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| **A Message from the First Hill Improvement Association** |

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| The First Hill Improvement Association would like to remind our neighbors that our organization firmly stands against racism, from individual racism to structural racism. The murder of George Floyd in broad daylight in the streets of Minneapolis was a call to action. While much attention has been given to our neighbors in Capitol Hill, we would like to thank and recognize the thousands of folks that are protesting in our neighborhood. Tear gas wafted into the northwestern section of First Hill around Freeway Park, putting many of our senior neighbors at risk. On Sunday, May 31st, protesters were met at the intersection of Boren Ave and Madison St by our state's National Guard and militarized police, while the Doctors for Justice march at Harborview on Saturday, June 6th was not. All of this comes at a time when we are staring down a pandemic, recession, as well as a homelessness emergency.   We cannot, and will not deny that our neighborhood has a problematic racial history. In 1865, the Seattle Board of Trustees passed an ordinance that excluded Coastal Salish people from the city.Later, Mayor Henry Yesler, a resident of First Hill, worked to ensure that Chinese immigrants were unable to own property or live in Seattle in 1886. A street in our neighborhood, Yesler Way, is still named after him.Up until the 1960's, real estate maps classified First Hill as "hazardous" for investment due to the presence of people of color in our neighborhood.Understanding the racial history of First Hill helps inform the present and the future of how we can do better. It will take the good in all of us to undo the damage that has been done. With that, we say, **Black Lives Matter**. Here is a small list of resources available for educational opportunities and giving donations: [Educate Yourself](https://firsthill.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3b809bfb4e8058c4d9aeb5bbf&id=43d1a8d9a8&e=946b9eb62d), [The Northwest Community Bail Fund](https://firsthill.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3b809bfb4e8058c4d9aeb5bbf&id=936fc76deb&e=946b9eb62d), [George Floyd Memorial Fund](https://firsthill.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3b809bfb4e8058c4d9aeb5bbf&id=024f4b86cd&e=946b9eb62d), [the Medical Fund for Dan Gregory](https://firsthill.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3b809bfb4e8058c4d9aeb5bbf&id=e1ee619750&e=946b9eb62d), and the [Medical Fund for Aubreanna Inda](https://firsthill.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3b809bfb4e8058c4d9aeb5bbf&id=796022f498&e=946b9eb62d).   |

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| **Swedish's Block 95 Project Begins Demolition** |

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| Demolition in preparation for Swedish Medical Center's Block 95 expansion has begun. Block 95 is bound by Minor Ave, Cherry St, Boren Ave. and Columbia St. Until the tower is built, the vacant lot will enable Swedish Medical Center to safely use the site if additional space is needed to build tents to accommodate a potential future surge in COVID-19 patients.Swedish also has a neat timelapse of the demolition. You can [view that here](https://firsthill.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3b809bfb4e8058c4d9aeb5bbf&id=6ed5af258e&e=946b9eb62d).   |

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| **Support First Hill Businesses** |

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| Despite the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 outbreak, many of our neighborhood businesses remain open, with some operating at reduced schedules. In previous community newsletters, we have provided a list. Our website now provides a list that is updated weekly with the latest information about open businesses in the neighborhood. You can find that list on our website [here](https://firsthill.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3b809bfb4e8058c4d9aeb5bbf&id=a75711594b&e=946b9eb62d). A big highlight of this week is that a number non-restaurant businesses have re-opened their doors! They are: Method + Madness, Lan's Beauty & Barber Shop, Frank's Barber & Beauty Salon, NW Fitness, Sports Hair Salon, Anderson Comfort Footwear, and J & L Shoe Repair.   |

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| **King County Metro Plans Autumn Service Reduction** |

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| Due to the latest financial forecasts for King County Metro, transit services in operation in September will be about 85% of pre-COVID levels. [Multiple First Hill routes will be impacted](https://firsthill.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3b809bfb4e8058c4d9aeb5bbf&id=73b18cbe50&e=946b9eb62d). The reduced service changes will occur on First Hill routes: 2, 3, 4, 12, 27, 60, and 64. Route 63 will be suspended, and Routes 193, 303, and 304 will not be impacted.   |

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| **Support Our Work!** |

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| First Hill Improvement Association (FHIA) is committed to working alongside residents, businesses, organizations, and institutions to address the needs and concerns of the community. Over the years FHIA has been dedicated to addressing issues of housing affordability, high-rise development, construction impacts, insufficient public space, accessibility, homelessness, and a growing residential population.FHIA is dedicated to serving the First Hill neighborhood and we need your support now, more than ever, to continue this work. Please [join FHIA today](https://firsthill.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3b809bfb4e8058c4d9aeb5bbf&id=8ffa6ea126&e=946b9eb62d)!   |

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| A Note From FHIA |

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| The First Hill Improvement Association serves the First Hill community through advocacy, information dissemination, event programming, and stewardship of resources. Our mission is to make First Hill a safe, vibrant, and inviting place for all. If you want to become a member, have a community announcement you'd like included in this newsletter, or just want to say hi, contact FHIA Executive Director at doug@firsthill.org.Thanks for being our neighbor!   |

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