by June 6th, but that's just the beginning! If dirt's not your interest, gardeners need homemade cookies!"

Objectives:

Provide access to space for cultivating food collectively, locally and sustainably

Learn from the successes of Department of Neighborhoods program

Yet another opportunity for community members to work together and enjoy each others' company

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- · Friends of Skyway Park
- Local Hardware
- King County
- Earlington Greenhouse
- Urban Family Center
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions teams (see Action 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 2.4, 4.5, 5.1, 5.4, 6.1)

Leading the ACTION:

Ginny Rabago, Theresa McLean, Sonja Bowden, Sam Simone

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Ginny Rabago rginny@gmail.com 206-713-7056

Goal # 6

Strengthen recreational opportunities and improve health for all

6.5 Identify walking trails / routes

Objectives:

Provide safe, pedestrian-friendly opportunities to travel through the neighborhood

Increase public safety by creating a beat, and walking it together

Build fellowship through restoration and recreation

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- Neighborhood Walkers
- West Hill Public Safety Initiative & google group: http://groups.google.com/group/west-hillpublic-safety
- Skyway Park Initiative
- Feet First
- Blockwatch
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions teams (see Action 1.4, 1.5, 2.1, 2.2, 5.2, 6.1, 6.2)

Leading the ACTION:

Ginny Rabago, Bill Bowden, Sonja Bowden, Theresa McLean, Rob Detzner

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Sonja Bowden persimmon1859@gmail.com 206-446-5644

6.6 Form a Gardening Club with youth

Objectives:

Provide opportunities for skilled and motivated youth to lead beautification efforts

Promote inter-generational community building, mentoring and stewardship

Contribute to access of healthy, locally grown food

Existing momentum and potential partnerships:

- Friends of Skyway Park
- Earlington Greenhouse
- Urban Family Center
- Traffic Safety Coordinator
- Greentree Apartments
- Campbell Hill Garden Project
- Blackberry restoration work
- Schools
- Boys & Girls Club
- Affiliated Skyway Solutions teams (see Action 1.1, 1.4, 1.5, 2.5, 4.6, 5.1, 5.2, 5.4, 5.5, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4)

Leading the ACTION:

Ginny Rabago, Theresa McLean, Sonja Bowden, Rob Detzner, Bill Bowden

Timeline:

BEGINS immediately an ONGOING, community-driven process

To join this ACTION, contact:

Ginny Rabago rginny@gmail.com 206-713-7056

Special thanks

Support for Skyway Solutions includes collaborative funding from several King County agencies, including:

- · Office of Strategic Planning and Performance Management
- Office of Management and Budget
- · Parks and Recreation Division
- · King County Sheriff
- Public Health-Seattle & King County
- · Community Services Division
- · Mental Health, Chemical Abuse and Dependency Services Division
- Roads Services
- · Water and Land Resources Division

Additional support for this project comes from the West Hill Community Council, West Hill Business Association, and the Neighbor to Neighbor Fund.

We are also very grateful to the Skyway Boys and Girls Club for generously donating staff time and meeting space to this process.

Many thanks to everyone at Pomegranate Center (www.pomegranate.org), including Milenko Matanovic and Bree Delgadillo, for their strong commitment to this community, and for providing a portion of their services pro bono. Thank you also to Pomegranate volunteers, including Lisa Reynolds and Brooke Vail.

Skyway Solutions is made possible only through the dedicated work of volunteers in the community who served on the steering committee and participated in this process. Special thanks to Skyway resident Michèle Savelle (www.michelesavelle.com) for lending her graphic design talents and map skills to the creation of this report.

















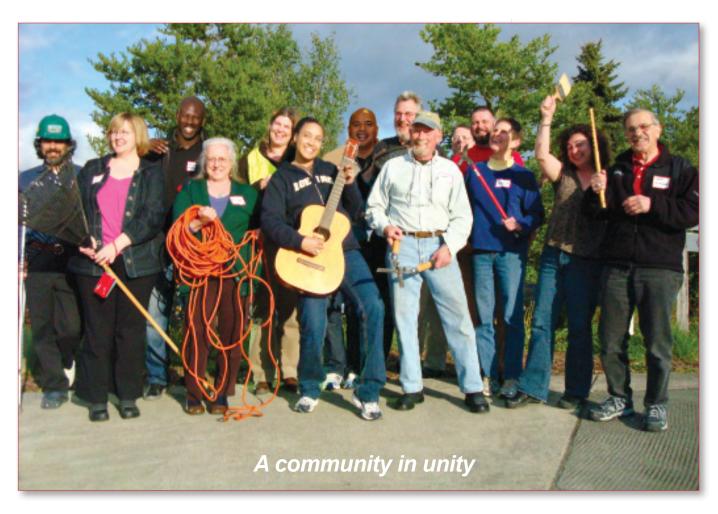












Skyway Solutions invites COUL



