

CITY OF SHORELINE
SHORELINE CITY COUNCIL
SUMMARY MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, July 9, 2012
5:15 p.m.

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

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

ABSENT: none

STAFF: Julie Underwood, City Manager; Debbie Tarry, Assistant City Manager; Scott Passey, City Clerk

GUESTS: (Scheduled to join the meeting at 5:45 p.m.)

Shoreline Planning Commission: Donna Moss, Chair; Cynthia Esselman, Vice Chair; David Maul, Commissioner; William Montero, Commissioner; Michele Linders-Wagner, Commissioner; Easton Craft, Commissioner

At 5:20 p.m., the meeting was called to order by Mayor McGlashan, who presided. He noted that the Planning Commission would be joining the meeting later.

Celebrate Shoreline

The Council and staff discussed the criteria and process for nominating/selecting the Grand Marshal for the Celebrate Shoreline Parade. During the discussion the following points were made:

- Council should approach the nominations with an open mind
- There are alternative ways to recognize people within the community besides the Celebrate Shoreline parade
- It is difficult to establish objective criteria for selecting a Grand Marshal, so basically it comes down to individual choice
- It is best to prevent the process from becoming political
- The City should consider whether the process should be open to more diverse groups or teams
- The Council should discuss the selection process in more detail at a future Council meeting

- Criteria for selection should include the candidate's contributions to the community

Following discussion, there was consensus to select Evan Voltsis as Grand Marshal of the 2012 Celebrate Shoreline parade.

Comprehensive Plan Update

At 5:54 p.m., Mayor McGlashan opened the joint meeting portion of the special meeting and welcomed the Planning Commission. There were introductions around the table.

Donna Moss, Planning Commission Chair, opened the discussion by expressing the Planning Commission's desire for Council direction on the major issues encompassed in the Comprehensive Plan (CP) update. The following points were discussed:

- Sound Transit (ST) station area planning: ensuring the CP update envisions two stations in the City of Shoreline.
- Public input on land use (height, density, zoning, etc.) as part of the CP update.
- The question of whether ST station area planning comes before or after the CP update.
- The importance of making a strong statement that neighborhoods will transition over time, and market factors and other motivators will bring change to neighborhoods adjacent to ST station areas.
- Shoreline is not driving people away, but timing matters and the community will ultimately benefit from Sound Transit. The process will be long and people will have a long time to think about what they want to do. People will continue to move in and out of Shoreline. The Council's job is to ensure the community is informed and involved in the process.
- Underestimating the negative impacts on the community is not the right strategy. Many people don't want higher densities.
- Having as much public involvement is important.
- It is preferable to plan for change rather than trying to put higher densities into single-family neighborhoods.
- Regular updates and ST briefings are necessary to ensure a successful outcome.
- The Commission wants to ensure that it identifies as many issues in advance so the Council is not surprised later.
- Mountlake Terrace has tried to prepare for ST through their Comprehensive Plans and zoning, which allows them to advocate for another light rail station. The Council should consider similar actions in order to retain the two station areas that have been planned for Shoreline and not lose a station. The trickle-down effect of light rail stations will impact housing, demographics, etc., and it's better to

approach these future issues now in the CP update, at least for educational purposes.

- With such a short timeframe to work with, Shoreline may be passed the point in which it can influence ST stations through its CP update.
- Shoreline won a small victory by getting two planned station areas, but the battle is far from over. There are hundreds of millions of dollars at stake and people will continue to fight for ST stations.
- Transition zoning will happen eventually, but now is not the time to address light rail with the land use.
- Establishing Special Study Areas (SSA) might identify areas of potential change and strengthen the argument for two stations at 145th and 185th. However, it could waste a lot of time, money, and expectations if it doesn't happen at those locations.
- It may be worth investing some time in updating the CP with station area planning guidelines to make sure the City of Seattle knows that Shoreline is taking the two station locations seriously.
- In scoping the station areas, the most informed areas will naturally anticipate the most impacted areas themselves. These will be defined, geographic areas. It might be worthwhile to include station area planning in the CP; the City might even want regularly scheduled land use updates every few months to demonstrate it's serious.
- It might be advisable to broaden the scope of impact to a full mile from anticipated ST station locations rather than a half-mile. This might help the City prepare for and respond to objections to higher buildings/densities.
- The Town Center Plan was well thought out; the City should consider potential zoning changes there.
- There is a need for pedestrian connectivity to the 145th Street corridor. Because of Northgate's success in planning for Sound Transit 1 vis-à-vis Thornton Creek, it may be advisable to strengthen Shoreline's CP language in terms of housing, affordability, and environmental preservation.
- Transitions from high density to low density should generally be consistent throughout the City, with few exceptions.
- City staff will look into what can be done to plan ahead. The Council will have the opportunity to review land use (heights, density) in October. The City's Economic Development Manager is putting together a focus group to provide more information prior to Council consideration of land use updates.
- Attracting a diverse population of creative people to Shoreline will help the City create cachet as well as facilitate economic development.

July 9, 2012 Council Special Meeting

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At 6:50 p.m., Mayor McGlashan declared the meeting adjourned.

Scott Passey, City Clerk