

CITY OF SHORELINE
SHORELINE CITY COUNCIL
SUMMARY MINUTES OF WORKSHOP DINNER MEETING

Monday, October 27, 2008
6:00 p.m.

Shoreline Conference Center
Highlander Room

PRESENT: Mayor Cindy Ryu, Deputy Mayor Terry Scott, and Councilmembers Keith McGlashan, Chris Eggen, Janet Way, Doris McConnell, and Ron Hansen

ABSENT: none

STAFF: Bob Olander, City Manager; Julie Underwood, Assistant City Manager; Scott MacColl, Intergovernmental Programs Manager; Joe Tovar, Planning & Development Services Director

GUEST: none

Mayor Ryu called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm.

Scott MacColl provided a summary of the proposed 2009 legislative priorities which are divided into two categories: general broad priorities and more specific priorities. For instance, a broad priority is to increase infrastructure funding. Mayor Ryu suggested expanding this to include surface water management projects since it would make sense to do road and surface water projects concurrently.

Mr. MacColl stated that a new priority this year is to sustain and increase transit service. Councilmember McGlashan asked what the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) legislative focus will be. Mr. MacColl said that the AWC will have five to six top priorities, one of which is to oppose sewer districts' attempts to reduce a city's ability to assume them. Bob Olander added that AWC would also be opposed to the State's efforts to reduce funding for the Transportation Improvement Board to fund projects.

Mr. MacColl said that a priority would be to ensure that the next round of nickel funding would include the last mile of Aurora. Mayor Ryu asked if the Viaduct Project would include mitigation funding during construction. Mr. MacColl replied that it's definitely something we would push for and could include additional dollars for more park and rides and transit. Likewise, we would support the Public Works Trust Fund. Councilmember Hansen added that we have taken advantage of this in the past at ½ percent interest, and in fact, it helped fund the Ronald Bog Drainage Project.

Mr. MacColl stated that we'd also recommend monitoring health and human services legislation, especially King County's Health Department funding, which will be a big issue because of imminent County cuts. The Northshore Public Health Clinic is in Executive Sims' lifeboat. Councilmember McGlashan added that Mr. Sims does not believe the County should provide public health. Mr. MacColl said that Mr. Sims only wants to provide mandated services.

Mr. Olander added that in the past the MVET funds were used to guarantee funding for the health department; cities were willing to give this up to ensure health services. Councilmember Hansen stated that MVET failed because the public perceived it as a bait and switch; MVET funds were used for everything and not just for health services.

Mr. MacColl stated that King County will likely ask the legislature for non-supplanting authority; however, we would recommend opposing this. Councilmember Eggen asked if it would include councilmatic levies. AWC would not oppose some limited amount of this; they see a difference between voter levies versus councilmatic levies. Mayor Ryu stated that her concern is how the public would view this. Councilmember Eggen suggested adding "voter-approved" to the draft.

Councilmember Way asked if we should include Point Wells. Mr. MacColl said that when he talked with Senator Fairley earlier this year on the subject, she stated that unless Shoreline and Woodway supported a joint plan than she would not support proposed legislation. Mr. MacColl added that he does not believe Woodway sees a benefit on partnering with us on this issue and has been working with Snohomish County. Mayor Ryu said that Woodway wants the tax revenue and yet they do not have to undertake any of the impacts. Councilmember Hansen stated that a road did service Point Wells through Woodway, but it was washed out; Woodway residents don't want a major roadway in their jurisdiction.

Councilmember Way asked if we could include language to support Center for Human Services since they are expecting an \$80,000 cut from the County. Mr. Olander suggested changing "monitor" to "advocate."

The discussion moved onto the topic of designing the Town Hall Meeting. Joe Tovar summarized the options which were outlined in his memo. Mr. Tovar reported that the community conversations meetings are very interesting and the quality of the dialogue is impressive. People are not bashful about expressing their opinions. He believes we'll have close to 400 people participating in the process in total. Themes have emerged and everyone's comments and the proposed themes will be posted on the website.

Mr. Tovar asked the Council what they would like the public to be doing at the Town Hall Meeting. He advises that they Council replicate the process and have a "conversation" with the public; this is an opportunity to hear from the public and not a decision-making point. Councilmember Way stated that she believes public comment would need to be included on the agenda.

Mayor Ryu stated that she handed out a draft process to Councilmembers to review. She believes this is what we should do for the November 19 meeting. Mayor Ryu added that she believes it would give everyone an opportunity to review what everyone else is saying; it could bring the whole community together. Councilmember Way added that it could be an opportunity to have different groups synthesize the feedback on what they've heard. Mr. Olander stated that the process is designed so that Council and the Planning Commission get unfiltered comments and he would be concerned that we'd be empowering a hosting group to synthesize all the feedback, which seems to be in contradiction to what the Council originally set up; what Mayor Ryu is proposing could be included in the process, but at a later time in the process.

Mayor Ryu stated that she does not want issues to be polarized and believes that what needs to happen is cross town conversations. Councilmember McGlashan stated that most organizations form because they have a specific agenda; he wants to hear from individuals. Deputy Mayor Scott stated that he wants to ensure that the Council hears the themes and he's not interested in hearing a particular slant or an interpretation from one organization's standpoint. Councilmember McConnell stated that she's concerned about filtering through organizations and wants this to be broad-based; she's concerned that a group would have a louder voice than individuals.

Councilmember Eggen stated that he attended four community conversations and the feedback seemed to be captured in a single thought; all the feedback needs to be put into a coherent whole thought. Likewise, he does want to know what organizations think, but he's not sure it should dominate the meeting; it would be fine with him to invite them to comment. Councilmember McGlashan would like to receive a summary of the themes up to this point; he wants the meeting to focus on: did we get the themes right? What rises to the top? Did we miss anything? Mr. Olander stated that we will ask groups and individuals to comment on the themes as they see them emerging.

Mayor Ryu adjourned the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Julie Underwood, Assistant City Manager

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