

Project	The Arts District and Flora Street	Meeting Date	August 23, 2006
Subject	Meeting with cultural arts agencies	Meeting Location	216 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, WA
Attendees	Brad Burdick, Mt. Baker Theatre Tom Livesay, Whatcom Museum Pam Kienser, Library Lizz Roberts, Library Frank Ordway, American Museum of Radio & Electricity Alice Clark, Pickford Kate Clark, Allied Arts Debbie McCunn, Citizen Mike Smith, Zerviss Group Tara Sundin, COB Travis Cary, COB Kenichi Nakano, Nakano Associates Ida Ottesen, Nakano Associates	Distribution	
Prepared By	Ida Ottesen	Date Prepared	August 24, 2006

1. Welcome and Introductions
 - a. Tara welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made around the room.
2. Tara presented a summary of the public comments from the workshops.
3. There needs to be coordinated bus parking for the museums and the Mt Baker theatre, there can be as many as 24 school buses at times and drop-off and pick up is a problem. Bus parking could be coordinated with WTA.
4. Cultural calendar
 - a. A coordinated calendar would be helpful for the library.
 - b. There is currently an events calendar on the webpage of the Tourism Bureau where people can add events.
 - c. The Herald also has an online calendar.
 - d. A combined museum pass might be an option for the future. Currently the Whatcom museum doesn't charge admission but will likely do that in the future.
 - e. Calendars/event schedules should be web based.
5. The Downtown Renaissance Network maintains some street cleaning, they water hanging baskets. It is based on businesses being members but is also city funded. It is a good example of a well functioning partnership between the private and public interests.
6. Allied Arts was formed to support artists in the community. They organize gallery walks and the Bella Strada festival. They would be willing to start up a Cultural round table again, to better coordinate the Cultural organizations within the arts district.
7. Artists Lofts: There is no single group working with the creation of more Artists Lofts in Bellingham. The city of Tacoma actively worked on recruiting artists to their city by creating low rent live/ work artists lofts.
8. There is currently no park or plaza for concerts downtown. Maritime Heritage Park seems to far away although in a few years it might be a good place with more residential and retail activity surrounding the park. Look at closing down streets temporarily for events.
9. Have a downtown loop shuttle and have people park outside the downtown core.
10. Event Parking: should have better signage for parking for the Theatre, Museum, other events.

These notes represent our summary of discussions and conclusions and will become part of the official project file. Nakano Associates must be notified within 10 days of any additions or corrections.

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11 Permit Expediting: permits for special events, small improvements should be easier.

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