Residents support SPU acquisition

79% of informed Shoreline residents surveyed support the proposed acquisition

In early May, the City contracted with EMC Research to conduct a telephone poll on Shoreline residents’ opinions regarding the City’s proposed acquisition of the Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) water system in Shoreline. Of the 501 surveys conducted, 79% of informed respondents supported Shoreline’s proposed acquisition. Those surveyed found the following information important in making their decision.

No increase in property tax or projected SPU water rates

No increase in property taxes or projected SPU water rates will be required to purchase the system. It will be paid by bonds, which are repaid by the revenue generated from providing the water service. The acquisition has no impact on property taxes. Council has set a requirement that it will only purchase the system if the price to acquire the system, when added to other costs to operate and maintain the system, would fall within the projected SPU water rates for Shoreline ratepayers.

No more subsidizing Seattle ratepayers and Seattle’s budget

Shoreline customers of SPU currently pay a 14% surcharge for living outside of Seattle’s city limits as well as a Seattle utility tax. The 14% surcharge helps subsidize lower rates for Seattle ratepayers and the utility tax goes directly into Seattle’s budget to help pay for Seattle police, fire, and parks. If the City of Shoreline operated the utility, Shoreline ratepayers would no longer pay a tax to Seattle and their money would no longer go towards subsidizing lower rates for other SPU customers.

Money reinvested in Shoreline, not Seattle

Owning the water system means Shoreline can use revenues to reinvest in the system for things that SPU isn’t focused on, such as infrastructure improvements to help improve Shoreline’s commercial districts and increase water flow for firefighting purposes throughout the City. Currently, for every dollar a Shoreline ratepayer pays to SPU, approximately $0.32 goes towards infrastructure and maintenance of the entire SPU system. However, since Shoreline only represents a small part of the infrastructure in SPU’s system, only about $0.08 of that amount is actually invested in Shoreline. Stated another way, approximately 76% is invested outside Shoreline, primarily in Seattle.

Continued on page 4
King County Children and Family Justice Center levy on August ballot

On April 16, the Metropolitan King County Council unanimously approved sending a nine-year property tax levy lid lift proposal to the voters in August. The levy would raise revenue for the construction of a Children and Family Justice Center to replace the County’s aging Youth Services Center in Seattle’s Central District.

The Youth Services Center is the County’s central facility for cases involving children, including juvenile offender cases, child abandonment, abuse and neglect cases, and cases involving runaways.

If approved the nine-year property tax levy lid lift of seven cents per $1,000 of assessed value would raise approximately $200 million for construction of the Children and Family Justice Center. The cost to the median homeowner in King County would be less than $25 per year.

The current facility is over 40 years old and no longer meets the needs of the juvenile court system. The proposed facility would unify juvenile and family law matters in one location. Currently, they are spread between the Youth Services Center and the King County Courthouse in downtown Seattle.

To learn more about the levy visit kingcounty.gov.

Bituminous Surface Treatments coming to North City and Ballinger streets

Bituminous Surface Treatments (BST) will be applied to 15.8 lane miles of arterial and collector streets this summer in the North City and Ballinger Neighborhoods. The City of Shoreline has 345 lane miles of paved surfaces with an estimated replacement value of $380 million. Maintaining these roads are a high priority for the City as deferred maintenance can have significant negative and costly impacts over the long-term.

BSTs used in Shoreline consist of a two-part application of asphalt and cover aggregate (small rock). BSTs are widely used to extend the life of a road, create a new wearing course and waterproof existing pavement. Costs are generally 75% less than the cost of a typical asphalt overlay. By using BSTs, 10 to 15 miles of road can be maintained and protected annually versus two to three miles using traditional asphalt overlays.

Once a contractor has been selected, the City will work closely with residents and the contractor to ensure everyone knows when the overlay will take place and what residents can expect.
Recycling Event for Shoreline Businesses

Wednesday, Aug. 15
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Sears Parking Lot, 16000 Aurora Avenue N
This is a free event for Shoreline businesses

Shoreline businesses will have the opportunity to recycle a variety of difficult to recycle items, such as Styrofoam and fluorescent light bulbs and tubes. In addition, televisions, computers, electronics and appliances can be recycled, and shredding services will be available, with a limit of 5 boxes per business. Other hazardous materials will not be accepted.

For businesses that want to learn how to reduce their waste by recycling more, CleanScapes staff will be on-site to answer questions and to schedule free waste audits.

Event flyers with additional details will be mailed to all businesses. Since this event is open only to Shoreline businesses, please bring the event flyer that you receive in the mail or your utility bill. Note that only pick-up trucks or smaller vehicles will be allowed to enter.

Shoreline’s Business Recycling Event is sponsored in cooperation with King County Solid Waste and the Washington State Department of Ecology. For more information, contact the Shoreline Customer Response Team at (206) 801-2700.

Arts al Fresco 2012

An evening of outdoor arts and culture
Thursday, Aug. 2, 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.
Shoreline City Hall

We’ve planned a Sculpture Stroll, Piano Time sights and sounds and a Shoreline City Hall Gallery Opening all rolled into one. It’s Arts al Fresco in Shoreline’s Town Center! This event marks the debut of Shoreline's first outdoor sculpture exhibit and “street piano” installation and you are invited.

Nine significant sculptures on loan from regional artists will be installed for at least a year on the lawn at City Hall and across Midvale in the Park at Town Center. The work includes two pieces by Shoreline sculptor Jeff Tangen. Eight pianos, visually enhanced by artists, will be in the City Hall courtyard and in other locations around the Town Center area. Local piano artists include Jennifer Carroll, Ann Blanch & Lynn Turnblom, Judith Heim and KJ Bateman. Pianos are for scheduled performances and casual play by passers-by. Performers include Deems Tsutakawa playing jazz on opening night, with Shoreline jazz pianist Karin Kajita later in the month.

The Gallery at Shoreline City Hall will feature multi-generational paintings and video by Amy Pleasant and landscape paintings by Paul Lewing, both Shoreline artists.

Local businesses, particularly Prosser Piano, are helping make this event possible. Come stroll, listen and play while enjoying an evening out with your family and friends.

For more information contact Public Art Coordinator Ros Bird at rbird@shorelinewa.gov or (206) 801-2661.
Residents support SPU acquisition (continued)

No more taxation without representation
Purchasing the SPU water system will give Shoreline residents direct control over their water utility service and decisions. Currently, decisions on rates, charges and infrastructure investments are made by the Seattle City Council and SPU. Shoreline ratepayers have no direct voice in those decisions. If the City operated the utility, Shoreline ratepayers would have a direct say through the Shoreline City Council.

Emphasis on preventative maintenance
Owning the water system locally means greater attention on maintaining the Shoreline system. Currently, revenue earned by SPU from Shoreline ratepayers is reinvested into the entire SPU system. Because SPU has a much larger system to maintain (Shoreline only accounts for about 7% of SPU’s water main system), SPU’s maintenance and capital investments have not focused on Shoreline. Ownership means better coordination of general maintenance, leading to longer service life. Preventative maintenance is usually cheaper than repairing a system that is broken.

Within the first 20 years of ownership, the City’s objective is to replace the oldest water mains in the system, approximately 23% of the system, without increasing rates above the projected SPU rates. This is a coordinated investment in preventative maintenance that would not take place under SPU ownership.

One-stop permitting
City ownership of the water utility would make permitting easier, cheaper and quicker. Developers, commercial property owners and homeowners would no longer have to work with two different governmental jurisdictions to obtain needed permits.

Run utility more efficiently
Sharing equipment and administrative services, such as finance, human resources and legal services, will allow the City to achieve operational efficiencies. As resources continue to become more limited, consolidation of utilities makes good sense. The City will move closer to consolidation as we prepare for Ronald Wastewater District joining the City in 2017.

Steering Committee recommends moving forward with next steps in SPU acquisition
As part of the due diligence engineering and financial review process, the City Manager formed a citizens steering committee to provide a recommendation on whether the City should move forward with acquisition of the SPU water system in Shoreline. Beginning in January, the steering committee met nearly a dozen times to review the engineering and financial analysis reports and other information. To help the committee work through hundreds of pages of information, engineering and finance subcommittees were formed.

In June, the Committee finalized its recommendation, which states, “Based on the due diligence review completed by the committee, we recommend that the City proceed with the next step in the acquisition of the Seattle Public Utility water system.” It continues saying “In short, the acquisition will allow Shoreline to have greater control and we think this represents the best interests of Shoreline citizens.”

Of the 23 members of the steering committee, 21 signed the letter to recommend proceeding with the acquisition.

Next Steps
The Council will continue their review of the SPU Acquisition during the regularly scheduled Council meeting on July 23. The City Manager will provide her recommendation to the City Council on that evening. Although the Council will decide whether to place the SPU acquisition on the November 2012 ballot, the voters of Shoreline will ultimately decide whether the City should proceed with the acquisition. A simple majority is required to pass the ballot measure. The Council will make a final decision whether to place the acquisition on the November ballot during their regular meeting on August 6.

For more information, visit shorelinewa.gov/spu.

Thank you...
The City would like to thank the members of the steering committee for the many hours they spent reviewing the engineering and financial due diligence information, for their thoughtful questions and insights, and developing their recommendation. The committee members were:

Jim Abbott
Gretchen Atkinson
Joe Bozick
Mark Bunje
Cynthia Esselman
Kevin Grossman
David Harris
Marcia Harris
Joseph Irons
Jeff King
Cynthia Knox
Lee Michaelis
William Montero
Edie Loyer Nelson
Les Nelson
Sis Polin
Johanna Polit
Diane Pottinger
Robert Ransom
Kyle Roquet
Jesse Sycuro
Dan Thwing
Tree code amendments adopted by Council

After over two years of work by Council, the Planning Commission and City staff, and with comments and suggestions coming from hundreds of community members, Council passed new tree code regulations on June 18.

The City tree code regulates the removal, retention and replacement of trees on all private and public property other than in the City’s right-of-way. In May 2009, Council directed the Planning Commission to review the City’s tree regulations to address concerns over potential loss of the City’s tree canopy. The new regulations limit the number of trees that may be removed by a property owner over a three-year period based on lot size and require a permit for the removal of any tree greater than 30” in diameter at breast height (d.b.h.). The table on the right provides the breakdown of lot size and the number of trees permitted to be removed.

The removal of any tree greater than 30” d.b.h. or exceeding the numbers of trees specified in the table will require a clearing and grading permit.

Having a healthy tree canopy is an important part of creating an environmentally sustainable community. Trees and other vegetation help reduce stormwater runoff and improve water quality, absorb carbon thus improving air quality and provide habitat for wildlife, among other benefits.

To learn more about the new regulations contact Planning Manager Paul Cohen at (206) 801-2551 or pcohen@shorelinewa.gov, or visit shorelinewa.gov.

Permitted tree removals by lot size in a three year period

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot size in square feet</th>
<th>Number of trees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Up to 7,200</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7,201 to 14,400</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14,401 to 21,780</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21,781 and above</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Final event of the Comprehensive Plan Update Speaker’s Series

Wednesday, Sept. 12 ~ 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. ~ City Hall Council Chambers
Matthew Kwatinetz: Sustainability, Culture and Integrated Economic Development Strategies

The 2012 Speaker’s Series concludes with a presentation by Matthew Kwatinetz, Managing Partner of QBL Real Estate. Matthew advises clients on projects and policy surrounding public/private finance and the development and ongoing operations of cultural real estate.

Matthew has been a featured speaker for the Commercial Real Estate Development Association NAIOP, Great Cities Initiative, Americans for the Arts, Net Impact, and the Centre for Policy Studies on Culture and Communities. Matthew was the founding Vice President of the Capitol Hill Chamber of Commerce (WA). He co-founded and sat on the Seattle Cultural Overlay District Advisory Committee, served on King County’s Cultural Real Estate Task Force and on the Advisory Board of the University of Washington Commercial Real Estate Development Program. Matthew is a Consulting Researcher at the Institute for Urban Research, working with Dr. Susan Wachter, former deputy secretary of HUD. He is Executive Director of the Center for Real Estate Policy, a NYC-based non-partisan think-tank.

Following the presentation, attendees will be invited to mingle and share ideas with staff and other participants. These ideas will be used as the City continues its work on the Comprehensive Plan update. The Comprehensive Plan is the primary tool used by local governments to guide decisions regarding the use of land, housing, transportation, community design, economic development, infrastructure and natural resources.

View previous Speaker’s Series events and find out more about the Comprehensive Plan update process on the City’s website at shorelinewa.gov/2012update.
Saturday, Aug. 11 ~ 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Hamlin Park, 16006 15th Ave. NE

Join ShoreDog, the City of Shoreline and the Shoreline Breakfast Rotary for DogFest 2012 at its new location in Hamlin Park. DogFest offers fun games, contests, vendors, demonstrations and information in a festive fido-friendly environment. All activities will be enclosed to allow dogs to participate leash-free. Entry fees for pet contests will help raise money for ShoreDog, a non-profit volunteer stewardship group that is dedicated to supporting Shoreline’s off-leash areas. To learn more, or to sponsor or exhibit at Dogfest, visit shoredog.org or email info@shoredog.org.

Did you know?

Pet waste is not ‘biodegradable’ or ‘natural fertilizer.’ The pile may disappear, but the harmful bacteria, viruses and parasites wash into our streams, lakes and Puget Sound. These organisms can make water unsafe for drinking or swimming. To help protect our waters, remember to scoop the poop, bag it and throw it into the trash. For more information, contact the City’s Surface Water Department at (206) 801-2450 or visit shorelinewa.gov/surfacewater.

Celebrate Shoreline 2012

Schedule of Events

DogFest
Saturday, Aug. 11, 11 - 3 pm
Hamlin Park

North City Jazz Walk
Tuesday, Aug. 14, 7 - 10 pm
North City Business District
For tickets: northcityjazzwalk.org

Youth/Teen Skate Event
Friday, Aug. 17, 12 - 5 pm
Paramount Park

Car Show
Saturday, Aug. 18 10 - 5 pm
Ridgecrest Elementary

Parade
Saturday, Aug. 18, 12 pm
North City Business District

Festival
Saturday, Aug. 18, 11 - 5 pm
Ridgecrest Elementary

Sandcastle Contest
Sunday, Aug. 19, 12 - 3 pm
Richmond Beach Saltwater Park

It’s a birthday party for the whole City!
Come celebrate with a full lineup of fun events for the whole family.
For more information, visit shorelinewa.gov or call (206) 801-2600.

Celebrate Shoreline! Summer 2012 Vol. 14 No. 6
Volunteers, churches and local service providers are working hard to gather school supplies so that every Shoreline student can start school in September ready to learn.

In the Shoreline School District, one out of every four students qualifies for free or reduced lunch. For these families, it can be difficult to afford basic school supplies. The Back to School Consortium, a diverse local partnership, helps fill this gap for those families in the Shoreline School District.

The annual Back To School Event will take place at North City Elementary School on Saturday, Aug. 25. Each student registered for the event receives a backpack full of supplies, new socks and underwear and hygiene items.

The most needed items include backpacks, 3-ring binders, socks and underwear in all sizes. School supplies and monetary donations can be mailed or dropped off at Center for Human Services, 17018 15th Avenue NE, Shoreline, WA 98155 by August 20. Donation boxes are also available at many local businesses, including City Hall. To volunteer, or for dropbox locations, visit btsconsortium.org.

Register for the event online at btsconsortium.org/register.html or call (206) 393-4916. The deadline for registration is August 17.

Help celebrate completion of Aurora from N 185th to 192nd Streets

Monday, Aug. 6
Rain plaza tour 4:30 p.m.
Ribbon cutting 5:15 p.m.
Shoreline Park & Ride, 192nd and Aurora

Come celebrate another Aurora milestone! After a year and a half, construction on Aurora from N 185th to N 192nd Streets is complete. Improvements to this segment are very similar to previous miles of the Aurora Corridor Project, and include delineated driveways, wider sidewalks, landscaped center medians with left- and U-turn pockets, and BAT lanes.

Two features unique to this segment are the rain garden plaza on the southwest corner of Aurora and N 192nd Street and the “green” retaining walls. Beneath the plaza is a major drainage facility to collect stormwater from Aurora and control the flow of water entering nearby Echo Lake. The “green” retaining walls allow low-maintenance, evergreen and deciduous plant species to grow on and cover the face of the walls.

State and federal grants totaling $10.8 million were recently awarded to the City for the final segment of Aurora, which means the City has reached the minimum funding needed to start construction. At this time it is anticipated that final design and right-of-way certification will be in place by Summer 2012 allowing the project to go out to bid and begin construction in early 2013.