

Seattle Public Utility water system acquisition

Stop Seattle subsidy, gain local control, improve fire protection

Open House

Thursday, June 14, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 19, 7:00 p.m.

Shoreline City Hall

On Monday, May 7, Fire Chief Mark Bunje spoke to Council about Shoreline Fire Department's concerns regarding adequate water flow in the City. In order to adequately fight fires, the Fire Department requires a well maintained, reliable water supply. Unfortunately, a number of problem areas have been identified could impede fire fighting capabilities in an emergency such as inadequate water main sizes, non-functioning and insufficient numbers of fire hydrants, and low water volumes.

Before Council decided to pursue acquisition of Seattle Public Utility's (SPU) water system in Shoreline, City staff tried to work with SPU to ad-

dress many of the very concerns expressed by Chief Bunje. SPU operates a very large system and addressing infrastructure investments in Shoreline is a lower priority. SPU expressed to staff that if the City wanted the infrastructure issues addressed, Shoreline ratepayers would have to pay for it through an additional surcharge. This would be in addition to the 14% surcharge SPU already charges Shoreline ratepayers for living or owning a business outside of Seattle.

Faced with such an option, Council believed acquiring the utility made more sense for Shoreline ratepayers. City control of the SPU water utility in Shoreline will allow for better coordination between the Fire Department and the City in addressing many of the Fire Department's concerns. It also means that money Shoreline

ratepayers pay for infrastructure improvements will actually stay in Shoreline and be used on Shoreline's system.

On Thursday, June 14 and Tuesday, June 19, the City will be hosting two open houses for citizens to learn more about the potential acquisition of the SPU water system in Shoreline. This is an opportunity for residents to come and learn about the potential acquisition and ask questions. Members of the SPU Acquisition Steering Committee, comprised of Shoreline citizens, and City staff will be on hand to provide information and answer questions.

For more information about the SPU acquisition, visit the project page at shorelinewa.gov/SPU.

City working to create uniformity in commercial design standards

Open House

Wednesday, June 20, 7:00 p.m.

Shoreline City Hall

In July 2010, Council unanimously adopted the Town Center development code. The three year review and adoption process for the subarea plan involved substantial participation and support by residents. The result was improved and coordinated design standards that will make commercial areas within the Town Center district more pedestrian friendly and viable as places to shop and live.

Currently, there are different design standards for the other

commercial zones across the City. In order to streamline these standards by removing redundancies and vagueness, Council is considering consolidating the code for all commercial zones using the core design standards of Town Center. In addition, the City has redundant commercial zoning designations with identical land use and dimensional standards. These zones can be consolidated without changing the existing development potential or regulations. The basic proposal is to maintain the area, height, or bulk of these different commercial areas and to create uniformity in

design standards with a streamlined process to encourage revitalization of our commercial areas.

On June 20, the City will hold an Open House at City Hall to kick-off the public process and receive input from Shoreline residents and commercial property owners on the proposed changes.

Throughout the summer and early fall, there will be opportunities for the public to provide input. To learn more, visit the City's website or contact Planning Manager Paul Cohen at (206) 801-2551 or pcohen@shorelinewa.gov.