

Public Comment For
SeaTac PED Committee
12/2/20

Committee members,

In regards to the agenda items of considering HMAAC funds for partial purchase of the 2 Sound Transit surplus properties near the Angle Lake station I have some comments. As the chair of ACLAC I am excited to hear talk of using these funds to promote tourism facilities. Both of these sites should be examined with the idea of creating more cultural venues appealing to our hotel visitors as well as to area residents. I would like to remind staff that the North Angle Lake site is and has been on the radar of a local developer - Conlin Columbia - that plans to bid on this parcel. Their working plan is to build a cultural/tourist venue on the lower level topped with 5 floors of workforce affordable housing. This concept would conform to the wishes of Sound Transit which emphasized affordable housing and to those of Council which has required ground floor commercial on the site. Conlin Columbia would plan to partner with a non-profit to manage the housing and self-manage the tourism venue. Their team happens to have many contacts with performance troupes in Seattle and elsewhere who they believe are interested in satellite locations south of Seattle to present their works.

Also, some of my colleagues, including the ACLAC arts consultant, are preparing a concept proposal encouraging the city to purchase the development site adjacent to Angle Lake Park and to tap HMAAC funds along with other monies to build an approximately 300 seat theater on a portion of said lot. The remainder of the lot might add to the recreational options of ALP for residents and visitors. We are in talks with Burien Actors Theater (BAT) who would be eager to become a prime tenant of this theater. The hope would be to pair BAT with other performances to provide a venue operating 5 or 6 nights a week that would appeal to overnight guests.

Another tourist related option is also in the works. We are currently talking with Teatro Zinzanni, the long time active zany dinner theater. They are very interested in moving their Seattle operation to SeaTac and hope to partner with a local hotel which would become their new home. They will start visiting SeaTac hotels next week and begin talks soon toward creating their new home base.

I am interested to hear what possible tourist related concept may be proposed for the South Angle Lake parcel. I do encourage creating a tourist friendly strip along International Boulevard. Our city is ripe and ready to serve hotel guests, locals and light rail visitors. The committee's examination of accessing HMAAC funds to promote these activities will help determine how this goal can be achieved. If we are successful in bringing nightlife to town other development should be expected to follow.

Thank You
Jim Todd
ACLAC Chair