

Keep Ballard Friendly

A Documentation and Plan of Action
for dealing with public safety issues
affecting Ballard.

Presented March 16, 2010
Revised April 1, 2010

Background:

Ballard is a vibrant Seattle neighborhood full of a wonderful mixture of young families, urban professionals and retirees. Unfortunately it is also an area that is increasingly adversely affected by public drunkenness, street altercations, and people sleeping and relieving themselves in alleyways and at the doorsteps of businesses.

Problem Areas:

Shown are some of the major problem areas in the Ballard area.



1

The area around 28th and 54th is known to have encampments. Especially by the train tracks and at a small grassy area on Market St.

2

There is a constant problem with people sleeping and relieving themselves in business garages and empty lots in this area.

3

People have been seen passed out in front of bus stop on the north side of Market St.

4

Groups drinking and disrupting the public are a normal scene at Ballard Commons Park. They create a dangerous atmosphere.

5

Shop owners are in a constant battle with people sleeping in the entryway, and bathing in building bathrooms in this stretch of Market St.

6

The corner of Market and 22nd has frequent altercations. The Bergen Place Park and Marvin Gardens Park often have drunken individuals in them, and have trash and belongings scattered about.

7

The Ballard Public Library is one of the biggest problem spots. Large groups of disruptive individuals congregate outside the building and have caused problems inside with patrons.

8

The grounds around the historic Carnegie Building on Market St. are another common hang out for disruptive individuals.

9

The parking lots by the Library often have people congregating, camping out, and disturbing the public. Street camping is also a problem on the surrounding streets.

10

The area around the 17th and Market Street has many issues including ongoing problems with drug dealing.

11

14th Ave is a haven for those who live in their cars, calling into question the safety and sanitation of the area.

Photo Documentation:

Shown are the photos taken over the past 2 months documenting problems and locations.



Grocery cart full of trash and belongings in Bergen Place.



Man in yellow jacket, next to green sign, urinating in parking lot.



People screaming at passers by in front of the Ballard Public Library.



Vehicle dwelling that remained unmoved for over 3 weeks next to an elementary school.



Soiled pants left on bench in front of Library.



People drinking beer and yelling in a parking lot, causing problems for employees in an adjoining business.

Plan of Action - Message:

We've been instructed to call the police non-emergency number when we witness unsafe, but not urgent, behavior in Ballard. The problem: the general public is unaware of that phone number, and when called, it is a frustrating process to wind through.

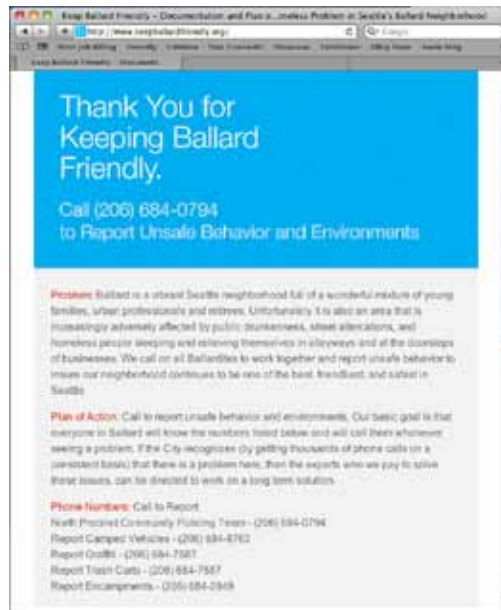
Thus we propose a campaign with a clear call to action and a listing of the proper numbers to call and report unsafe behavior and environments. The tone of this message would be direct yet friendly so that, instead of feeling fear, Ballardites will see this as a community outreach to better our neighborhood.

The end goal would be that all Ballardites would know these numbers, have them programmed into their cell phones, etc. and that they would use them whenever they see unsafe behavior or unsafe environments.

The desired result would be a much more vigilant Ballard society that, through their combined efforts, calls attention to our problems and pressures the City Council to take measures to fix the issues.

Plan of Action - Website:

We've created an informational web site at keepballardfriendly.org as well as blog and twitter pages that can be used to document problems and give Ballardites a place to sound off.



keepballardfriendly.org



twitter.com/friendlyballard/



keepballardfriendly.blogspot.com

Plan of Action - Flyer:

Below is the proposed 8.5"x11" flyer that would be available to merchants and parks for posting. Our hope is that all would embrace this message, and the public would see an ocean of blue throughout Ballard promoting this new activism.

Thank You for Keeping Ballard Friendly.

Call (206) 625-5011, 2, 8, to Report Unsafe Behavior and Environments.

Ballard is a vibrant Seattle neighborhood full of a wonderful mixture of young adults, families, urban professionals and retirees. Unfortunately, it is also an area that is increasingly adversely affected by public drunkenness, street altercations, and people sleeping and relieving themselves in alleyways and at the doorsteps of businesses. We call on all Ballardites to work together and report unsafe behavior and environments, and insure our neighborhood continues to be one of the best, friendliest, and safest in Seattle.

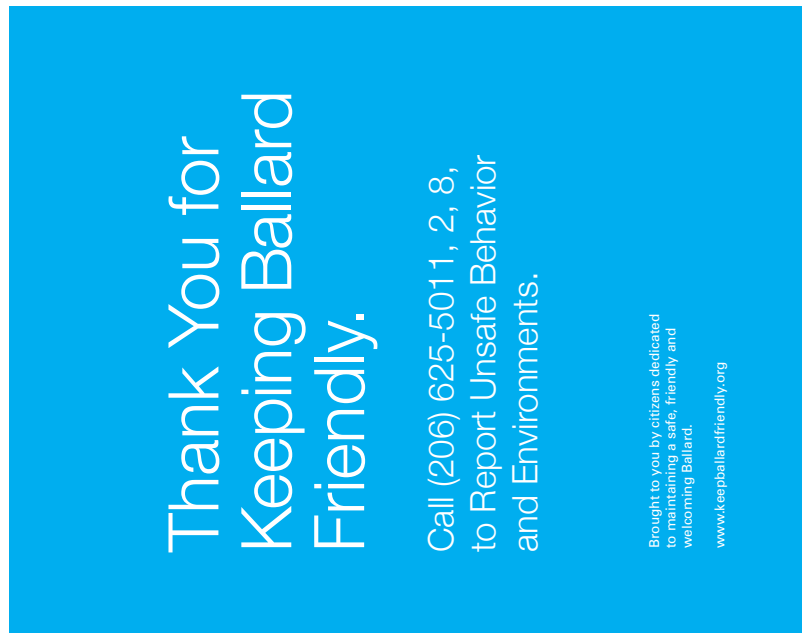
Phone Numbers:

Mayor's Office - (206) 684-4000
North Precinct - (206) 684-0794
Report Vehicles - (206) 684-8763
Report Graffiti - (206) 684-7587
Report Trash/Carts - (206) 684-7587
Report Encampments - (206) 684-2489
Help for Homeless - (206) 461-3200

Brought to you by citizens dedicated to maintaining a safe, friendly & welcoming Ballard.
www.keepballardfriendly.org

Plan of Action - Post Card/Window Card:

Below is the proposed post card that would be sent to all Ballard residents. It would include a brief statement of the problems at hand and our goals for bettering the Ballard neighborhood. It could also be used as a window card in store windows.



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keepballardfriendly.org

Plan of Action - Wallet Card:

Below is the proposed wallet card (business card size) that could be easily stored and posted for reference.



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