

October 15, 2001

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CITY OF SHORELINE

SHORELINE CITY COUNCIL

SUMMARY MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, October 15, 2001
6:30 p.m.

Shoreline Conference Center
Mt. Rainier Room

PRESENT: Mayor Jepsen, Deputy Mayor Hansen, Councilmembers Grossman, Gustafson, Lee, Montgomery and Ransom

ABSENT: None

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Jepsen, who presided.

2. FLAG SALUTE/ROLL CALL

Mayor Jepsen led the flag salute. Upon roll call by the City Clerk, all Councilmembers were present, with the exception of Councilmember Montgomery, who arrived later in the meeting.

3. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT AND FUTURE AGENDAS

City Manager Steven C. Burkett reported on:

- his visit to Densmore Avenue to view the problems mentioned by Mr. Ingraham at last week's Council meeting. Mr. Burkett said the needed street repairs cannot be done quickly, so they must be evaluated with competing needs on other streets.
- a newspaper ad by the Concerned Citizens of Shoreline alleging that the police and fire departments have concerns that the Aurora Project will increase response times. Mr. Burkett said the Police Department has been involved in the Aurora planning and has no concerns about response times. Staff has asked for input from the Fire Department.
- the closure of the post office this morning and the demands on local resources to investigate suspicious mail.

4. COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Grossman commented on the new goal of the Seashore Forum to become a stronger advocacy group to ensure that the north end receives "more of a fair shake" for the dollars it contributes to transportation.

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Councilmember Ransom reported that the Jail Advisory Committee meeting was postponed by King County. He said he attended the Central Shoreline Design Charrette on three different days, and he was pleased with the process.

Councilmember Lee commented on a voice mail she received from a woman who protested that many businesses along Aurora Avenue have non-English signage. Councilmember Lee said she checked the signs in question and all signs in other languages also contain English.

Deputy Mayor Hansen also attended the charrette and was impressed with some of the ideas that came out of it. Mayor Jepsen also commented on the charrette process. He said a variety of options will be studied.

Mayor Jepsen reported that he met with the State of Washington Secretary of Transportation about the Aurora Plan and other transportation projects in Shoreline. The Secretary made his view clear that medians on Aurora Avenue are a necessity.

Councilmember Lee commented on the importance of everyone at the State "speaking the same language" regarding the Aurora Corridor Project. Mayor Jepsen agreed that because of its size, it is easy to receive a variety of messages coming from the Department of Transportation. Mayor Jepsen said he spoke on a variety of topics with the Secretary and asked for a single point of contact.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

(a) Daniel Mann, 17920 Stone Avenue N, commented on the business community's presentation at the design charrette. He said the consultants called it "the most professional they had ever seen made by a group of citizens." Mr. Mann offered to make a similar presentation to the City Council and the Department of Transportation. He said the consultants concurred that Aurora Avenue is not amenable to being looked at as a "Main Street."

(b) Marlin Gabbert, 17743 25th Avenue NE, said he was bothered about the comment made to Councilmember Lee about the ethnic signage on Aurora Avenue. He expressed pride in the ethnic diversity in Shoreline.

6. ACTION ITEM

- (a) Motion to authorize the City Manager to execute an amendment to the contract with RAS Builders, Inc. in the amount of \$60,400 to replace siding and install a vapor barrier at the Richmond Highlands Recreation Center

Wendy Barry, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Director, reviewed the staff report distributed to Council tonight. She summarized that work at the Richmond Highlands Recreation Center pursuant to the contract previously approved by Council has revealed

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the lack of a vapor barrier, as well as moisture damage and dry rot in the structure. Addressing these problems requires a change in the scope of work for the project. She said the conditions were not foreseeable or apparent during pre-design inspections.

Ms. Barry reviewed the alternatives, noting that the contractor will not warranty the work without installation of the vapor barrier. Replacement with wood planking (hardi-plank) is the least expensive option. It is resistant to vandalism and requires less maintenance. Ms. Barry pointed out that the proposal restores the building to its appearance circa 1937, before the current log siding was added to the building. She concluded that there is a construction contingency in the contract, but this work would have gone beyond the amount remaining in the contingency.

Deputy Mayor Hansen moved to authorize the City Manager to execute an amendment to the contract with RAS Builders, Inc. in the amount of \$60,400 to replace siding and install a vapor barrier at the Richmond Highlands Recreation Center. Councilmember Gustafson seconded the motion.

Councilmember Ransom wondered if the log siding might not have a value. He also said the Recreation Center has been a log building since he moved to Shoreline 30 years ago. He commented that the project has turned out to be quite expensive by square footage of remodeling. Ms. Barry explained the problems with reusing the logs, either on the building or elsewhere. She pointed out that the logs are really only half-logs attached to other siding material.

Mr. Burkett clarified that even with the contract amendment and the use of the contingency, the project will come in about \$40,000 under the adopted budget of \$669,220.

Responding to Councilmember Ransom, Ms. Barry said the completion date is still projected to be late January.

Responding to Councilmember Gustafson, Ms. Barry explained that because this issue just came up last week, there was no time to take it to the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Advisory Committee or the Richland Highlands Neighborhood.

Councilmember Grossman said it is important to have a warranty and to be assured of the soundness of the exterior of the building. He said he would feel differently about the siding if the building actually had been constructed with full logs.

Deputy Mayor Hansen wished to insure that the dry rot will be fully addressed. Ms. Barry said some framing is included in the scope of work, although painting is not. She said the material comes primed and will hold nicely until next spring. Painting is covered in the total Capital Improvement Program (CIP) project cost.

In response to Mayor Jepsen, Ms. Barry confirmed that the project architect has reviewed the cost estimate.

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Councilmember Ransom concluded that it is important to protect the structure and insure its long life.

Mr. Burkett said there are probably citizens who prefer the "log look." He warned Councilmembers to expect some complaints about the change to siding.

A vote was taken on the motion, which carried 6 – 0, and the City Manager was authorized to execute a contract amendment with RAS Builders, Inc. in the amount of \$60,400 to replace siding and install a vapor barrier at the Richmond Highlands Recreation Center.

7. WORKSHOP ITEMS

(a) Status Update of the Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program

Bill Conner, Public Works Director, reviewed the staff report to explain the elements and processes of the Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program (NTSP) and to bring the Council up-to-date on what has been done since June, when the program began. He emphasized that this is a program designed to address traffic problems in residential areas. He reported that cities with similar programs have reported that 90 percent of the problems have been taken care of through education and enforcement, without having to go to engineering solutions.

Mr. Conner outlined the basic criteria for the program and explained the difference between problems considered in the NTSP and those that need immediate attention. He used the example of the Briarcrest Neighborhood requesting that the double line be removed from 27th Avenue NE between 145th and 165th Streets as a request that was sent to the City's Traffic Advisory Committee (TAC) to take immediate action. The NTSP works on a longer timeframe.

Mr. Conner reviewed the organization of the NTSP. He emphasized the requirement for at least seven signatures on the request to review a problem and attendance at a workshop by two volunteers. There are currently 32 areas participating in the NTSP. He used Evanston Avenue west of Aurora Avenue as an example of changes that have improved safety.

Mayor Jepsen called for public comment.

(1) Marlin Gabbert, 17743 25th Avenue NE, expressed a concern about 25th Avenue NE, where speeds are 35 to 40 miles per hour. He said 25th Avenue NE needs a 25 mile/hour speed limit. This would make it consistent with the school zone to the south and Lake Forest Park speed limits to the north.

Councilmember Montgomery arrived at 7:35 p.m.

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(2) Daniel Mann, 17920 Stone Avenue N, said the City must have a way to evaluate unintended consequences when it changes a traffic pattern. He said 185th Street appears to be functioning well but has shunted traffic onto side streets.

Responding to Councilmember Lee, Kris Stouffer-Overleese, Project Manager, said the 32 listed areas have contacted the Customer Response Team and have been sent information packets. It is the residents' responsibility to get the seven signatures and sign up for the workshop. Once this has occurred, the City will begin collecting baseline data about the problem.

Mayor Jepsen said speed limits have come up during the campaign. He asked if there is a uniform traffic code speed limit for arterials.

Mr. Conner said the County has a standard for streets in King County. The usual speed for arterials is 30 miles/hour. He said 25th Avenue is a street used by non-residents. The school makes the issue one for consideration by the TAC. He said the City continually monitors problems on both arterials and non-arterials. He assured the Council that traffic impacts are considered on all streets affected by a proposed change.

Ms. Overleese added that speed limits are generally set by determining the speed at which 85 percent of the drivers are traveling the road.

Mayor Jepsen asked about unintended consequences of changes in traffic flow. He said when engineering solutions are pursued, the City must be careful that it is not just moving a problem from one street to another. He said when such solutions are proposed, Council must be educated about the consequences and impacts on other streets.

Mr. Burkett concluded that the NTSP is designed to be very deliberative and to consider impacts to the neighborhoods.

Councilmember Montgomery commented that she is familiar with traffic on 185th Street, and she has not experienced the overflow onto the side streets that Mr. Mann referenced in his comments. Ms. Overleese responded that the City has data from before the reconfiguration and that she should have comparative data by the end of this year.

Councilmember Ransom commented on increasing traffic on 183rd Street and Stone Avenue, on 180th Street, and on Wallingford from 145th to 175th Street. He also raised the issue of impacts to 5th Avenue NE and 10th Avenue NE if 15th Avenue NE is reduced to three lanes.

Mr. Burkett said Council provided funding in the 15th Avenue NE project to analyze impacts to other streets of reducing the number of lanes, as well as to install physical deterrents if necessary to prevent traffic spillover to neighborhood side streets.

Ms. Overleese recommended that Council direct individuals with complaints or concerns to the Customer Response Team.

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Responding to Councilmember Grossman, Ms. Overleese said there is still funding to address problems in other areas if citizens wish to participate in the program. Councilmember Grossman said he was glad to see a good data component to provide information about whether traffic is increasing area wide or shifting from one street to another.

Deputy Mayor Hansen asked about the proposal to eliminate the double yellow lines on 27th Avenue NE. Ms. Overleese explained the membership of the TAC and reviewed the options the TAC may be considering regarding this problem. She noted that the TAC would probably be considering the precedent that would be set Citywide if the lines are removed. Deputy Mayor Hansen said the double yellow lines make drivers think the street is an arterial, which it is not. He felt this contributes to faster speeds on the street. Concluding, he said 27th Avenue NE is close to an elementary school, and a number of children cross it to go to school.

Responding to Councilmember Gustafson, Ms. Overleese said a minimum of one person from the neighborhood must attend the mandatory workshop, which provides an overview of the NTSP and instruction in performing traffic monitoring tasks safely. The workshop takes between one and two hours.

Mayor Jepsen thanked staff for the information. He expressed interest in hearing from attendees about the program.

Councilmember Ransom asked if 183rd Street and Wallingford are on the list of areas.

Mr. Conner said 1312 N 183rd Street and Meridian Avenue are on the list. The packet has been sent and staff is awaiting a response. There is no Wallingford area.

Ms. Overleese noted that when the City is contacted about problems by several different individuals in the same area, staff recommends that they contact each other in order to move forward.

(b) Draft City Gateway Planning Proposal

Kirk McKinley, Planning Manager, reviewed the plan for developing a master plan for constructing and maintaining attractive landscaping and signage at strategic gateways into the City. He said the proposed budget for the project is \$50,000 for study and preliminary design and \$100,000 per year over three years for implementation. The goal is to provide a consistent, common theme for entrances to the City. It is also hoped that the development of a standard identifier will be transferable to parks and other City facilities.

Mr. McKinley referred to a map of proposed gateway locations, highlighting the primary, supportive and cooperative locations. He reviewed a proposed timeline. He summarized that this project is a cross-departmental effort by Planning and Development Services,

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Public Works and Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services. He asked for Council confirmation that staff is proceeding according to Council's vision and expectations.

Mayor Jepsen said the proposal is heading in the correct direction, although he did wish it could move a little faster. He felt this could be done by utilizing private sector development, such as occurred with Walgreen's at 145th Street/Aurora Avenue and in North City. He emphasized the importance of reminding people at various locations that they are in Shoreline and not just at gateway points.

Councilmember Lee noted that the project budget would not allow the City to cover all the potential gateway locations. She suggested focusing on the sites that are good candidates for public/private partnerships.

Mr. McKinley said that as CIP projects come along that are at gateway locations, staff has tried to incorporate gateway design into them.

Mr. Burkett assured Council that staff is looking at opportunities to work with the private sector.

Councilmember Ransom commented that in his opinion Meridian Avenue carries enough traffic that it should be considered a key gateway. He also suggested that population be included on all the "City of Shoreline" signs. He felt Shoreline should advertise its population of 53,000 to make sure people don't think of it as a small town.

Councilmember Gustafson concurred with the importance of prioritizing the gateway projects. He suggested looking at the Westminster Triangle/Dayton location. Mr. Burkett responded that the Rotary Club has approached the City about a project involving that site.

8. CONTINUED PUBLIC COMMENT

(a) Brian Donnebrink, 20330 Burke Avenue N, spoke in support of the Aurora Corridor Plan. He noted the work of the Citizens Advisory Task Force (CATF), of which he was a member. He explained the reason why the CATF recommended medians, Business Access/Transit (BAT) lanes and sidewalks. He concluded that the plan represents a good proposal that will provide safety improvements and enhanced traffic flow.

(b) Don Sands, The Highlands, spoke as a developer familiar with downtown improvements. He said a city must have a future concept of the community before developers will invest in it. He gave examples of investments in downtown infrastructure that have encouraged a resurgence of economic vitality, contrasting Del Rey Beach, Florida with Great Falls, Montana. He expressed surprise that business owners are complaining about the Aurora Corridor Project, given that they aren't being required to pay for it, as is often the case. He concluded that it would be a shame for the future of Shoreline if a minority holds up this important project.

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(c) Jim Mackey, The Highlands, also supported the Aurora Project. He said the plan will achieve the objectives of enhanced safety, increased traffic capacity, transit improvements, better storm water drainage, economic development and enhanced aesthetic appearance. He compared the Aurora Avenue improvements to the situation in downtown Seattle with the building of Safeco Field and the football stadium. He said with any project there are temporary disruptions, dirt, dust, and diversions. But afterwards local businesses thrive. He concluded that the Aurora Plan will provide an environment that will draw people to the corridor. There will be safe sidewalks to walk on, landscaping to soften the stark reality of a major highway, and a view not as cluttered by tangled overhead wiring. He urged Council to stay the course because the project is the right thing to do.

9. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:36 p.m., Mayor Jepsen declared the meeting adjourned.

Sharon Mattioli, CMC
City Clerk

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CITY OF SHORELINE

SHORELINE CITY COUNCIL SUMMARY MINUTES OF JOINT DINNER MEETING

Monday, October 22, 2001
6:00 p.m.

Shoreline Conference Center
Highlander Room

Shoreline City Council

PRESENT: Mayor Jepsen, Deputy Mayor Hansen, Councilmembers Grossman, Gustafson, Lee, and Ransom

ABSENT: Councilmember Montgomery

STAFF: Steve Burkett, City Manager; Larry Bauman, Assistant City Manager; and Joyce Nichols, Community and Government Relations Manager

Shoreline Fire District

PRESENT: Fire District Commissioners Keeny, Kennison and Williamson

ABSENT: None

STAFF: J. B. Smith, Fire Chief

The meeting convened at 6:30 p.m.

Steve Burkett, City Manager, showed the City's new video on the Aurora Corridor Project. The response from those present was positive.

Mayor Jepsen began a discussion of the Fire District's questions about the Aurora Project.

Commissioners said that they discussed the project at their last board meeting. The consensus was that the project will make Aurora Avenue safer. It was noted that someone has been appointed to work with the City on future projects. The Fire District has written the City a letter stating its support for the Aurora Project.

Turning to a discussion of the impacts of Initiative 747, J.B. Smith, Fire Chief, said the impact to the Shoreline Fire District's budget is \$375,000, which is the difference between levying one percent versus six percent in 2002. Mr. Burkett responded that there will be a \$1.7 million impact on the City of Shoreline over the next five years, since the loss compounds over time.

Regarding the Emergency Management Response System, Commissioner Keeny provided background on where the City was six years ago as a new city. He said the City and the Shoreline Fire Department have worked well together over the years to evolve and tailor the two organizations' plans so that they mesh. He noted the success of the recent "Sound Shake" simulated earthquake drill.

Continuing, Commissioner Keeny suggested that now the two organizations need to go to the next level, with the City assuming the overall responsibility for coordinating an emergency response. The Fire District recommends that the City beef up its role as the overall coordinator, possibly even hiring a staff person to coordinate the effort. He felt the Fire District's responsibility is to be the first on the scene and to evaluate the situation. Other jurisdictions (water, sewer, etc.) have their own roles as well.

Responding to Councilmember Lee's question about how other cities organize their emergency response, Mr. Burkett said that usually the police and fire departments assume the lead roles. He said he is comfortable with the Fire Department taking the lead because it is already prepared to respond to emergencies. Mr. Burkett said both the City and the Fire District have the same goals, but he was unsure that the City could afford to designate a full-time staff person to this effort.

Commissioner Keeny pointed out that public education is another essential component of the equation. He said the Fire Department's focus is fire prevention.

Chief Smith noted that the City hired a consultant early on to develop a plan, which was never used. Then the City hired another consultant and that is where the relationship between the two entities "took off." He said that during the recent "Sound Shake" drill, City staff did very well. However, everyone realized that more work needs to be done to be fully prepared. Chief Smith felt that a full-time staff person is required to do the work of emergency management.

Mayor Jepsen wanted to know more about what other agencies learned during Sound Shake.

Chief Smith said the City, the Fire District, and the School District were the entities participating at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to make sure there could be a coordinated effort in an emergency.

Mayor Jepsen suggested that perhaps funding for a full-time emergency management coordinator could be shared among the various districts. He emphasized the importance of coordinating with the School District and others.

Chief Smith said the Fire District's purpose is to try to make sure the City is prepared. It has been dedicating resources to coordinating this effort.

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Commissioner Keeny reiterated his preference to see the coordination start at the City. He noted a major component of the job is risk assessment.

Councilmember Lee could not support having a full-time employee working in this capacity at the City when each agency has someone in its own organization as well.

Responding to Councilmember Ransom's question about what kind of skills such a staff person would need, Commissioner Keeny responded that there are many individuals who have the training to provide these services.

Councilmember Grossman pointed out the emergency response has two elements: the event itself and the recovery period. He felt it is not practical to have a full-time person doing this.

Deputy Mayor Hansen believed that a hierarchy of command is key to the program, as well as communication. He saw the development of the plan as a full-time job, but that has now been done. Maintenance of preparedness probably does not require this type of full-time effort.

Mr. Burkett concluded that every organization has the same problem--too many things to do and not enough resources to do them. He was optimistic that progress in preparedness is possible and necessary. He said he would name someone to be accountable to him and perhaps work with other cities in the area, notably Lake Forest Park. The Water District and the Sewer District also need to be involved.

Councilmember Gustafson summarized that everyone agrees preparedness is a high priority and something that needs to be done.

Mayor Jepsen concluded that the entities should keep talking to each other. A City Council workshop can be scheduled when the next steps have been determined.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Joyce Nichols, Community and Government Relations Manager

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CITY OF SHORELINE

SHORELINE CITY COUNCIL

SUMMARY MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Monday, October 22, 2001
7:30 p.m.

Shoreline Conference Center
Mt. Rainier Room

PRESENT: Mayor Jepsen, Deputy Mayor Hansen, Councilmembers Grossman, Gustafson, Lee, Montgomery and Ransom

ABSENT: None

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by Mayor Jepsen, who presided.

2. FLAG SALUTE/ROLL CALL

Upon roll call by the City Clerk, all Councilmembers were present.

3. REPORT OF CITY MANAGER

City Manager Steve Burkett reported that he met October 16 with the Aurora Improvement Council (AIC) and Concerned Citizens for Shoreline (CCFS) to discuss ideas raised during the Central Shoreline Design Charrette. He said the AIC has approved a resolution in support of the relocation of the proposed northbound Business Access Transit (BAT) lane from Aurora Avenue N to Midvale Avenue, including the relocation of Ronald Place south of 175th Street and the preservation of Ronald Place north of 175th Street. He provided copies of the AIC resolution and cover letter.

Mr. Burkett presented a new street sign design, including the City logo, which the City will use to begin replacing King County street signs in Shoreline.

Mr. Burkett discussed joint enforcement activity by the City and Burlington Northern along the railroad tracks in Richmond Beach. He mentioned a memo from Shoreline Police Chief Denise Pentony which outlined the goals of the activity, and he provided statistics of citations and warnings issued between May 1 and October 1.

Mr. Burkett mentioned his October 16 meeting with the Shoreline Water District.

Finally, Mr. Burkett distributed copies of a letter from the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) clarifying WSDOT requirements for the Aurora Corridor Project.

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4. REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: None

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

(a) Jerilee Noffsinger, 14731 Aurora Avenue N, discussed an October 18 Shoreline Enterprise advertisement that questioned "the origin" of some of the supporters of her campaign for City Council.

(b) Wally Crow, 19025 9th Place NW, questioned Council consideration of traffic lights on Aurora Avenue scheduled for later during the meeting given Councilmember comments at a recent candidate forum that traffic lights on Aurora Avenue are not an issue.

(c) Daniel Mann, 17920 Stone Avenue N, thanked Mr. Burkett for meeting with the AIC October 16. He expressed appreciation for the Central Shoreline Design Charrette. He asserted the intent of the AIC "to have a productive, successful, better Shoreline, not to be obstructionist."

Mayor Jepsen said Council has frequently stated the flexibility of the Aurora Corridor Project. He expressed appreciation for the AIC letter and resolution. He advocated continued progress on all three phases of the Aurora Corridor Project.

6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilmember Lee moved that Council approve the agenda. Councilmember Ransom seconded the motion, which carried unanimously, and the agenda was approved.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Montgomery requested the revision of the October 8 Dinner Meeting Minutes to show that she attended approximately the last ten minutes of the meeting.

Councilmember Gustafson moved that Council approve the consent calendar. Deputy Mayor Hansen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously, and the following items were approved:

**Minutes of Dinner Meeting of October 8, 2001 (as amended)
Minutes of Regular Meeting of October 8, 2001**

**Approval of payroll and claims as of October 12, 2001 in the amount
of \$1,216,465.22**

8. ACTION ITEMS: OTHER ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS

- (a) Motion to support the removal of the proposed pedestrian-only signals from the Aurora Project

Aurora Corridor Project Manager Anne Tonella-Howe introduced consultants Tim Bevan of CH2MHill and Jim Dale of Innovative Transportation Concepts. Ms. Tonella-Howe went on to review the staff report. She distinguished the pedestrian-only signals that the Citizens Advisory Task Force (CATF) proposed in the vicinity of 149th, 170th, 180th and 202nd Streets from the signals the WSDOT plans to install on Aurora Avenue at N 165th and N 170th Streets as part of a pedestrian safety demonstration project.

Continuing, Ms. Tonella-Howe explained that the amount of pedestrian traffic at N 149th, N 170th, N 180th and N 202nd Streets is not likely to meet WSDOT thresholds (100 or more pedestrians for each of any four hours, and 190 or more pedestrians during any one hour) and that the WSDOT is, therefore, not likely to approve the proposed pedestrian-only signals. She said staff recommends the exclusion of the pedestrian-only signals from the scope of the Aurora Corridor Project and the consideration of other pedestrian crossing applications, such as the enhanced crossings of the WSDOT pedestrian safety demonstration project.

Ms. Tonella-Howe went on to discuss existing traffic conditions at five intersections on Aurora Avenue: N 145th; N 152nd; N 155th; N 160th and N 165th Streets. She then discussed projections of future traffic conditions at the same intersections with and without construction of the Aurora Corridor Project.

Mr. Dale presented traffic models of future traffic conditions on Aurora Avenue. The models represented conditions of "no action" (no improvements on Aurora Avenue), Alternative A (improvements similar to those of the CATF preferred alternative) and Alternative B (improvements consistent with Alternative A, except no amenity zones and less wide sidewalks). He showed that traffic signals on Aurora Avenue create gaps in traffic during which vehicles on intersecting streets can access Aurora Avenue.

In response to Councilmember Gustafson, Ms. Tonella-Howe said construction of the Aurora Corridor Project without additional traffic signals would result in traffic delays similar to or greater than those in the model representing "no action." She explained that vehicles on intersecting streets would need to wait for even larger gaps in traffic to cross the greater distance of the additional traffic lanes. Mr. Dale agreed.

Mr. Dale said the general conclusion from simulation and modeling is that the addition of signals at 165th and 152nd Streets increases east-west capacity with minimal impact to traffic on Aurora Avenue.

Councilmember Montgomery responded to Mr. Crow's comment earlier in the meeting. She said the Councilmember who spoke at the candidate forum on the issue of traffic lights on Aurora Avenue was responding to a statement in an AIC brochure that the Aurora Corridor Project will result in 16 traffic lights on Aurora Avenue. She said the

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Councilmember explained that the original proposal included 16 traffic lights, that the project will not include 16 traffic lights and that this is, therefore, not an issue.

Mayor Jepsen invited public comment.

(1) Daniel Mann, 17920 Stone Avenue N, said dividing the Aurora Corridor Project into separate phases prevents the analysis of the cumulative impact of the entire project. He advocated that the project: address Aurora Avenue between 145th Street and 205th Street; incorporate the results of the Central Shoreline Design Charrette; include the analysis of BAT lanes the full length of Aurora Avenue in Shoreline; and include an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) addressing the entire project.

(2) Wally Crow, 19025 9th Place NW, questioned whether the traffic models of future conditions on Aurora Avenue simulated traffic at peak hours. He advocated such analysis. He asserted that the Aurora Corridor Project will not work.

(3) Kellie Swenson, 2308 N 149th Street, expressed appreciation for the presentation. She advocated that the Aurora Corridor Project proceed.

In response to Deputy Mayor Hansen, Ms. Tonella-Howe said the traffic models simulated future conditions on Aurora Avenue during the afternoon hour of peak traffic volume (approximately 4:45-5:45 p.m.).

Deputy Mayor Hansen said dividing the Aurora Corridor Project into phases that the City can design, assess and construct separately makes sense. He stated that the City would otherwise evaluate many things that would not prove possible over time. He pointed out that the traffic signals were part of a pre-design study proposal. He said Council has approved the concept of the Aurora Corridor Project, not an actual design. He supported removal of the proposed pedestrian-only signals from the Aurora Corridor Project scope for the purpose of clarification.

Assistant City Manager Larry Bauman said the draft EIS the City is preparing will assess cumulative impacts for the entire three-mile corridor. He explained that the draft EIS concentrates on the portion of the project between 145th and 165th Streets because this is the section of the project for which the City has the most detailed design and about which it knows the most.

Councilmember Ransom expressed concern about crossings at N 170th and N 165th Streets. He said residents of the Richmond Highlands neighborhood have contacted him to oppose a pedestrian signal at N 170th Street. He said the residents believe a pedestrian signal will create more traffic in the neighborhood. He asserted that the traffic created by such a signal would be minimal. He said the Shoreline School Board considered constructing an overpass at N 170th Street during his time on the board to address concerns that Meridian Park and Parkwood residents raised about Shorewood High School students crossing Aurora Avenue there. He asserted that the area between N 167th and N 170th Streets is the most dangerous on Aurora Avenue in Shoreline. He noted a

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bus stop and two mini-casinos in this area, as well as proposals for a third mini-casino and a hotel. He said he has not heard safety complaints about Aurora Avenue at N 165th Street but he has heard frequent complaints about Aurora Avenue at N 170th Street. He expressed very serious concern about excluding the proposed pedestrian-only signal at this location.

In response to Councilmember Gustafson, Mr. Burkett confirmed that WSDOT has approved an enhanced pedestrian crossing at N 170th Street. Mr. Bauman identified the crossings that WSDOT plans to install at N 170th Street and N 165th Street as "motorist warning systems." He explained that the crossings will include a pedestrian refuge island in the middle of Aurora Avenue and warning lights. He said similar crossings elsewhere have improved pedestrian safety. He said WSDOT intends to leave the crossings in place if they prove successful during the initial demonstration.

Councilmember Montgomery moved to remove all of the pedestrian-only signals adopted as part of the 1999 Aurora Pre-Design Study from the scope of the Aurora Corridor Project. Deputy Mayor Hansen seconded the motion.

Councilmember Ransom moved to amend the motion to include a proposed pedestrian-only signal at N 170th Street in the scope of the Aurora Corridor Project. Deputy Mayor Hansen seconded the motion.

Noting that he has worked at Shorewood High School, Councilmember Grossman expressed appreciation for Councilmember Ransom's concerns about pedestrian safety on Aurora Avenue at N 170th Street. However, he questioned whether the amount of pedestrian traffic at N 170th Street will meet the WSDOT threshold. He stated his interest in reviewing accident statistics on Aurora Avenue at N 170th Street. He asserted that the enhanced pedestrian crossing that WSDOT plans to install at N 170th Street is "an appropriate way to go at this particular time."

Councilmember Montgomery said she received phone calls from citizens in support of the staff recommendation. She went on to say she has not received public or School District input about retaining a pedestrian-only signal at N 170th Street in the scope of the Aurora Corridor Project.

Councilmember Ransom said he was representing the concerns expressed over many years about pedestrian safety on Aurora Avenue at N 170th Street. He advocated the inclusion of a pedestrian-only signal at N 170th Street in the scope of the Aurora Corridor Project as a way to require future staff and Council consideration.

In response to Deputy Mayor Hansen, Mr. Bauman confirmed that WSDOT intends to make enhanced pedestrian crossings part of its uniform code, and to recommend their inclusion in the federal code, if they prove successful in the demonstration project on Aurora Avenue at N 165th and N 170th Streets.

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Deputy Mayor Hansen expressed concern about pedestrian safety on Aurora Avenue at N 170th Street. He supported the proposed amendment. He acknowledged the concerns that neighborhood residents have raised about cut-through traffic, but he asserted pedestrian safety as a higher priority. He said he would support a pedestrian-only signal at N 170th Street if the WSDOT demonstration project proves unsuccessful. He noted that a pedestrian-only signal could be synchronized with traffic signals.

Mayor Jepsen said he would like to learn from the WSDOT demonstration project. He opposed the proposed amendment.

Councilmember Lee said she shares the concerns that Councilmember Ransom raised about pedestrian safety on Aurora Avenue at N 170th Street. She noted that Aurora Avenue is a State highway and that WSDOT has established strict guidelines for pedestrian-only signals. She said the WSDOT demonstration project will show whether the crossing at N 170th meets those guidelines. She asserted that the concerns about pedestrian safety at N 170th Street will continue to be addressed.

Mr. Bauman advised that in 2000, there were 15 accidents on Aurora Avenue at 165th Street and 16 accidents at 170th Street.

In response to Councilmember Lee, Mr. Bauman said WSDOT intends to install the enhanced pedestrian crosswalks for the demonstration project by March 2002.

Councilmember Ransom reiterated his support for the motion as a way to focus attention and require further consideration.

Mayor Jepsen said he and Deputy Mayor Hansen have requested that staff begin measuring traffic volumes on side streets to provide data against which to assess the impact of the enhanced pedestrian crossings on traffic in the neighborhoods.

A vote was taken on the amendment to include a pedestrian-only signal at N 170th Street in the scope of the Aurora Corridor Project. The amendment failed 2-5, with Deputy Mayor Hansen and Councilmember Ransom voting in the affirmative.

Mayor Jepsen explained that Council adopted a concept for Aurora Avenue that included the potential for four new traffic signals and four new pedestrian-only signals. He said Council needs to take action to modify the concept. He stated that Council will continue to have the flexibility to modify the concept as the design process for each segment of the Aurora Corridor Project continues. For example, he said the signals proposed at 182nd Street and at 195th Street may not be installed.

Councilmember Lee said business owners in Parkwood Square (immediately south of Safeway at 155th Street and Aurora Avenue) are very excited about the traffic signal proposed at 152nd Street and Aurora Avenue.

Councilmember Montgomery noted her experience that well-placed traffic signals improve traffic flow.

A vote was taken on the motion to remove all of the pedestrian-only signals adopted as part of the 1999 Aurora Pre-Design Study from the scope of the Aurora Corridor Project. The motion carried 7-0.

(b) Ordinance No. 287 establishing benefits for City Councilmembers

Mr. Bauman reviewed the staff report.

Councilmember Gustafson moved that Council adopt Ordinance No. 287 establishing benefits for City Councilmembers in the amount of \$350 per month effective January 1, 2002 for Council positions 1, 3, 5 and 7 and on January 1, 2004 for Council positions 2, 4 and 6. Councilmember Lee seconded the motion.

Councilmember Montgomery expressed her strong opposition to the establishment of a salary commission. She said Council should have to make decisions regarding its salary and benefits itself, in public discussion. She supported Option 1.

Councilmember Ransom said recent studies of a large group of cities showed an average monthly councilmember salary of approximately \$900 with approximately half the cities providing full benefits. He mentioned the following specific findings on councilmember salaries: the City of Edmonds pays \$750 per month and \$50 per meeting, to a maximum of \$1,100 per month, plus full benefits; the City of Lynnwood pays \$1,000 per month, plus full benefits; and the cities of Everett and Bellevue paid \$1,000 per month, plus full benefits, 20 years ago, when they were the size that Shoreline is now. He asserted that Councilmember salaries of \$1,000 per month plus full benefits are not unreasonable. He referred to monthly benefits of \$350 per month as "a compromise position." He recommended that the benefits amount for Councilmembers be designated as a percentage of that provided to full-time City employees.

Continuing, Councilmember Ransom said the State Legislature created the salary commission mechanism earlier this year to address the issue of how to adjust salaries for councilmembers. He explained that councilmembers may adopt higher salaries but that they cannot receive them until they win reelection.

Councilmember Ransom said other cities (e.g., the City of Seattle) have adopted cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) for council salaries of three percent per year. He noted that City Attorney Ian Sievers and the State Attorney General question this practice. He reiterated his recommendation to designate benefits for Councilmembers as a percentage of the amount provided to full-time City employees. He said a flat monthly benefit amount of \$350 will "decrease proportionally over time" in comparison to the cost of medical insurance.

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Councilmember Ransom moved to amend Ordinance No. 287 to set the benefit level for Councilmembers at 60 percent of the annually-adjusted amount provided to full-time City employees. Councilmember Gustafson seconded the motion.

Councilmember Grossman said a salary increase "doesn't fit quite right" in the current uncertain economic situation. He supported the proposed pro-rated benefit level in light of the compensation that councilmembers at cities of similar size receive.

Councilmember Lee said she views her Councilmembership as community service, not a full time job. She stated that she cannot support the amendment. She advocated a "set amount" for Council benefits subject to periodic review.

Councilmember Gustafson said he spends between 15 and 20 hours per week on Council activities. He supported the consideration of council compensation at other cities of similar size. He asserted that compensation for Shoreline Councilmembers "should be in at least the top one half of comparable cities." He supported the amendment.

Deputy Mayor Hansen agreed with Councilmember Lee that Councilmembership is a "volunteer job." He questioned whether it should be a volunteer job and whether this limits who can afford to run for election. He advocated the inclusion of benefits in Council compensation. He said low compensation that limits those who can afford to run for Council is unfair.

Mr. Sievers said the State Attorney General issued an opinion that any adjustment based on a market index that increases the absolute amount of money or benefit to an elected official during his or her term violates the Constitution. He acknowledged that the Attorney General has not prosecuted cities that use COLAs to determine council salaries. He asserted that Council could amend Ordinance No. 287 to designate Council benefits as a percentage of the amount provided to full-time City employees. He indicated that the City can revisit the issue if further research or evolving case law warrants doing so.

A vote was taken on the amendment to set the benefit level for Councilmembers at 60 percent of the annually-adjusted amount provided to full-time City employees. The amendment carried 4-3, with Mayor Jepsen and Councilmembers Lee and Montgomery dissenting.

Mr. Burkett pointed out that Ordinance No. 287 will only apply to Councilmembers elected after the October 30, 2001 effective date.

A vote was taken on the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 287, as amended to establish benefits for Councilmembers at 60 percent of the annually-adjusted amount provided to full-time City employees, effective January 1, 2002 for Council positions 1, 3, 5 and 7 and on January 1, 2004 for Council positions 2, 4 and 6. The motion carried 5-2, with Mayor Jepsen and Councilmember Montgomery dissenting.

9. NEW BUSINESS

(a) Transmittal of proposed 2002 Budget

Mr. Burkett provided a presentation on the 2002 Proposed Budget. He summarized the process the City followed to develop the proposed budget, and he discussed the schedule for Council review and adoption. He highlighted the following "Guiding Principles" in the 2002 Proposed Budget: consideration of the long-term financial condition of the City; maintaining and improving City parks, roads and drainage systems; working within City fiscal capacity constraints; and acknowledging future economic uncertainty.

In response to Councilmember Ransom, Mr. Burkett explained that the majority of the "Non-Retail" portion of City sales tax revenues pertains to construction-related activity.

Mr. Burkett went on to discuss City property tax revenues and the projected impact of passage of Initiative 747 (I-747). He said the City will collect \$1.7 million less in property taxes from 2002 through 2007 under I-747 than if it adopts the Implicit Price Deflator each of the five years. He noted that the City receives \$337, or 10.8 percent, of the \$3,130 in property taxes that the owner of a median-priced (\$222,000) home pays.

Continuing, Mr. Burkett discussed the following major operating budget changes:

- moving City road overlay and sidewalk program from the operating budget to the capital budget—\$800,000;
- increase in public safety costs—\$502,000;
- increase in personnel costs—\$420,000;
- increase in liability insurance—\$83,000;
- park and facility maintenance for completed Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects—\$187,000;
- Spartan Gym—\$57,202;
- Right-of-Way Management Program—\$63,127;
- tree and street maintenance enhancements—savings of \$36,000 annually;
- part-time finance technician—\$24,004;
- reorganization contingency—\$70,000;
- relocation of and improvements to Shoreline Parade—\$5,000;
- Legal Department intern—net cost of \$14,000; and
- microfilming of essential records—\$7,500.

Mr. Burkett highlighted the following major one-time projects:

- federal lobbyist contract—\$25,000;
- road maintenance equipment—\$200,000 (creates annual ongoing savings of \$36,000);
- purchase copiers—\$211,047 (creates annual ongoing savings of \$20,500);
- response to the Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act—\$437,920 (\$312,000 carried over from 2001 budget);
- Development Services process review—\$50,000;

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- Geographic Information System (GIS) improvements to accommodate right-of-way information—\$119,500;
- tree maintenance program—\$26,000;
- improvements to City web site—\$20,000;
- Gateway Master Plan—\$50,000; and
- equipment for Spartan Gym—\$26,000.

Finally, Mr. Burkett reviewed the following major capital projects for 2002:

- storage building for Parks & Public Works—\$315,000;
- complete Spartan Gym renovations—\$630,000;
- complete Paramount School Park improvements—\$375,000;
- master plans and initial design for Richmond Beach Saltwater Park and Cromwell Park—\$158,000;
- annual Road Overlay, Curb Ramp and Sidewalk Program—\$900,000;
- Interurban Trail—\$2.7 Million;
- Pedestrian Improvement Program—\$393,000;
- Neighborhood Traffic Safety Program—\$160,000;
- Aurora Corridor Project—\$3 million;
- North City Business District—\$1.4 million;
- Ronald Bog drainage improvements—\$415,000;
- 3rd Avenue NW drainage improvements—\$1.6 Million;
- small projects—\$50,000; and
- stream rehabilitation improvements—\$25,000.

Councilmember Ransom asked about potential "soft spots" in City revenue projections. In addition to the volatility of sales tax revenues, Mr. Burkett mentioned State-shared revenues as an area of risk. He noted projections of a shortfall of up to \$1 billion in the State budget, and he commented that "cities are not at the top of their priority list." He said staff has reduced long-term revenue projections from State backfill funding.

In response to Councilmember Ransom, Mr. Burkett said the City has already received State backfill funding for 2002. He mentioned a common concern among city officials about backfill funding for 2003.

Mayor Jepsen asserted that gambling tax revenue is always provisional because the gambling industry lobbies the Legislature every year to reduce the maximum tax rate that local jurisdictions may levy. Mr. Burkett said the City transfers the amount it collects in gambling tax revenue to fund capital improvements. He also noted that the City has designated only a portion of State backfill funding to its operating budget.

Deputy Mayor Hansen mentioned the County plan to stop providing human services to residents in incorporated areas. He pointed out that the County receives a larger portion of Shoreline property tax revenues than the City. He asserted that City capacity to absorb revenue and service reductions is limited. He said the City is likely to face more pressure to increase human services at the same time that its budget is shrinking.

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Continuing, Deputy Mayor Hansen questioned plans for microfilming of essential records. He asserted that document imaging is a "more cutting-edge technology," that it is likely to be less expensive and that it will make documents easier to access. Mr. Burkett said document imaging is more expensive. City Clerk Sharon Mattioli said microfilming obviates the need to migrate electronic files to succeeding technologies.

Mayor Jepsen suggested that Council defer consideration of agenda item 9 (b), "Municipal Services Inventory," until a Council workshop.

MEETING EXTENSION

At 9:58 p.m., Deputy Mayor Hansen moved to extend the meeting until 10:20 p.m. Councilmember Ransom seconded the motion, which carried 5-2, with Councilmembers Gustafson and Montgomery dissenting.

There was Council consensus to defer consideration of agenda item 9 (b).

Mr. Burkett acknowledged Deputy Mayor Hansen's comment about County cuts in human services. He noted County plans for cumulative cuts in human services over the next several years. He said the County receives approximately \$6.5 million annually in property tax revenue from Shoreline property owners. He estimated the County portion of local sales tax revenues at almost \$1 million annually.

On another issue, Mayor Jepsen requested clarification of which members of the AIC are authorized to sign for the group. He said the members who signed the AIC resolution are not the same as those listed with the State Public Disclosure Committee (PDC).

10. CONTINUED PUBLIC COMMENT

(a) Gretchen Atkinson, 2148 N 183rd Place, described County maintenance of Shoreline roads before the City incorporated. She went on to review the accomplishments of the City Road Overlay, Curb Ramp and Sidewalk Program. She asserted the importance of such improvements to the transition of Shoreline from a suburban community to a city. She said developers choose to invest in areas where infrastructure is maintained. She thanked the City for a well-organized plan of infrastructure improvements.

(b) Stan Terry, 15811 28th Avenue NE, read a response he wrote to an electronic message he received from an individual associated with the AIC. He noted the high number of accidents on Aurora Avenue, and he stated that the Aurora Corridor Project is designed to improve the safety of the corridor. He mentioned compromises proposed at the Central Shoreline Design Charrette (e.g., the relocation of the proposed north bound BAT lane from Aurora Avenue N to Midvale Avenue from 172nd Street to 182nd Street). He asserted the potential for other compromises if both sides are willing to work together. He said City Council has, on numerous occasions, directed staff to

modify the project design to reduce impacts on existing businesses. He stated that he is "not willing to subsidize artificially low commercial rents, allow private use of public right-of-way and maintain the status quo in order to preserve marginal businesses at the continued cost of lives, personal injuries and millions of dollars in property damage."

(c) Jim Shea, 16309 Interlake Avenue N, expressed concern about the money the AIC has spent on the City Council election. He asserted that "it's time to improve our City." He said "the AIC Band-Aid approach is shortsighted and self-serving." He described five-foot-wide sidewalks with no setbacks and continuous left-turn lanes as unsafe and irresponsible.

11. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:14 p.m., Mayor Jepsen declared the meeting adjourned.

Sharon Mattioli, CMC
City Clerk