



OLD NORTH END

NEIGHBORHOOD

May 4, 2016

My name is Bill Rogers, and I am the new President of the Old North End Neighborhood (ONEN). I was elected President at the ONEN Board Meeting this past February. I live on Wahsatch Ave, and I was previously ONEN Treasurer.

I want to bring you up to speed on recent neighborhood events: traffic calming; reconfiguration of bus service; a new dorm complex at Nevada and Uintah; and construction of a temporary building in support of expansion of the Tutt Library.

The Board appointed a committee to define a plan to calm traffic earlier this year. The committee has written that plan, which is available on the ONEN website. The Plan calls for reducing Cascade Ave, Nevada Ave, Weber St, Wahsatch Ave, and Fontanero St from two lanes in each direction to one lane in each direction. We have held two public meetings to receive inputs, and we have invited neighbors to provide inputs via e-mail. The Plan, as well as all comments received are available for your inspection on the ONEN website. All e-mail inquiries received a direct e-mail response. Comments received include fear of the plan not being fully implemented and concerns over traffic backing up.

The Board has voted to approve the Plan.

The city and Mountain Metropolitan Transit (MMT) are in the process of consolidating bus service on to Nevada Avenue. The Wahsatch and Cascade routes will be cancelled. Bus service frequency will be increased from once per hour to every 15 minutes in each direction. The Board has been working with the City and MMT to ensure new bus stops are appropriate for a historic district and are upgraded in a timely manner to be ADA compliant. Neighbor concerns raised include maintenance of bus stops, diesel fumes and excessive loitering around the bus stops. The Board is working with the City to provide a single point of contact for neighbors to report any problems. As for fears of unsavory characters loitering in the neighborhood: I have lived on Wahsatch Ave for many years; I have not noticed people congregating at bus stops.

I will grant you that both traffic calming, and reconfigured bus service are each major changes, and give rise to a very natural fear of change. However, they are not, as near as I know, inter-connected parts of some master plan.

Recently, some persons in the neighborhood have distributed flyers regarding these two changes, as is their right. I took the inference from one of those flyers that ONEN had been something less than forthcoming in our actions regarding these changes. As President, I receive, and read each comment we receive regarding the Plan. I have checked the documents available on our website, against my own mental inventory of comments received. I am happy to report the Plan is readily available for inspection, as are all comments received and the ONEN response to these comments. In retrospect, given the gravity of these changes, I should have written this letter sooner. For that I apologize.

Colorado College is in the midst of major renovation, as I am sure most of us can relate. A new dorm complex is being planned for the south east corner of Uintah and Nevada. The new dorms will house up to 129 students; these dorms are one component of CC's goal to house up to 90 percent of their student body on campus. CC has been receptive to ONEN concerns regarding architectural standards. We have raised and will continue to raise concerns of students parking in the neighborhood. We will continue to work this issue with CC. Completion of these dorms is targeted for the Fall of 2017.



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CC will need to construct a temporary building in support of expansion of the Tutt Library. The building could not be built on the originally planned site because of underground utilities. CC has identified a new location for the temporary building which will allow for no net loss of parking spaces. Removal of the temporary building is planned for Fall 2017, when the renovated Tutt Library is opened.

Naturally, we wish CC all the best as they go through these projects.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Rogers", written in a cursive style.

Bill Rogers
President , Old North End Neighborhood