

Pollie McCloskey

From: Debbie Tarry
Sent: Sunday, October 4, 2020 2:17 PM
To: Pollie McCloskey
Cc: John Norris
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Inviting Shoreline to join the Ballinger Watershed Forum

Pollie -

Let's add this to the Mayor/Dep Mayor agenda. Thanks.

Debbie
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From: Randy Witt <rwitt@shorelinewa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 1, 2020 10:26 AM
To: Debbie Tarry
Cc: Lance Newkirk; John Featherstone; Jim Hammond
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Inviting Shoreline to join the Ballinger Watershed Forum

Debbie, this is a heads up and follow up on participation the Lake Ballinger forum. I will add this I to our 1-1 meeting agenda for 10/29, although we may want to discuss it earlier or simply address via email.

John Featherstone has listened in on some of the staff meetings associated with the Lake Ballinger forum. They are looking for the City to join and have an elected official participate. As before, we can continue to listen in on the staff meetings but not participate in them as a member unless the City joins and an elected official participates. In the past a CC member has not shown interest in participating (the membership fee is nominal - not a barrier). The emails below contain more information.

We can continue listening, but it is their time for re-upping membership. I wonder if any CC member has an interest participating and we should join.

Randy

From: John Featherstone <jfeatherstone@shorelinewa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 11:52 AM
To: Randy Witt <rwitt@shorelinewa.gov>; Lance Newkirk <lnewkirk@shorelinewa.gov>; Jim Hammond <jhammond@shorelinewa.gov>
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Inviting Shoreline to join the Ballinger Watershed Forum

Hi Randy, Lance, and Jim,

See below for the information on the Lake Ballinger Forum. The existing ILA expires at the end of this year and is being extended through the end of 2023, so this would be a good opportunity for Shoreline to join, if we are willing and able to do so.

I have attended two LBF meetings in the past year – in January and September. I believe there was one in April that was cancelled early on during the COVID crisis, and one in July which I missed due to a scheduling conflict. My attendance at

these meetings has affirmed by support for the City formally joining this group and the thoughts expressed in the attached email from last year that we composed to present the case to Debbie.

In a nutshell, here are what I see to be the key considerations:

- Cost to Shoreline to participate as a full member would now be \$400/year – which I see as a relatively negligible amount
- The main benefit remains good-neighbor relationships with the other cities in the Forum
- I would like to emphasize another benefit which I may not have adequately emphasized before: Echo Lake is closely linked to Lake Ballinger. They are in the same watershed, experience some of the same issues, and are hydraulically connected as Echo Lake outflows go to Lake Ballinger. Thus Shoreline impacts Lake Ballinger and also has the opportunity to learn from Lake Ballinger management approaches which could be applied to Echo Lake.
- Although the Ballinger Creek/Lyon Creek watershed is not within the LBF focus area, the LBF could potentially expand their focus to include this area (especially if the City of Shoreline as a full member advocated this) – and this could be a big benefit to moving the 25th Ave NE project ahead and managing the persistent flooding due to the NE 195th St culvert.
- Finally, I think the main question is getting commitment from an elected to attend the four meetings/year.

So I propose we join the LBF as a full member. If we want to do it under the currently proposed amendment to the ILA which the LBF wants to have authorized and executed before the end of the year, I believe we would need to get a decision on this within the next month, two months at longest.

Please let me know your thoughts on this, and what should happen to next to facilitate a timely decision.

Thanks,
John

From: Laura Reed <LReed@ci.mlt.wa.us>
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 8:20 AM
To: John Featherstone <jfeatherstone@shorelinewa.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Inviting Shoreline to join the Ballinger Watershed Forum

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Hi John,

Hey, I was glad to see you on the Zoom call for the Ballinger Forum just recently! As I mentioned on the call, the interlocal agreement for the Forum is up for renewal at the end of this year. It's the Fourth Amendment to the original ILA from 2008. We've recently reduced the costs of participation for the Forum to a minimal amount for administration of the Forum work to \$1,600/year, split by the number of jurisdictions involved. If Shoreline were to join Mountlake Terrace, Edmonds, and Lake Forest Park, the cost to Shoreline would be \$400/year.

The Forum typically meets 4 times a year, and we have 4 additional staff steering committee meetings over the course of the year to carry out the policy direction of the Forum. Each jurisdiction is represented on the Forum by an elected official or designee, along with a staff member to serve on the steering committee. It's an excellent bridge to get to know and work more closely with your fellow stormwater/surface water colleagues in other cities. Watershed coalitions are still relatively uncommon, and this gives the Ballinger Watershed Forum more influence with local representatives and senators, who frequently send staffers to our meetings, and have supported Forum projects financially. We have

also found that being able to throw the support of the Forum behind grant applications and other funding efforts to be quite successful.

Would City of Shoreline like to rejoin the Ballinger/McAleer Creek Watershed Forum? You would be most welcome. I have attached a copy of the Fourth Amendment to the ILA for your consideration. The current ILA expires at the end of 2020, so we are working to get the ILA approved by our city councils before the end of the year.

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have questions. I will be in the office today, but out of the office on Thursday and Friday this week, and back on Monday (October 5th.)

Thank you,

Laura Reed
Stormwater Program Manager
City of Mountlake Terrace
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