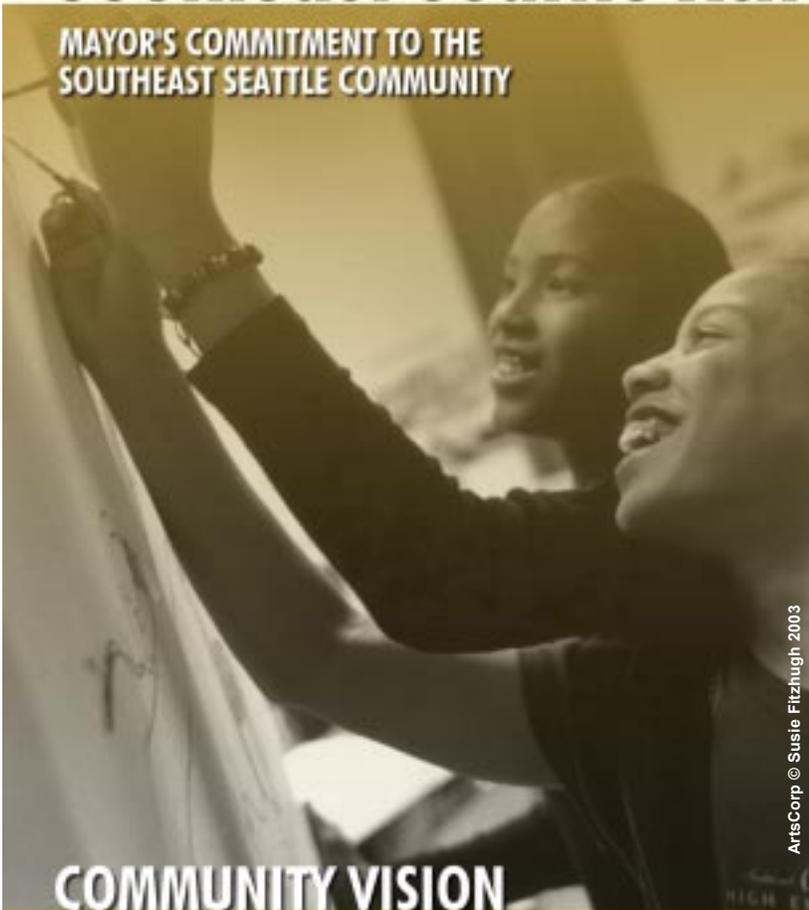


# Southeast Seattle Action Agenda



"We will work with the residents and businesses in Southeast Seattle to support their hard work and community vision."  
MAYOR GREG NICKELS

## MAYOR'S COMMITMENT TO THE SOUTHEAST SEATTLE COMMUNITY



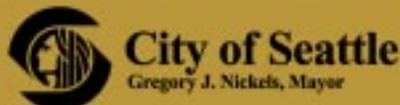
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## COMMUNITY VISION

Southeast Seattle is a vibrant community where: racial, cultural and economic diversity is embraced and preserved; immigrants are welcomed; all residents have access to economic and educational opportunities, housing, and cultural and recreational amenities; and the economic benefits generated by public and private investments are shared with current residents, businesses and community institutions.

## COMMUNITY GOALS

- Business & Job Creation
- Physical Development
- Education & Workforce Development
- Public Safety
- Arts, Culture & Public Space



City of Seattle  
Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor

MARCH 2005  
UPDATED AUGUST 2005



## OVERVIEW

*The City is committed to ensuring the Southeast Seattle community benefits from the significant investments coming from the Sound Transit Light Rail and Seattle Housing Authority projects. During the summer and fall of 2004, Mayor Greg Nickels convened a group of community and business leaders, community-based organizations and public and private sector organizations to discuss potential strategies for the revitalization of Southeast Seattle. "The Southeast Seattle Community Development Action Agenda" is a direct result of those community-led, City-staffed meetings.*



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Right: Mayor Greg Nickels visiting businesses impacted by light rail.

**This Action Agenda recognizes and leverages:**

- *Efforts and recommendations contained in important City planning documents, such as the Transportation Strategic Plan, Neighborhood Plans, City's Comprehensive Plan, and individual Link Light Rail Station Area Plans;*
- *Shared community goals in support of community diversity and economic opportunity;*
- *Major public investments that are occurring in transportation, housing and parks within the area;*
- *Creation of a \$50 million community-based development fund to invest in business and real estate development designed to preserve and strengthen cultural diversity, long-term livability, and economic opportunity in the Rainier Valley;*
- *Increased interest by the private sector as a result of current public sector and community-based investment in the area; and*
- *Potential allocation of future governmental resources to encourage private enterprise and investment in the area.*



## 1. Business and Job Creation

Support existing businesses throughout the Rainier Valley and encourage investment in new business to: (1) preserve the multi-ethnic mix of local entrepreneurs; (2) provide opportunities for them to benefit from the increased economic activity that will result from the substantial public and private investment planned for the area; and (3) diversify and increase the availability of retail goods, services and jobs within the Rainier Valley.

### THE CITY WILL:

- **Increase the availability of funding for façade improvements**  
*OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT*
- **Provide wireless and high speed Internet access to spur business growth and development**  
*DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY*
- **Fund a community marketing campaign**  
*OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT*
- **Increase support to immigrant businesses**  
*OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT*
- **Increase technical and financial assistance to business owners with limited English to utilize environmentally friendly business practices**  
*SEATTLE PUBLIC UTILITIES, SEATTLE CITY LIGHT & THE OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT*

### Rainier Valley Community Development Fund

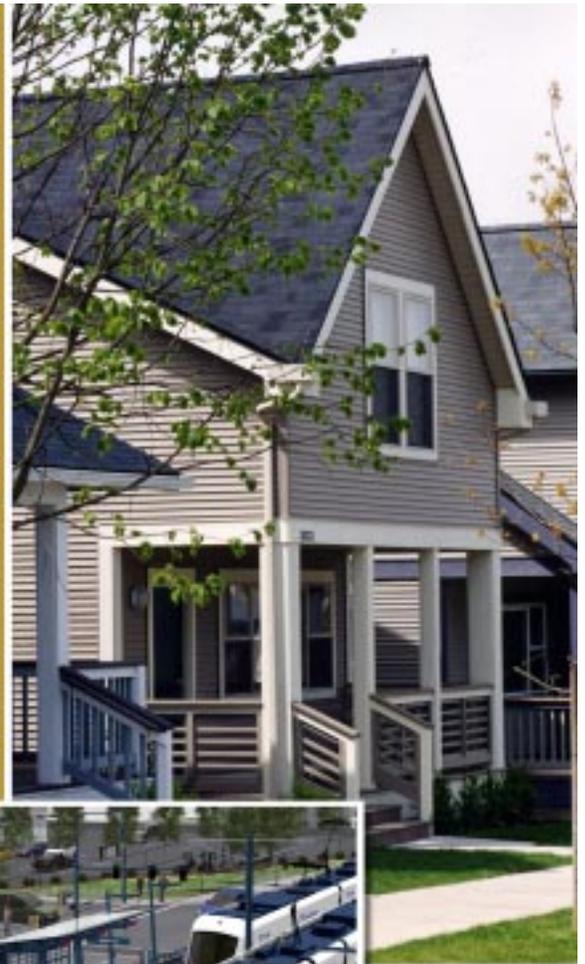
The City will establish and fund the Rainier Valley Community Development Fund's **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM** to provide grants and loans to new and existing businesses in the Rainier Valley, and the **REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**, to provide grants and loans for commercial, mixed-use and multi-family developments in the Rainier Valley.

## 2. Physical Development

Promote opportunities for housing, commercial, mixed-use and transit-oriented developments that benefit the people who live and work in the Rainier Valley, while at the same time preserve the unique characteristics of existing neighborhoods and their racial, cultural and economic diversity.

### THE CITY WILL:

- **Fund key housing projects to support more than 478 new units of affordable housing**  
*OFFICE OF HOUSING*
- **Market availability of home repair loans and first-time homebuyer assistance**  
*OFFICE OF HOUSING*
- **Develop additional financial tools that support real estate development in the Rainier Valley**  
*OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT*
- **Encourage and increase development of housing options, including affordable housing options, 'detached' accessory dwelling units and cottage housing**  
*DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT*
- **Adopt regulations that lower City parking requirements to reduce the cost of development**  
*DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT*
- **Increase educational outreach on expedited permit approval**  
*DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT*



### Sound Transit

Construction is moving forward rapidly on Sound Transit's Central Link light rail line. The line will offer major benefits to Southeast Seattle residents when it opens in 2009, providing fast and reliable connections between downtown Seattle and Sea-Tac International Airport. Serving Southeast Seattle was a major priority in locating the light rail line.

### Seattle Housing Authority

Seattle Housing Authority is spurring the investment of over \$500 million in new housing and community facilities at NewHolly and Rainier Vista. These once-distressed public housing communities are being knit back into the surrounding SE Seattle neighborhoods through innovative housing and community design. Once completed, over 2,000 new homes and apartments will serve residents across varied income levels.

# CITY OF SEATTLE INVESTMENTS IN SOUTHEAST SEATTLE

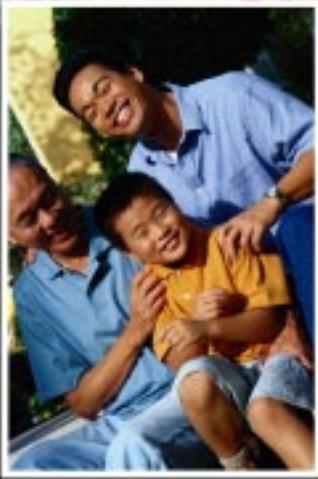




**Chief Seattle Trail**

1. Van Asselt Community Center • 2820 S Myrtle Street
2. Columbia Park • 4721 Rainier Avenue S
3. John C. Little Park • 3551 S Holly Street
4. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park • 2200 Martin Luther King Jr Way S
5. Kubota Garden • 9817 55th Avenue S
6. Mapes Creek Walkway • 52nd Avenue S right-of-way between Rainier Ave S & S Henderson St
7. Rainier Beach Community Ctr Plaza • 8825 Rainier Ave S
8. Genesee Housing at Rainier Vista • 50 units • 2916 S Columbian Way
9. NewHolly Phase 3 • 212 units • 7050 32nd Avenue S
10. St Paul Senior Home • 12 bed group home • 5600 S Ryan St
11. MLK Family Housing • 26 units • 3516 S Juneau Street
12. Courtland Place (at Rainier Court) • 208 units • 3621 33rd Ave S
13. The Dakota (at Rainier Court) • 178 units • 3616 34th Ave S
14. Seward Park Art Studio • 5900 Lake Washington Blvd S
15. Rainier Beach Public Library (performances. 1% for Art public art project) • 9125 Rainier Ave S
16. Rainier Valley Cultural Center (performances/workshops) • 3515 S Alaska Street
17. Columbia City Cinema (public reading) • 4816 Rainier Avenue S
18. Arts Corps (youth arts training program) • 5609B Rainier Avenue S
19. Lao Highland Center • 4250 S Mead Street
20. Seward Park (SEED jazz concert) • 5902 Lake Washington Blvd S
21. Columbia Park (World Music concerts) • 4721 Rainier Ave S
22. Pritchard Beach (SEED World Music concert) • 5500 S Grattan Street
23. Rainier Community Center (SEED youth arts training/performances) • 4600 38th Avenue S
24. Mercer Middle School (SEED youth arts/workshop) 1600 Columbian Way S
25. Columbia City Gallery (SEED exhibits) • 5117 Rainier Avenue S
26. Refugee Women's Alliance (SEED art workshop) • 4008 MLK Jr Way S
27. Our Lady Of Mt. Virgin Hall (youth arts program) • 1531 Bradner Place S (not shown on map - north of map boundary)
28. Consejo Counseling and Referral (youth arts program) • 3808 S Angeline St
29. Youth in Focus (youth arts training program) • 2100 24th Avenue S
30. Eritrean Association Center (youth arts training program) • 1528 Valentine Place S (not shown on map - north of map boundary)
31. Van Asselt Community Center (1% for Art public art project) • 2820 S Myrtle St
32. SEED • 5117 Rainier Avenue S
33. Columbia City Library (1% for Art public art project) • 5117 Rainier Avenue S
34. Hillman City P-Patch • 4613 S Lucille Street
35. Asian Counseling & Referral Service • 3639 MLK Jr Way S @ Charlestown & Walden
36. Seed of Life Childcare Center • 4728 Rainier Avenue S
37. Seattle Housing Authority (SHA) Project — Rainier Vista
38. Seattle Housing Authority (SHA) Project — NewHolly

Left: Seed of Life Childcare Center



### 3. Education and Workforce Development

Develop a “world class” Pre-K through 20 public and private educational, workforce education and training, and human service delivery systems that meets the needs of the business community and the area’s youth and adult workforce.

#### THE CITY WILL:

- Invest in Southeast Seattle’s children and families through high quality pre-school and family support services using the Families & Education Levy

*OFFICE OF EDUCATION*

- Support community driven educational projects for the residents of Southeast Seattle

*DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS & OFFICE OF ARTS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS*

### 4. Public Safety

Improve real and perceived levels of public safety and the quality of the built environment throughout the Rainier Valley.

#### THE CITY WILL:

- Increase police presence in neighborhood business districts

*SEATTLE POLICE DEPARTMENT*

- Expand programs that engage youth in productive activities

*SEATTLE POLICE DEPARTMENT*

- Provide funding to conduct education and outreach on Building and Land Use Code requirements

*DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT*

- Fund and support community programs to improve community-police relations

*DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS*

- Improve pedestrian safety and access

*SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION*

- Complete a comprehensive multi-modal transportation plan to prioritize Southeast transportation investments

*SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION*

## 5. Arts, Culture and Public Space

Increase arts and cultural opportunities and programs that reflect the Rainier Valley's diverse population and enhance the aesthetic value of public space by integrating arts into all community development strategies, and by promoting collaboration between neighborhood groups (i.e. schools, community centers, neighborhood organizations, and libraries) and local arts organizations.

### THE CITY WILL:

- Increase investment in community-based arts and cultural activities

*OFFICE OF ARTS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS & DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS*

- Expand Van Asselt Community Center

*SEATTLE PARKS & RECREATION, OFFICE OF ARTS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS, & DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS*

- Fund improvements to Rainier Beach Community Center Plaza

*SEATTLE PARKS & RECREATION, OFFICE OF ARTS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS & DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS*

- Build the Chief Sealth Trail

*SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, SEATTLE PARKS & RECREATION & DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS*

- Acquire property for the Hillman City P-Patch

*DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS*

- Fund improvements to Columbia Park, John C. Little Park, Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park, and Mapes Creek Walkway

*SEATTLE PARKS & RECREATION & DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS*

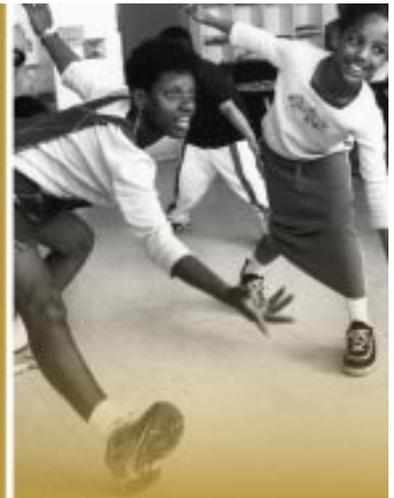
- Acquire land to expand the Kubota Garden

*SEATTLE PARKS & RECREATION*

- Submit application to secure funding for a Salvation Army regional community center in Southeast Seattle

*OFFICE OF THE MAYOR*

Center photograph: SouthEast Effective Development partnership with Inside Out, Rainier Vista Cambodian Youth Group. artist: Mauricio Robalino. 2004 Youth Arts.



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ArtsCorp © Susie Fitzhugh 2003

Chief Sealth Trail construction



Below: New mixed-use development in SE Seattle



***“The Mayor has shown that he is listening to the community and responding to the needs for our neighborhoods.”***

*– Elaine Hayes, Rainier Beach Coalition for Community Empowerment, and Co-Chair, Education & Workforce Development Subgroup*

***“We’re getting moving in Southeast Seattle with new projects and improvements that will ensure the vibrant community we want for the future.”***

*– Tony To, HomeSight, and Chair, Business & Job Creation Subgroup*

***“The Action Agenda represents an effective community-City partnership in an effort to achieve our mutual goals.”***

*– Geoff Spelman, Mt. Baker Housing Association, and Chair, Physical Development Subgroup*



Left: Rainier Court “The Courtland” groundbreaking

Below: “Hit the Beach” music students perform 2004



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Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor  
**Office of Economic Development**  
Jill Nishi, Director

[www.seattle.gov/economicdevelopment](http://www.seattle.gov/economicdevelopment)