

Brian Greggs

I would like to comment in favor of the consent decree and public participation plan for the proposed development. I am a Skyway resident and homeowner, and I support efforts by Ecology to incentivize redevelopment of contaminated parcels of land. The parcel(s) in question are in the heart of the Skyway business district, and though not vacant, the extant buildings are underused and nearing the end of their functional lives. I feel that the community would be improved by the present remediation and redevelopment proposal. We have a shortage of affordable rental and/or homeownership opportunities in the neighborhood, and the proposed commercial spaces would also help attract shoppers to spend more of their dollars in the neighborhood. I would like to see increased educational efforts take place, on the part of Ecology or community groups (through public participation grants), to help community members understand that: a) their drinking water has never been measurably impacted by this contamination; b) this type of contamination is extremely common among almost all properties with a past or present history of dry cleaning, and has been identified on hundreds of properties all across the city and county, both in affluent and in less-affluent neighborhoods alike; and c) these properties often remain or become underused and blighted for decades or more, due to the costs, uncertainties, and risks of performing a full investigation and remediation.