

## City of Shoreline Master Plan and Comprehensive Plan Update

### Summary of Open House Public Comments Surface Water and Critical Areas

On September 24 and 25, 2003, two open houses were held in the City of Shoreline to gather public input on the issues to be addressed in the City's update of the comprehensive plan and preparation of transportation, surface water, and parks/recreation/open space master plans. The following is a summary of public comments received at those open houses on surface water and critical areas.

#### Thornton Creek:

- Stop further development of Thornton Creek.
- Day-light the Thornton Creek drainage.
- Protect Thornton Creek. The *Thornton Creek Basin Characterization Report* does not indicate the full extent of wetlands existing from NE 155<sup>th</sup> south along the edge of I-5. The report misidentifies the watercourse draining into the north end of Twin Ponds as a natural watercourse and does not identify the natural watercourse that extends from behind the church at NE 155<sup>th</sup> south along the base of I-5 to Peverton Pond, which is described as an artificial watercourse.
- Remove the concrete bed in Thornton Creek along I-5.

#### Stream Protection:

- Compromise on buffers, if the resource is adequately protected.
- Day-light streams.
- Add more than minimal buffers. Buffers should be sufficient to prevent damage to the resource.
- Do not use streams as ditches.

#### Tree Protection:

- Protect trees.
- Advocate for tree retention by providing education and technical assistance to the public.
- Consider using trees for stabilization on steep slopes.
- Add more trees.
- It takes 100 years to grow one tree. They clean the air.
- Protect healthy trees by preventing cuts.
- Retain tree to help with surface water problems. Trees take up a lot of water!

#### Educational Programs:

- Adopt and enforce a regulation to prevent motor oil and paint from entering storm drains. This starts with education.
- Promote natural yard care.
- Restrict chemical and fertilizer use on lawns, and commercial yard spraying in residential neighborhoods.



- Implement an aggressive public education program to promote environmentally sound lawn and garden care. Work with the neighborhood groups in putting together informational sessions at their regular meetings.

#### Critical Area Protection:

- Enforce the City's critical area ordinances.
- Do not place picnic tables in critical areas, such as Twin Ponds.
- Increase native plant populations in wetlands to reduce erosion and water temperatures, and to increase habitat values.
- Keep the native habitat that is close to streams.
- Renew the storm drainage signs.
- Complete an environmental assessment of Shoreline – and protect its resources. The City is attacking the environment (i.e. Aegis, Thornton Creek, and stalled inventory of environmental resources).
- Remove off leash areas to protect the natural environment.
- Maintain 100-foot setbacks in critical areas.
- Improve water quality at Echo Lake, which has a high phosphorous content. Residents along the lake are very concerned about the water quality. They notice oil sheens after rain.
- Monitor closely the new development at the south end of Echo Lake to avoid environmental impacts.

#### Flooding Concerns:

- Address flooding that occurs along NE 11<sup>th</sup> and NE 175<sup>th</sup>.
- Proceed with original plan to open up the creek, as Ronald Bog endures flooding.
- Address flooding that occurs in the 1700 block, specifically NE 177<sup>th</sup>. There is a lake on the south side of street, and a runoff stream on the north side.
- Address flooding that occurs at NE 11<sup>th</sup> and NE 175<sup>th</sup>. Pump excess water because the dip on 10<sup>th</sup> fills up rapidly with heavy rain and floods the surrounding area. Present construction plans do not provide an adequate outlet for pond water.

#### Drainage Concerns:

- Implement a storm drainage project for 15<sup>th</sup>, between 10<sup>th</sup> NE and 12<sup>th</sup> NE. Only include sidewalks, if trees remain and no front yards are reduced along 175<sup>th</sup>.
- Implement a basin plan for Hamlin Creek in coordination with Seattle. High flows result in flooding and erosion, and prevent re-naturalization of the creek in a ditch along 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Remove invasive plant species in favor of native plants to slow flows.
- Add complexity and storage.
- Do more detention on Hamlin Creek in Fircrest.
- Take Hamlin Creek out of the pipe.
- Address sidewalks in front of new in-fill that disrupts, diverts, and creates water flow problems (see 163<sup>rd</sup> and Linden). One, lot-long gutter, does not make an improvement.
- Address problem with water in crawl spaces on the west side of Corliss between 185<sup>th</sup> and 190<sup>th</sup>.

- Address drainage concern along Meridian Avenue at Ronald Bog.
- Address land sinking at Corliss between 175<sup>th</sup> and 178<sup>th</sup>.
- Address drainage problems associated with large, grass play areas. They can stay boggy for long periods.
- Address drainage concern at Ronald Bog Park.
- Bring to landowner's attention trees that pose a hazard to drainage pipes.
- Address water problem that occurs at 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE between 145<sup>th</sup> and 149<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE. The duplexes and apartments being built on 32<sup>nd</sup> are contributors.
- Increase water filtration of streams that feed Twin Ponds to decrease pollution. The green belts surrounding unearthened streams slow water down and provide a better filtration system.

Runoff Concerns:

- Address runoff from Linden to 184<sup>th</sup>. The area southeast of the fire station floods in heavy rain.
- Address sediment and oil runoff from the Shoreline Park and Ride that feeds directly into Echo Lake causing pollution. Work trucks hose down at the park and ride and the water goes directly into the drain.