

Testimony by Diane Pottinger 8/16/12 Planning Commission

Planning Commission-

I am Diane Pottinger, District Manager, Shoreline Water District with ^{over 25} ~~nearly 30~~ years of consulting and working for the federal government. I was a consultant for Ronald Wastewater District for 12 ½ years, over 6 years with Shoreline Water District and several years with the Highlands Sewer District. I think I know the pipelines in the City of Shoreline pretty well. I am an 8 year veteran Commissioner for the City of Bellevue's Environmental Services Commission which oversaw the water, sewer, stormwater and solid waste utility for the City. I am here tonight to talk about some proposed changes I am suggesting for the Comprehensive Plan.

First, the City's comprehensive plan goals relating to utilities should be to provide effective and efficient utility services to the citizens of Shoreline in the most cost effective fashion. Effective planning should be considered part of the process. It appears that this plan already has a preconceived conclusion and the document is only looking at one option. We recommend you look at other options whenever possible.

Attachment E-

Goal CF-1, page 62: This goal will be substantially different if the vote to acquire the SPU water system doesn't pass in November 2012. We suggest there be a reference to the vote and an option considered should the vote not ~~pass~~.

Attachment G-

Page 85, last paragraph: We disagree that the City can reinvest back into the water utility at a higher rate than what a special purpose district can do. Who is going to be doing the reinvestment? At higher water rates? Higher city property taxes that would be dedicated to doing water infrastructure? The City has never once asked Shoreline Water District to reinvest at a greater rate into our water system than what we are currently doing, even when they review the capital facility projects on the District's Comprehensive Water System Plan. So, why is the City Comprehensive Plan saying this?. We would like clarification of this statement or it to be deleted.

Page 86, first paragraph, last sentence: "Controlling the water utility will help streamline the permitting process for investors." We disagree. There is no proof or evidence that the City controlling all water utilities in Shoreline will help "streamline" the permitting process. This is opposite of what two recent investors have said about working with Shoreline Water District. Both the Development Services of America and the Inland Washington LLC group have indicated they have enjoyed working with Shoreline Water District. In a quote printed in the Lake Forest Park Patch on May 25, 2012, Darin Davidson, President of the Inland Washington Group said "We appreciate the efforts of Shoreline Water District in helping make the project a reality". We would like this unsupported sentence removed.

Page 87, first paragraph: ... as with the future assumption of the Shoreline Water District...." We would like this part of the sentence removed as no discussion has occurred to date regarding the assumption of Shoreline Water District, now or in the future. Plus, this section only deals with Ronald Wastewater District.

Thank you for your consideration.