

**CITY OF SHORELINE**  
**SHORELINE CITY COUNCIL**  
**SUMMARY MINUTES OF JOINT DINNER MEETING WITH THE**  
**SHORELINE PLANNING COMMISSION**

Monday, October 10, 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, Terry Scott, and Shari Winstead

ABSENT: none

STAFF: Julie Underwood, City Manager; Debbie Tarry, Assistant City Manager; Joe Tovar, Planning and Community Development Director; Rachael Markle, Assistant Director, Planning and Community Development; Steve Cohn, Long-Range Planner; Ray Allshouse, Building Official; Scott Passey, City Clerk

GUESTS: Shoreline Planning Commission  
Michele Linders-Wagner, Chair  
Ben Perkowski, Vice Chair  
John Behrens, Commissioner  
Cynthia Esselman, Commissioner  
Janne Kaje, Commissioner  
Donna Moss, Commissioner  
Mike Broili, Commissioner (absent)

Mayor McGlashan called the meeting to order at 5:53 p.m.

Joe Tovar, Planning & Community Development Director, gave introductory comments and introduced Michele Linders Wagner, the Planning Commission Chair.

Ms. Linders Wagner discussed the letter sent from the Planning Commission to the City Council and thanked the Council for making the work of the Planning and Community Development department more visible to Shoreline residents. She briefly touched on a few "parking lot" items that the Commission and the Council should address in both the short-term and long-term.

Mr. Tovar began a discussion on the Planning Commission Work Program. He explained that the current schedule, which includes the Comprehensive Plan update, is reflected as

Option 1. A revised schedule showing the impact of adding the light-rail and corridor planning is reflected in Option 2. Option 2 is the staff recommended option. Option 2 accommodates the timely addition of TOD and Station Area planning, while providing an appropriate amount of time to educate and involve the public.

Mr. Tovar referred to Matt Shelden's email, Sound Transit, asking the City to consider moving forward with TOD and Station Area planning by expressing its land use/zoning policy. Consider Option 2 (Task 5).

Mayor McGlashan expressed concern that other priorities could arise between now and 2013. Mr. Tovar replied that the Work Program gives direction on Council priorities, and while variables make it difficult to hit targets precisely, it is not a schedule.

Councilmember Eggen asked about the timing and relationship between station-area planning and the Comprehensive Plan (CP) Update. He also asked about the possibility of a light rail station at NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Tovar responded that both could be done concurrently. He further explained that transit-oriented development (TOD) policies could be adopted alone or as part of the CP Update.

Councilmember Roberts pointed out that the CP Update was on the docket before Sound Transit Light Rail (STLR). He expressed a preference not to delay the CP Update to accommodate a process that will take longer than we expect.

Ms. Linders Wagner felt it would be more productive to talk about light rail in general terms rather than discussing specific locations and/or proposals. Councilmember Roberts felt the City window for discussing light rail with the community in general terms had passed.

Councilmember Eggen felt that working with Sound Transit has a lot of value because the City could benefit in the long run by identifying a low-cost option early in the process.

There was additional discussion about Work Program Option 1. Mr. Tovar expressed the opinion that pursuing Option 1 could expose the City to some risks involving light rail costs or station area locations in Shoreline.

Deputy Mayor Hall noted that it is not too late to submit a policy statement to Sound Transit. He then provided an example of a possible policy statement. He stated that engaging the public in the process now may be counterproductive to the City's overall objectives. He pointed out that most of the people who will be living near or benefitting from light rail are not living here now. He felt a policy statement could reflect the fact that future station-areas would be rezoned to TODs.

Councilmember Eggen asked if a statement of principle would satisfy Sound Transit. Mr. Tovar felt a general policy statement would help clarify Shoreline's position and interests, but it would have to go through the Planning Commission and SEPA process.

There was Council and Commission discussion about the timeline for considering a preferred alignment.

Commissioner Kaje agreed with Deputy Mayor Hall but advised that Sound Transit is holding meetings with the neighborhoods now. He said the City may not have a choice to delay the discussions about specific proposals, because discussion is happening one way or another. Commissioner Behrens added that it is easy to talk about change in abstract terms, but the changes the neighborhoods experience will be real. He felt the City should engage the community in a good decision-making process. Deputy Mayor Hall agreed, adding that people should know that change is coming and the City must have a community discussion about how it will manage that change.

Councilmember Roberts felt a statement of principle could be inserted into the Guiding Principles, thereby sending a signal of what the City expects in terms of its vision. He pointed out that the Comprehensive Plan could be updated every year.

Councilmember Scott felt that a general policy statement that ties into the City vision would be a helpful message to send to Sound Transit and it should be done in a way that provides an opportunity to engage the community.

Councilmember Eggen expressed interest in creating a high-level statement about areas near transit stations, adding that he would like people to have input before it is adopted. Commissioner Perkowski agreed, adding that capitalizing on the public interest through the CP Update is not a trivial issue. He expressed support for Option 2.

Commissioner Moss pointed out that people will start showing up at Planning Commission meetings as soon as Sound Transit announces a preferred alternative. She said it makes sense to include the public.

Mayor McGlashan identified consensus for proceeding with light rail planning concurrently with the CP Update, or for a solution resembling Option 2.

Councilmember Winstead expressed support for engaging the public since people are already hearing things about light rail. She liked the idea of a hybrid approach to the Work Plan.

Councilmember McConnell agreed with previous speakers regarding Option 2, noting that it will be easier if the public is engaged early. She concurred that once the hearings begin, people will want to discuss it and they should not be ignored.

Deputy Mayor Hall wondered if work plan items such as Tasks 7 and 8 should be removed or postponed until station area planning is completed. He expressed a preference for a reduced Work Plan in order to accomplish both station-area planning and the CP Update. Commissioner Moss expressed concern about dropping the Southeast Neighborhood Subarea Plan from the schedule. Councilmember Scott advised that it

might make more sense to let City staff inform the Council about which priorities could be delayed.

After further discussion, Mayor McGlashan declared the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

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Scott Passey, City Clerk