

CITY OF SHORELINE

**SHORELINE CITY COUNCIL
SUMMARY MINUTES OF STUDY SESSION**

Monday, April 16, 2012
7:00 p.m.

Council Chamber – Shoreline City Hall
17500 Midvale Avenue North

PRESENT: Mayor McGlashan, Deputy Mayor Eggen, Councilmember Hall, Councilmember McConnell, Councilmember Winstead, Councilmember Salomon, and Councilmember Roberts

ABSENT: None

1. CALL TO ORDER

At 7:00 p.m., the meeting was called to order by Mayor McGlashan, who presided.

2. FLAG SALUTE/ROLL CALL

Mayor McGlashan led the flag salute. Upon roll call by the City Clerk, all Councilmembers were present.

(a) Proclamation of Earth Day

Mayor McGlashan read the proclamation declaring Earth Day in the City of Shoreline. Susanne Wynne, Project Lead for the Pathway Project Group, accepted the proclamation and thanked the City for this recognition.

3. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Julie Underwood, City Manager, provided reports and updates on various City meetings, projects, and events.

4. COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember McConnell discussed the annual sewer rate and capacity charge proposed by King County from her Regional Water Quality Committee meeting. She also discussed the King County reclaimed water comprehensive plan.

Councilmember Hall noted that he attended a King County Regional Policies meeting where they discussed autism and the potential levies and ballot measures list that he forwarded to the City staff for distribution.

Deputy Mayor Eggen reported on a Suburban Cities Association Public Issues Committee meeting he attended as well as a meeting of the Municipal Solid Waste Advisory Commission.

Mayor McGlashan briefly discussed the Emergency Medical Services Levy Task Force.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

a) Janet Way, Shoreline, discussed the impacts of light rail that will affect her neighborhood and urged residents to get involved.

b) Diane Pottinger, General Manager, Shoreline Water District, discussed the Shoreline Water District operations and collaboration with the City and developers.

c) Pat Murray, Shoreline, discussed possible locations for the 145th Street transit station, the single-use plastic bags issue, and animal control in Shoreline.

Ms. Underwood responded to public comment and commented on the communications plan for light rail in Shoreline.

6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Upon motion by Councilmember Winstead, seconded by Deputy Mayor Eggen and unanimously carried, the agenda was approved.

7. STUDY ITEMS

(a) Discussion of Framework Policies for Light Rail Station Areas

Alicia McIntire, Senior Transportation Planner, provided information on the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) and light rail station framework policies and area planning. She discussed the Sound Transit Capital Committee meeting. She highlighted the disadvantages of having the light rail station located at 175th Street and how it compares to 185th Street. She outlined the City's preferred option to have stations at 145th Street and 185th Street and she highlighted the specific impacts of that proposal. She summarized that the Capital Committee recommended seven alternatives for the segment from Northgate to 175th Street to the full Sound Transit board and highlighted each of them.

Rachael Markle, Director, Planning and Community Development highlighted the Framework Policies of the Light Rail Station Area Planning and discussed the background, purpose, and intent of the planning. She discussed the timeline, the environmental review process, future land use updates, zoning and station area planning, and construction. She highlighted the public outreach efforts, which have included having an equitable transit community speaker series in February, a *CURRENTS* article, a Framework Policies webpage for comment, Council of Neighborhoods meetings, Sound Transit Drop-In Sessions, and a Council Open House. She stated that the next steps include refining the draft framework policies, with adoption anticipated on May 14, 2012, with an update to the Comprehensive Plan complete by December 12, 2012.

The Council then discussed the draft framework policies as well as Councilmember Hall's suggested modifications to policies SA7, SA8, and SA13. It was noted that some of the changes represent a change in strategy. The Council continued discussing the merits, placement, and specific wording of various policy statements related to:

- station locations
- zoning transitions
- street cars/circulator buses
- east-west transit connections
- parking
- noise
- housing choice
- impacts on low-income residents
- community outreach/education
- the term "equitable transit community"

(b) Sustainability Strategy Annual Update

Miranda Redinger, Associate Planner and Juniper Nammi, Associate Planner, discussed the Green Team and "forevergreen" Sustainability Indicator Tracking System. Ms. Redinger highlighted the City Council's 2007 – 2010 Goal to "Create an Environmentally Sustainable Community" and work-to-date. She noted that 84% of the recommendations in the Environmental Sustainability Strategy (ESS) are in progress or have been implemented. She reviewed the Green Building Program, Aurora Corridor Improvement Project, Tree Canopy Inventory, and municipal code update. She highlighted the updates to the City's guiding documents and the City's next steps, which include community involvement, a climate action plan, partnering with external organizations, station area planning, indicator tracking, and target setting.

Ms. Nammi reported that the City doesn't need to update the Sustainability Strategy with the launch of this new website. She noted that the website will be the City culture for sustainability. She presented the "forevergreen" website to the Council.

Councilmember Hall said this is great and communicated that the City's influence on the carbon footprint goes outside the City. He noted that the regional context is reflected in the Sustainability Strategy and suggested monitoring and reporting the City's progress towards regional sustainability. Councilmember Salomon agreed with Councilmember Hall and said the City needs to think regionally. He highlighted that large governmental systems fail if people can't work across departments. Deputy Mayor Eggen thanked the staff and pointed out that the staff is continually working on improving sustainability in Shoreline. Councilmember Winstead inquired about the electric car parking spaces and confirmed that there are two parking spaces on the top level of the City Hall garage.

(c) Discussion of 2011 4th Quarter Financial Report

Robert Hartwig, Administrative Services Director, presented the 2011 4th Quarter Financial Report. He discussed the General Fund and stated that the revenues are \$33.1 million with \$31.3 in expenditures. He noted that the fund balance results in a \$1.8 million increase or \$2.5 million above the budget. He discussed the variances and said the utility tax/franchise fees increased and the unfavorable variances were in the gambling tax and the total development revenue. He discussed the reduction in expenditures and the other top five funds in the City, noting that Shoreline ended 2011 with fund balances \$9 million higher than the 2011 budget. He summarized the report and stated that the revenues and operating expenditures were slightly below projections. He highlighted that the latest 2012 sales tax numbers are up 4% compared to 2011 and below the 2012 projections by 1.6%. He discussed development activity and said this year's revenue is higher than 2011 based on the Shorewood High School development and CRISTA. He provided preliminary numbers for the 2012 Real Estate Excise Tax (REET), noting that the number of transactions is up by 21 but the sales value is down by \$5 million. However, \$4 million of those funds in 2011 was based on an apartment building on Aurora Avenue. Overall, he said 2011 was a positive year based on these figures, especially in expenditures.

Councilmember Salomon asked what was cut to save funds, to which Mr. Hartwig replied that he could respond at a later time with a full report.

Councilmember Hall reported on cuts from the legislature. He noted that the property tax assessments are likely to be down again in 2013. He expressed concern that if the City is going to lose \$282,000 in 2013 and \$92,000 in additional years because of state liquor and property tax losses, he is interested in Council intervention before matters become worse.

Deputy Mayor Eggen expressed his preference for conservative financing and requested early projections from the City staff on their budgeting expectations. He discussed having a study session in June to discuss budget assumptions with Councilmember Hall, who noted that it may be prudent to freeze vacancies such as the City Engineer.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Potential Litigation - RCW 42.30.110(1)(ii)

At 9:15 p.m., the Mayor announced that the Council would recess into an Executive Session for a period of forty-five (45) minutes to discuss potential litigation, per RCW 42.30.110(1)(ii). At 10:00 p.m., the Executive Session concluded.

9. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:00 p.m., Mayor McGlashan declared the meeting adjourned.