

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

Monday, September 12, 2011
5:45 p.m.

Conference Room 301 - Shoreline City Hall
17500 Midvale Avenue N.

PRESENT: Mayor Keith McGlashan, Deputy Mayor Will Hall, and Councilmembers Chris Eggen, Doris McConnell, Chris Roberts, and Terry Scott

ABSENT: Shari Winstead

STAFF: Julie Underwood, City Manager; Debbie Tarry, Assistant City Manager; Kirk McKinley, Transportation Services Manager; Alicia McIntyre, Senior Transportation Planner; Mark Relph, Public Works Director; Dan Eernisse, Economic Development Manager; Steve Cohn, Long-Range Planner; Scott Passey, City Clerk

GUESTS: Sound Transit
Joni Earl, Executive Director
Matt Shelden, Strategic Planner
Patrice Hardy, Government Relations

Mayor McGlashan called the meeting to order at 5:55 p.m.

Julie Underwood, City Manager, handed out information regarding station area planning and briefly discussed the public engagement process.

Matt Shelden, Sound Transit (ST) Strategic Planner, commented on the handout and outlined the alternatives analysis process. He noted that ST is starting the environmental process and scoping now and framing the alternatives early next year.

Responding to Councilmember Eggen regarding the station area footprint, Mr. Shelden estimated the average size of the station occupies an area of 60 feet by 400 feet. He said sites are acquired using a combination of available land and property acquisition. He noted there is little I-5 right-of-way available.

Joni Earl, ST Executive Director, discussed the actions of the ST Board, noting that it will decide what goes into the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) process in December. She emphasized that the Board is interested in knowing what the City Council and community wants. She briefly outlined the two most promising route alternatives under consideration: 1) Interstate 5, and 2) Highway 99. She then compared the performance and costs of the alternatives. Responding to questions, she noted that the

benefit of narrowing it down to one alternative before the DEIS is issued is cost and time savings.

Councilmember Roberts expressed support for an I-5 alignment, and said he considers Shoreline as more of a “core city” that does not need a park-n-ride at each end. He said rather than a park-n-ride he would like to see bus commuter stations and pedestrian amenities.

Mr. Sheldon emphasized the need for the City of Shoreline to directly engage its communities on the options and issues, adding that even lease-lot arrangements could be considered in the EIS. Councilmember Eggen felt the City should be realistic about parking needs and the fact that people need to drive to and park at the stations. Councilmember McConnell stressed the need to inform the public in early 2012 about the alignment options and the EIS process. Ms. Earl commented that the scoping process would begin in October 2011, followed by a vigorous public dialogue.

Deputy Mayor Hall commented that the City should do whatever is needed to secure two light-rail stations in Shoreline. He also addressed potential funding gaps, affordability, and the importance of minimizing costs.

Councilmember Scott said the Council has a responsibility to get the message out and do whatever it takes to make the process successful. He agreed that I-5 represents the most favorable alignment option, but people must be informed. Ms. Earl reiterated the public outreach effort and assured that every affected property owner would be notified. She said ST is committed to being a close partner with the City.

Councilmember Scott felt the City could overcome most problems associated with light-rail by having an open and transparent process.

Ms. Earl responded to Council concerns. She reiterated the ST outreach effort, adding that real estate professionals would be involved to assist property owners.

Deputy Mayor Hall commented on the various levels of residents and stakeholders that would be affected as well as issues related to transit-oriented-development (TOD) and zoning. He said both the City of Shoreline and Sound Transit would benefit from collaborating and giving mutual support.

Mayor McGlashan concluded the discussion by summarizing Councilmembers’ comments and providing his own thoughts on the proposed alignments.

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Scott Passey, City Clerk