

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

Monday, October 29, 2018

Conference Room 303 - Shoreline City Hall
17500 Midvale Avenue North

5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Hall, Deputy Mayor Salomon, Councilmembers McGlashan, Scully, McConnell, Chang and Roberts

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Debbie Tarry, City Manager; John Norris, Assistant City Manager; Jim Hammond, Intergovernmental Affairs Manager; and Allison Taylor, Deputy City Clerk

GUESTS: City of Kenmore: Mayor David Baker; Councilmembers Nigel Herbig, Brent Smith, Joe Marshall, and Debra Srebnik; Rob Karlinsey, City Manager

Lake Forest Park: Mayor Jeff Johnson; Councilmembers Catherine Stanford, Semra Riddle, John Wright, Phillipa Kassover, and Mark Phillips; and Phillip Hall, City Administrator

At 5:31 p.m., the meeting was called to order by Mayor Hall.

Mayor Hall welcomed the Cities of Kenmore and Lake Forest Park and expressed gratitude for the continued opportunity to discuss issues of shared concern.

City Updates

Debbie Tarry, Shoreline City Manager, reported on current City activities and initiatives. She mentioned the completion of the new Police Station, the City's partnership with Ronald Wastewater District, new construction trends, budget review, Sound Transit 2 (ST2) design work, and the upcoming addition of a B&O tax.

Rob Karlinsey, Kenmore City Manager, shared updates on Kenmore's growth, which includes continued exploration of development opportunities. He gave details on the approved walkways/waterways bond measure which will support sidewalks and bike lane expansion and improve waterfront access points. He said their downtown is growing and has benefitted from recent additions of the Town Square and Hangar (a gathering space).

Jeff Johnson, Lake Forest Park Mayor, gave an update on the new Town Center, their culvert upgrades, and the recent land acquisition of seven acres of park property. He spoke to the community spirit in Lake Forest Park, and voiced appreciation for the ongoing collaboration with Kenmore and Shoreline.

ST3 SR522/NE 145th Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project

Mayor Hall started the conversation with a discussion of the proposed project refinements to ST3, which he deemed potentially problematic. Mayor Johnson agreed, elaborating that without continuous Business Access and Transit (BAT) lanes along the BRT corridor, traffic would be severely impacted, defeating the purpose of the project. He reminded the Councils that voters wanted the dedicated lanes, and without them there was little point to the project.

Councilmember Stanford said she was surprised when Sound Transit said they were considering non-continuous BAT lanes and reduced sidewalks as viable adjustments to the project. She said she recognizes the financial challenges of the project but also felt these refinements could decimate it. Councilmember McConnell commented that the Shoreline Council had told Sound Transit that without BAT lanes, the project would collapse. Mayor Baker agreed, saying the cities need to be vocal and advocate for the initially proposed project. Councilmember Kassoover elaborated, saying Sound Transit risks losing the voters' faith if this situation is not resolved. Mayor Johnson stated that Sound Transit did not assess the traffic on 145th realistically.

Frustration was expressed with the idea of the scope of the NE 145th BRT project being reduced, and Councilmembers compared the costs to ongoing Seattle projects. It was agreed that while this project is small in Sound Transit standards, proportionally the payoff of doing it properly would be huge. Mayor Baker wondered why the project changed so early in design and questioned why additions like the 130th St. Station were being considered if there were budget constraints.

Councilmember Stanford suggested revisiting conversations with Sound Transit and Councilmember McConnell offered the idea of drafting a joint letter to the Sound Transit Board. General discussion followed, with Councilmembers agreeing it is important to speak with a singular, united voice. It was recognized that consistent messaging from all stakeholders had worked before. It was determined that the letter should be forceful, not accusatory, and clearly express the shared vision for a successful project. With agreement from Kenmore and Lake Forest Park, Mayor Hall asked Shoreline staff to coordinate the logistics and draft a joint letter reminding Sound Transit of the importance of the success of the 145th BRT portion of the project. Conversation moved to involvement beyond the cities of Kenmore, Lake Forest Park, and Shoreline. It was decided the Cities would invite Bothell and Woodinville to join in signing, since the impact would be corridor-wide. All cities announced intent to write separate letters, as well.

Councilmember Chang wondered the steps being taken to secure state funding for the project. Mayor Johnson said they were in conversations with the legislature.

Councilmembers McConnell and Kassover offered to bring information of the scope reduction to SeaShore's attention and include Rod Dembowski on the correspondence.

It was reported that it has been difficult for Cities to engage Seattle in conversation or to secure meeting time with Seattle Councilmember Debora Juarez to discuss this ST3 project, but that inroads had recently been made when members of her staff joined Shoreline staff for a tour of the 145th corridor. Ms. Tarry said her staff had made connections in the Intergovernmental Relations Office and were working on building bridges between the Seattle Department of Transportation and the Mayor's offices. Several people reported they had expressed their concern to Mayor Durkan. The possibility of reactivating the community voice was discussed and tabled, with Councilmember Stanford mentioning she has drafted a strategy to do so, if needed.

Responses to Homelessness

Mayor Hall gave an update on the progress behind the 198th and Aurora Affordable Housing Project, with Ms. Tarry sharing design and management details. Mayor Baker mentioned the Fircrest site and the possibility of dedicating a portion of the site to affordable housing with community amenities.

Councilmember Phillips said he is seeing more homeless in their city's parks, and he hopes Lake Forest Park can continue to address homelessness and affordable housing. Mayor Baker said affordable housing is a problem for more than just the homeless, especially as baby boomers, many with limited resources, reach retirement age. Deputy Mayor Salomon agreed, categorizing the parts of the problem as *services* and *housing*. Councilmember Stanford shared that Lake Forest Park is considering multifamily housing project tax exemptions to encourage high density, and commended Shoreline for their work around the Light Rail Stations. Mayor Hall said it is a fight to create high density housing. Councilmember Kassover reported on some of the work the North Urban Human Services Alliance is doing, and reflected that other countries think of housing as a public good rather than a private enterprise. Deputy Mayor Salomon said it is the role of leadership to plan forward as they predict future shortages, and Councilmember Roberts asked how Council can support keeping residents in their homes.

At 6:43 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

Allison Taylor, Deputy City Clerk