

**KING COUNTY REPORT
TO THE WASHINGTON STATE BOUNDARY REVIEW BOARD OF KING COUNTY**

**CITY OF SHORELINE
ASSUMPTION OF RONALD SEWER DISTRICT**

Boundary Review Board File No. 2357
Public Hearing: August 19, 2014

I. Introduction and Background

On May 27, 2014, the City of Shoreline filed a Notice of Intention with the Washington State Boundary Review Board (“Board”) for King County to assume the Ronald Sewer District. The effective date of the assumption will be October 23, 2017.

II. Regulatory Framework

The Board’s review of Shorelines’s proposed action is guided by a number of statutory provisions and planning documents. The Boundary Review Board statute (RCW 36.93.157) states that Board decisions must be consistent with the goals of the GMA, provisions regarding urban growth areas and comprehensive plans, and applicable countywide planning policies. The statute further provides that the Board’s decisions are to consider the factors listed in RCW 36.93.170 and to achieve the objectives listed in RCW 36.93.180.

A. The State Growth Management Act (GMA)

The proposed assumption of Ronald Wastewater District by the City of Shoreline is consistent with the GMA, particularly the goal of ensuring that public facilities and services necessary to support development be adequate to serve development and the preference for cities as provider of urban governmental services.

1. The stated goals of GMA are: encouragement of development in urban areas; reduction in sprawl; encouragement of efficient multimodal transportation systems; encouragement of the availability of affordable housing to all economic segments of the population of this state; economic development; protection of property rights; timely and fair permit processing; maintenance and enhancement of natural resource-based industries; retention of open space, enhancement of recreational opportunities, conservation fish and wildlife habitat, increased access to natural resource lands and water, and development of parks and recreation facilities; environmental protection; citizen participation and coordination; adequate public facilities and services; and historic preservation.

2. RCW 36.70A.110.4 states that “cities are the units of local government most appropriate to provide urban governmental services.”

B. The King County Comprehensive Plan

The proposed assumption of Ronald Wastewater District by the City of Shoreline is consistent with the following policy of the King County Comprehensive Plan regarding annexation:

- U-204 King County shall support annexation proposals that are consistent with the Countywide Planning Policies and the Washington State Growth Management Act, when the area proposed for annexation is wholly within the annexing city's officially adopted PAA, and when the area is not part of a contested area.

C. The King County Countywide Planning Policies

The proposed assumption of Ronald Wastewater District by the City of Shoreline is consistent with the following policy of the King County Countywide Planning Policies ("CPP") regarding annexation and the provision of public services:

- PF-3 Cities are the appropriate providers of services to the Urban Growth Area, either directly or by contract. Extend urban services through the use of special districts only where there are agreements with the city in whose Potential Annexation Area the extension is proposed. Within the Urban Growth Area, as time and conditions warrant, cities will assume local urban services provided by special service districts.

D. VISION 2040

The proposed assumption of Ronald Wastewater District by the City of Shoreline is consistent with the following policy of VISION 2040:

- MPP-PS-6 Obtain urban services from cities or appropriate regional service providers, and encourage special service, including sewer, water, and fire districts, to consolidate or dissolve as a result.

E. BRB Factors – RCW 36.93.170

Following are the factors that the Board is to consider in reaching a decision on a proposal or an alternative. A brief analysis follows each list of factors discussing the relevance to this proposal:

- (1) Population and territory; population density; land area and land uses; comprehensive plans and zoning; comprehensive plans and development regulations; topography, natural boundaries and drainage basins, proximity to other populated areas...

The proposed assumption of Ronald Wastewater District by the City of Shoreline, as outlined in the legal description, is urban in nature and is located within the UGA.

- (2) Municipal services; need for municipal services; effect of ordinances, governmental codes, regulations and resolutions on existing uses; present cost and adequacy of governmental services and controls in area; prospects of governmental services from other sources; probable future needs for such services and controls; probable effect of proposal or alternative on cost and adequacy of services and controls in area and adjacent area; the effect on the finances, debt structure, and contractual obligations and rights of all affected governmental units; and...

The CPPs, as noted above, identify cities as the appropriate providers of urban services within the UGA.

- (3) The effect of the proposal or alternative on adjacent areas, on mutual economic and social interests, and on the local governmental structure of the county.

The assumption of Ronald Wastewater District by the City of Shoreline is consistent with the GMA and with VISION 2040 regarding cities as the preferred providers of urban services, as noted above. This action will not affect the overall governmental structure of King County.

F. BRB Objectives – RCW 36.93.180

Following are the listed objectives that the Board must consider when evaluating the proposed assumption of Ronald Wastewater District by the City of Shoreline and a brief analysis to determine whether each of these objectives is met by the proposal or are not relevant to this proposed action.

- (1) Preservation of natural neighborhoods and communities.

The assumption of Ronald Wastewater District by the City of Shoreline keeps the boundaries intact while transferring governance from the District to the City.

- (2) Use of physical boundaries, including but not limited to bodies of water, highways, and land contours.

The assumption of Ronald Wastewater District by the City of Shoreline keeps the boundaries intact.

- (3) Creation and preservation of logical service areas.

The assumption of Ronald Wastewater District by the City of Shoreline keeps the boundaries intact and does alter the service areas. Further, there are existing contractual obligations for sewer treatment with King County that will continue to be followed under this proposed action.

- (4) Prevention of abnormally irregular boundaries.

The assumption of Ronald Wastewater District by the City of Shoreline keeps the boundaries intact and does alter the service areas.

- (5) Discouragement of multiple incorporations of small cities and encouragement of incorporation of cities in excess of ten thousand population in heavily populated urban areas. N/A
- (6) Dissolution of inactive special purpose districts. N/A
- (7) Adjustment of impractical boundaries. N/A
- (8) Incorporation as cities or towns or annexation to cities or towns of unincorporated areas which are urban in character. N/A
- (9) Protection of agricultural and rural lands which are designated for long term productive agricultural and resource use by a comprehensive plan adopted by the county legislative authority. N/A

III. Conclusion

The proposed assumption of Ronald Wastewater District by the City of Shoreline is supported by King County:

- The proposed assumption is consistent with: the GMA, the policies of the King County Comprehensive Plan, the King County Countywide Planning Policies, VISION 2040, and the relevant objectives for Board consideration as listed in RCW 36.93.180.
- King County will continue to provide sewage treatment for sewer treatment as there are existing contractual obligations that will continue to be followed under this proposed action.

IV. Request

King County respectfully requests that the Board approve the assumption of the Ronald Wastewater District by the City of Shoreline, as submitted, at the August 19, 2014 public hearing.