

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

Monday, November 28, 2011  
6:30 p.m.

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

**PRESENT:** Mayor McGlashan, Deputy Mayor Hall, and Councilmembers Eggen, McConnell, Roberts, Scott, and Winstead

**ABSENT:** None

**STAFF:** Julie Underwood, City Manager; Debbie Tarry, Assistant City Manager; Mark Relph, Public Works Director; Kirk McKinley, Transportation Planning Manager; John Norris, Management Analyst; Scott Passey, City Clerk

**GUESTS:** Seattle City Light: Jorge Carrasco, Superintendent  
Ray Hellwig, Account Executive  
Maura Brueger, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs

Mayor McGlashan called the meeting to order at 5:58 p.m. There were introductions around the table.

Mr. Carrasco began the discussion by describing the business relationship between SCL and the City of Shoreline. He described the customer base as more diverse in Shoreline than the City of Seattle, yet they try to view all customers the same way. He explained that the business relationship is largely framed by the franchise agreement. Mr. Carrasco noted that Debbie Tarry is on the SCL panel to provide feedback and input into the development of SCL's first strategic plan. Mr. Carrasco went on to describe the makeup and role of the 9-member advisory panel, different level-of-service (LOS) scenarios, new national regulations, personnel/retirement issues, aging infrastructure, and energy sources, including hydroelectric. He noted that Bonneville Power is a regional supplier of electric power, and factors affecting BP affect the entire region.

Mr. Carrasco discussed the progress and the process for developing the strategic plan. He noted that SCL identified alternative paths, as well as a preferred path, for the review panel to consider. This comes as a recommendation to the panel; then it will be forwarded to the Seattle City Council and the Mayor for adoption. He noted that more "buy-in" and education means a better result for everyone, including Shoreline.

He then discussed the 15% non-hydro renewable energy requirement as mandated by Initiative 937 (Energy Independence Act), pointing out that SCL is in good shape from a power supply standpoint. Regarding the distribution side, he discussed the need for upgraded substations, replacement of failed underground lines, and using sensors and “smart meters” to make the grid more “intelligent.” He also discussed the need for continuous training and development of the human resources and the need for a new class of apprentices.

Continuing, Mr. Carrasco discussed the importance of managing the sale of surplus power, which is a critical part of managing risk/revenue. He discussed SCL’s efforts to advance more efficient work practices, such as the working with the unions on how to size crews and deploy equipment.

The discussion then turned to alternative energy sources, including wind, biomass, and solar. He explained that SCL will recommend to the panel using a provision of I-937 to buy renewable energy credits, which will save the utility a lot of money. The discussion then turned to electric vehicles, smart grid efficiencies, and peak/off-peak use.

Regarding undergrounding, Mr. Carrasco responded that SCL has made some investments there, but mostly to replace direct-buried cable. He said there is no plan to underground the utilities because it costs 10-12 times more. He also noted that it is easier to diagnose a power problem in overhead lines than in underground lines, yet there are advantages and disadvantages for each community. Mr. Relph noted that there are interesting models out there in which some jurisdictions allocate funding to undergrounding power lines if it aligns with the community’s goals.

Mr. Relph then discussed the good working relationship and contact with SCL, and being able to get answers in a timely manner. He discussed different City projects that have included and will continue to include close coordination with SCL, including the Aurora Corridor, Interurban Trail, and the Park at Town Center. He also discussed the coordination on vegetation management, operations, and tree cutting along the Interurban Trail. Mr. Carrasco pointed out that street lights and vegetation management always seem to be two key issues for most people. A discussion followed regarding the SCL project to replace residential street lights with LEDs and to identify malfunctioning lights on arterials. It was noted that both tree trimming, as well as the lack of tree trimming, can be a challenge in different communities.

Ms. Underwood pointed out that the City wants to keep the community informed of utility developments and SCL updates in the *Currents* newsletter as well as in other media.

Mayor McGlashan asked how the City can help when problems arise. Several ideas were generated, including the importance of understanding problems early, working closely with citizens/customers, and facilitated communication through the project managers/liaisons.

At 6:48 p.m., Mayor McGlashan declared the meeting adjourned.

---

Scott Passey, City Clerk