

## SHORELINE CITY COUNCIL

Shari Winstead Mayor

Chris Eggen Deputy Mayor

Will Hall

Doris McConnell

Keith McGlashan

Chris Roberts

Jesse Salomon

October 22, 2015

Sent electronically to "kurt.young@pdc.wa.gov"

Mr. Kurt Young Public Disclosure Commission 711 Capitol Way Rm. 206 P.O. Box 40908 Olympia, Washington 98504-0908

Subject: PDC Case No. 15-73

Mr. Young:

I am in receipt of your letter dated September 21, 2015, in regards to a complaint filed by the City's previous City Manager, Julie Thuy Underwood, PDC Case No. 15-073.

Ms. Underwood's complaint was in regards to alleged misuse of public facilities by the Ronald Wastewater District to oppose a City of Shoreline's 2012 ballot measure regarding acquisition of a portion of the Seattle Public Utilities water system.

Since the time of the complaint, this proposition measure passed by a 70% "yes" vote and there have been several changes in leadership positions for both the Ronald Wastewater District and the City of Shoreline. The City of Shoreline and Ronald Wastewater District are moving forward on an assumption of the District by the City and are working collaboratively to make the transition a positive one for all involved.

As such, I see no point in the PDC continuing its investigation on the complaint at this time and am officially requesting that the investigation be suspended. Until receiving your September letter, we were not aware that the PDC was still considering formal investigation.

Please feel free to contact me at 206-801-2211 if you should have any questions.

Sincerely,

City Manager

17500 Midvale Avenue N ♦ Shoreline, Washington 98133 Telephone: (206) 801-2700 ♦ www.shorelinewa.gov

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## STATE OF WASHINGTON PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

711 Capitol Way Rm. 206, PO Box 40908 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0908 • (360) 753-1111 • FAX (360) 753-1112
Toll Free 1-877-601-2828 • E-mail: pdc@pdc.wa.gov • Website: www.pdc.wa.gov

September 21, 2015

Sent electronically to "cmo@shorelinewa.gov"

City of Shoreline Attn: Debbie Tarry, City Manager 17500 Midvale Ave N Shoreline WA 98133-4905

Subject: Complaint filed against Ronald Wastewater District, PDC Case No. 15-73

Dear Ms. Tarry:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) received a complaint from Julie Underwood on October 23, 2012, alleging that the Ronald Wastewater District may have violated RCW 42.17A.555 by using the facilities of the district to oppose Proposition No. 1, a City of Shoreline ballot proposition on the November 6, 2012 general election ballot.

Since Ms. Underwood is no longer employed with the City of Shoreline, the complaint acknowledgement letter is being sent to your attention. Staff acknowledges and regrets the amount of time it has taken to formally review the complaint and make a determination concerning this matter. We appreciate the city's patience as PDC compliance staff members have worked their way through the backlog of complaints from past elections.

Based on our review, staff has opened a formal investigation identified as PDC Case No. 15-73, and will investigate the allegations listed in the complaint. PDC staff will notify you of the results when the investigation is complete. All laws cited in this letter can be found on our website, www.pdc.wa.gov, under "Home" and "Laws and Rules."

If you have any questions, please contact Kurt Young at (360) 664-8854, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at kurt.young@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

**Tony Perkins** 

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Director of Compliance

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September 21, 2015

Sent electronically to "mgregg@ronaldwastewater.org"

RONALD WASTEWATER DISTRICT ATTN MARK GREGG, GENERAL MANAGER 17505 LINDEN AVENUE N PO BOX 33490 SHORELINE WA 98133-0490

Subject: Complaint filed by Julie Thuy Underwood, with City of Shoreline, PDC Case No. 15-073

Dear Mr. Gregg:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) previously notified Ronald Wastewater District that a complaint had been received from Julie Thuy Underwood, with the City of Shoreline on October 23, 2012, alleging that Ronald Wastewater District (RWD) may have violated 42.17A.555 by using the public facilities of the wastewater district to oppose Proposition No. 1. Proposition No. 1 was a City of Shoreline ballot proposition on the November 6, 2012 general election ballot, that if approved, would transfer the current water utility operations from Seattle Public Utilities to the City of Shoreline.

Staff has reviewed the March 15, and March 29, 2013, responses that were submitted by Michael Derrick, former RWD General Manager. Based on our review, staff has opened a formal investigation identified as PDC Case No. 15-073, and will investigate the allegations listed in the complaint.

Staff acknowledges and regrets the amount of time it has taken to formally review the complaint and make a determination concerning this matter. We appreciate your patience as PDC compliance staff members have worked their way through the backlog of complaints from past elections. Staff has included a copy of the complaint along two prior RWD responses from Mr. Derrick for your convenience.

If you would like to submit a supplemental written response or provide any additional documentation in response to the allegations in the complaint, please submit that information <u>by</u> October 8, 2015. All laws and rules cited in this letter can be found on our website, www.pdc.wa.gov, under "Home" and "Laws and Rules."

Ronald Wastewater District PDC Case No. 15-073 Page -2-

For your information, all PDC staff investigations are conducted in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act. Once an investigation is opened, staff will contact the Respondent either to: (1) obtain a supplemental response; (2) request additional information or documentation; or (3) conduct an investigative interview under oath, either in-person or by telephone. Any violations and penalties the Commission assesses against Respondents are civil in nature.

To be more efficient, PDC staff would like your permission to provide future correspondence to you electronically, for example, by scanning our letter and attaching it to an email, rather than sending it by U.S. mail. If this is acceptable, please indicate your agreement by letter or email.

If you have questions, please contact Kurt Young, PDC Compliance Officer at (360) 664-8854, toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at kurt.young@pdc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Tony Perkins

45.11

PDC Director of Compliance

Enclosures