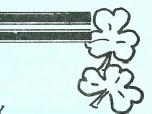


# NEWSLETTER

EASTLAKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL P.O. BOX 4101 SEATTLE, WASH. 98104





### IMPORTANT ROANOKE REEF MEETING::

(With apologies that this is such short notice and that not all of you will recieve the newsletter in time.)

Paul Mar, manager of the Roanoke Reef consultant group will meet with the community at 8pm, Friday March 9. He will describe the final draft report and take comments.

The previous cancellation for Paul Mar was not his doing, nor was this Friday evening scheduling. Your paitience and attendanceare both appreciated by those of us involved. This meeting WILL occur. It is also the LAST CHANCE for community input in the future of Roanoke Reef-short of another lawsuit. If you want to know the status of the Reef's future or have comments to make, now is the time:

ROANOKE REEF MEETING
"LAST CHANCE"
8PM FRIDAY MARCH 9th
SEWARD SCHOOL LIBRARY

#### PLEASE ATTEND

111111 ANOTHER IMPORTANT MEETING IS OUR regularly scheduled March 20 council meeting--at 7:30 also in the Sew-ard School Library. The Eastlake Community Council will hold a neighborhood hearing on it's GOALS AND POLICIES. We will present the goals and policies, explain how they were written, and how they affect EACH AND EVERY EASTLAKE RESIDENT (whether you are a homeowner, renter or buisnessperson). Then comments will be taken from those present. At the next meeting in April, the City Council's Planning and Urban Development Committee will come out for a city hearing on the City's resolution to acknowledge and catalogue our goals and policies. Both of these meetings are extremely important as the content of these Goals and Policies belong to the neighbor-hood and they will affect any future' decisions made regarding Eastlake's growth and development. PLEASE ATTEND

## ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY

Enough about meetings...how about a PARTY! ATTENTION EASTLAKERS AND FRIENDS.... Have you aver tried to get into one of those Irish places on St. Patrick's Day???an experience in frustration--especially when St Pat's day falls on a Saturday. Well, stand in line no more. On the 17th, the Eastlake Community Council ia bringing St. Patrick's Day to the neighborhood. The Party will be held at "McBumgardner's Partnership" at 2012 Minor E. at 8pm 'til midnight. There will be drinking and dancing and entertainment and an Irish singing contest! Admission is \$1.50--or \$1.00 of you bring a snack to share. A great way to meet your neighbors or to share your neighborhood with your friends and CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK'S DAY!! Don't forget to wear green.

THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

This should be called the President's (Tyrant's) typewriter since I type these little articles. I type because, since becoming disabled, writing is becoming more and more difficult. I say this to indicate that while I still love Eastlake, my disability may force me to move out of the neighborhood into a wheelchairaccessable apartment. Therefore, WE NEED A NEW PRESIDENT. If anyone reading this wants to run for the office or would like more information, call me, Ron Schwarz at 324-0611. One note: Being President is not, as many people assume, much work as there is also a hard-working, dedi-cated Board--and you also get a chance to meet some nice folks.

BOARD NAMES AND #'s (for any time you have a question or comment).

Pres. Ron Schwarz.....324-0611
Co-Pres. Dave Kohles...325-4351
Secretary, Kappy Trigg...323-5443
Treasurer, Kathy Shea...322-3189
Historian, Dan Reiss....322-2061
Board at large:

Jim Engrissei.282-i829

John Fox.....324-2854 Dave Hyslop...322-9330 Fred Kempe....322-2221 Dick Asia....329-7712 HOW DOES SEATTLE'S HOUSING CRISIS, AFFECT EASTLAKE?

by John Fox

In the past, Eastlake has retained a diversity of housing types that have accommodated people of all ages, lifestyles, races and incomes. In many ways, that physical and social diversity has been the source of what we enjoy in our community. It is what has sustained the committment we have made to Eastlake as a "neighborhood"——not just as a place with a good view or a nice location. Ultimately, it is retention of that diversity (and personality) and that sense of "neighborhood" which will keep our community alive and enjoyable.

There are some very real threats, however, to the retention of that physical and social diversity. Because Eastlake is such a good place to live, it has become a focal point for developers and speculators who are more interested in capitalizing off the qualities of the community than they are in in maintaining the liveability of the area for everyone. Eastlake is now witnessing a dramatic loss of affordable housing as a result of a number of intense redevelopment pressures. Speculation on single-family homes has driven up the purchase price of housing as much as 80% in the last 2 years. We have seen the loss of lower density, affordable housing as a result of demolition. Those demolitions were undertaken by developers who sought to replace affordable housing with expensive apartments or condominiums and to build to the "best and highest use" and most economic use under current zoning requirements.

We have also seem dramatic rent increases in our community as landlords have responded to extremely low vacancy rates and the demand of in-city living. Rents are now escalating at the rate of 25-30% per year, with the expectation that they will rise at an even greater rate in the future. Increasingly, these pressures are making Eastlake unliveable for the elderly, minorities, and low and moderate income people. Ironically, many of these are long-time Eastlake residents who have fought for this community while the middle class and higher income groups were taking their tax base to the suburbs.

Clearly, something needs to be done about the erosion of liveability in our community for all but those who can afford it. The answer is not to say "no" to some amount of growth, but rather to build into city policy, a set of requirements that curb the abuses of those who are taking advantage of Seattle's growing pains at the expense of the community. City Councilman Michael Hildt is currently considering restrictions on the demolition of structurally sound housing as well as amendments to the City's Fair Housing code that would prohibit landlords from refusing to rent to the elderly and to families with children. Other measures that would curb these abuses include a speculator's tax on properties that are purchased and then resold in a short period of time; a ban on condominium conversion; and some form of rent control.

All of these approaches were endorsed by community groups and residents at a city-wide housing convention held last December. It was the feeling at the convention that the city must insulate low income and affordable housing from speculative forces. It was also the convention's position that only through the use of the city's legitimate regulatory powers will inner-city communities be able to retain affordable housing for the majority of its residents. Those of us in Eastlake who are concerned about the loss of social and physical character of our neighborhood should consider these approaches—and if they apply to Eastlake they should be taken to the City Council for approval.

#### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Yes! I love Eastlake and want to support my community.

Name

Phone

Address

Yearly dues: \$5 household, \$3 senior citizen, \$10 business.

Mail to: Eastlake Community Council, P.O. Box 4101,

Seattle, WN 98104

SEE YOU AT THE COUNCIL MEETING EVERY 3rd TUESDAY, 7:30 p.m., SEWARD SCHOOL