SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL | DISTRICT 5

COUNCILMEMBER DEBORA JUAREZ

October 28th, 2019

Department of Neighborhoods
Neighborhood Matching Fund
PO Box 94649
Seattle, WA 98124–4649

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my support for the Lake City Neighborhood Alliance (LCNA) and the Lake City Living Memorial Triangle Committee as they apply for a Small Sparks Fund from the Neighborhood Matching Fund.

In the aftermath of the tragic shooting on Sand Point Way on March 27th, 2019, many constituents reached out to me regarding their hope to establish a memorial garden or other beautification project. The intention was to help the community heal from the terrible events of that day and remember the four people who were shot--two of whom have passed away.

My office worked with LCNA and other community partners to bring everyone in the area together for two events: 1) a memorial event at the Lake City Mini Park and 2) a planning meeting for next steps to actualize the idea of what came to be known as the "Living Memorial Triangle" in the City's right-of-way at Sand Point Way and Bartlett Ave NE. We contacted several City Departments to attend this meeting to offer resources, while respecting the need for this project to be a neighbor-led effort. The Department of Neighborhoods, Seattle Department of Transportation, King County Metro and the Mayor's Office all attended and provide guidance.

Since this initial meeting, the Lake City Living Memorial Triangle Committee volunteers have met regularly and developed a plan with significant engagement from the community and input from the injured families to plant trees and shrubs, as well as include signage about what is happening. They have already successfully planted one tree that was provided by the City Arborist and the Trees for Seattle program. They have also been landscaping and maintaining this right-of-way, which has long been ignored and was overgrown with weeds.

The work of the Living Memorial Triangle volunteers is crucial for the Lake City community to continue to heal from the tragedy of gun violence on March 27th, 2019. Awarding a Small Sparks Fund will allow the momentum of neighborhood engagement and organizing to continue.

I support the work done by LCNA and the Lake City Living Memorial Triangle Committee and will continue to help however I can through their planning and implementation process. I hope you will, too.

If you have any questions, please do no hesitate to reach out to me at (206) 684-8805 or debora.juarez@seattle.gov

Sincerely,

Debora Juarez

Seattle City Councilmember Debora Juarez