

Pollie McCloskey

From: Debbie Tarry
Sent: Monday, November 2, 2020 12:44 PM
To: Pollie McCloskey
Cc: John Norris
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Follow up to Public Comment
Attachments: 1542.pdf; 2194.pdf; 3425.pdf; 2194.pdf

Pollie –

Can you also add this to the Mayor/Dep Mayor meeting?

Debbie Tarry

City Manager | City of Shoreline

Pronouns – she/her

17500 Midvale Avenue N, Shoreline, WA 98133

☎ (206) 801-2211 | www.shorelinewa.gov



NOTICE OF PUBLIC DISCLOSURE: This email account is public domain. Any correspondence from or to this email account may be a public record. Accordingly, this email, in whole or in part, may be subject to disclosure pursuant to RCW 42.56, regardless of any claim of confidentiality or privilege asserted by an external party.

From: Daniel Johnson <djohnson@shorelinewa.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 3:54 PM

To: Derek Creisler <midvalegardens@gmail.com>; Martha Karl <mkarl@shorelinewa.gov>; Park Board <ParkBoard@shorelinewa.gov>

Cc: David Chen <davidchenshoreline@gmail.com>; John Ruby <ecowarriorwsd.j@gmail.com>; Londa Jacques <lpjacques11@gmail.com>; ELNA Board <elnaboard@gmail.com>; Ed Portnow <earthcraftservices@yahoo.com>; saveshorelinetrees@gmail.com

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Follow up to Public Comment

Derek, it was nice meeting you today. Thank you for your invitation to learn more about your groups efforts along a portion of the Interurban Trail. I wanted to provide recap our meeting for both your group and the Shoreline Parks Board. If I have misstated anything or you would like to add something, please reply all.

The Interurban Trail is a corridor, approximately 100 feet in width, with Shoreline's portion transecting the City of Shoreline from south to north. Maintenance of the Interurban Trail and any improvements is the responsibility of the City and, this maintenance is "at a level it deems appropriate" per the agreement with Seattle City Light. The legal agreements between Seattle City Light and the City of Shoreline that guide the City in the maintenance and any development of the trail as it passes thru Shoreline are attached:

Receiving # 1542, the original trail agreement

Receiving # 2194, realignment of the trail agreement (N 192nd Street North

Receiving # 3425, term extension of the trail agreement

Receiving # 6892, vegetation management along the trail

I reviewed previous E mails from Eric Friedli, Kirk Peterson and Darron Callahan dating back into 2019 with you. All of these communications discussed offering some assistance in the form of maintenance to site you are concerned with, current pandemic restrictions, and new grounds maintenance staff capacity. I am afraid that, after reviewing the emails and the SCL agreements, I need to “walk back” some of these expectations.

Back in 2019 when Eric Friedli referred you to Darren Callahan , stating he would be able to help you in clearing the area, that guidance was not correct. The City’s Grounds Maintenance Crew only has limited responsibility for the Interurban trail as discussed in the attached agreements. Their responsibilities do not include the parcel you are stewarding. That Parcel is solely owned by Seattle City Light and not part of any of the agreements with the City of Shoreline. Additionally, our Parks Maintenance Team, including Grounds Maintenance, has limited bandwidth to take on additional tasks, so even if SCL were willing to amend the agreements I do not believe that we could accommodate the additional workload.

I apologize for any false level of expectation that our staff may have created with you. The nice thing about Shoreline employees, as demonstrated by your interactions with us, is that we are all well intended and try to help wherever we can. Autumn Salamack and Cameron Reed are to be included in this group.

Any development of the trail must be formally reviewed by Seattle City Light to their engineering standards by licensed professionals.. Complex reviews requiring over 50 hours of their staff time must be reimbursed. Seattle City Light will not cede ownership of their transmission corridor for any reason or ancillary use. They will consider surface easements per the above criteria and documents. Eric Friedli , Greg Sancewich and I held a zoom meeting prior to Eric’s departure and had discussion regarding surface easements adjacent to Rotary Park post Sound Transit completion. The Parcel you are stewarding was not discussed so it has taken me some time to research this. Your recent communications were helpful in this. To advance this parcel into development, a consultant firm would need to be retained after future funding was identified with permission from Seattle City Light.

As we discussed in person, the City is facing both contractual and financial/budgetary constraints that impact this discussion. Like other Cities Shoreline is impacted by revenue reductions as a result of COVID-19. Fortunately, Shoreline is has adequate reserves (a rainy day fund) that is helping to minimize the need for service level reductions. However in the face of forecasted shortfalls, it isn’t a good time to increase our operating service levels either.

At the same time, our Park Board is recommending a \$ 38.5 Million Dollar Park Improvements and Acquisitions Bond Proposal be presented to Council for consideration on placement in the April 2021 Ballot. Should that occur and our Voters pass the proposition, your project could be discussed in earnest with the Park Board and Council under their category of “Balance Investment in Current Parks with Acquisition(in this case conditional use) of Property for Future Park Development further recognizing that Park Impact Fees will contribute to the funding stream of property acquisition and development that would need to be undertaken with the permission of Seattle City Light. Of course the Parks improvements funded by the bond measures will be a multiple year effort to implement.

Without the Parks Improvement Bond proposition, our City does not have the resources to take on additional contractual, design, construction and maintenance responsibilities associated with this Parcel. Embedded in every project are utility, operations and maintenance costs that we petition Council to fund as projects come on line. This is what provides the Level of Maintenance you are requesting.

In conclusion, I am glad we discussed this and that you now have the formal agreements that we must adhere to. In hindsight, I would have hoped our staff would have provided these binding documents to you sooner in the process.

Your concern about illicit activity should be diminished since you have opened this area up more visibly through the agreement you signed with Seattle City Light. As always, we recommend calling 911 if you or your neighbors continue to observe them. Police can provide enforcement and opportunities to connect individuals with Social Services so all can benefit if they so choose.

Please feel free to contact me moving forward.

Thank you, Dan.

From: Derek Creisler <midvalegardens@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, September 25, 2020 12:32 PM

To: Martha Karl <mkarl@shorelinewa.gov>; Park Board <ParkBoard@shorelinewa.gov>

Cc: David Chen <davidchenshoreline@gmail.com>; John Ruby <ecowarriorwsd.j@gmail.com>; Londa Jacques <lpjacques11@gmail.com>; ELNA Board <elnaboard@gmail.com>; Ed Portnow <earthcraftservices@yahoo.com>; saveshorelinetrees@gmail.com

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Follow up to Public Comment

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Shoreline. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Martha Karl,

I want to start by thanking you for giving me the opportunity last night to bring the Seattle City Light parcel (#1643500056) to the attention of the Park Board. The parcel in question is adjacent the Interurban Trail from the north end of Midvale Avenue to N 192nd street - east of the Trail to the residential fence line, approximately an acre in total area. I am hoping you will be able to assist me in my search for answers I have about this parcel.

Can you please verify for me that there is a legal agreement between Seattle City Light and the City of Shoreline that establishes guidelines for maintaining both the Interurban Trail and Echo Lake Park and if such an agreement exists does it include the parcel in question? If not, why not? What steps will need to be taken to make it part of the greater Echo Lake / Interurban Trail park system?

Eric Friedli, the retired Director of Shoreline Parks, had mentioned to me that his department had a limited maintenance responsibility for the Interurban Trail of ten feet on either side of the actual asphalt. However when the Parks Department (or Public Works) has conducted their periodic maintenance along the Trail they have also included the west facing grassy knoll (on the site in question). This is far greater than ten feet.

At the risk of repeating myself (eg. see my original email to you) this maintenance has arbitrarily stopped halfway across this parcel leaving the eastern area an urban jungle of invasive species and this overgrown section has frequently been occupied by hidden squatter camps. Neighbors have expressed to me that though they appreciate the sunny exposure of the grassy knoll, they have shied away from enjoying it because of the possible threats that lurk behind the bushes. To the tax paying homeowners in this area as well as the many visitors enjoying the Trail it appears that the City has allowed this situation to continue without regard to the security and health of the immediate residents.

As for the back history of my quest originally I began by attending meetings of the Echo Lake Neighborhood Association and asked questions concerning the civic responsibility of this situation. I was directed to the Seattle City Light Real Estate Department (since it is their property) but when I raised this issue they were indifferent and told me it was the responsibility of the City of Shoreline. I next went to speak with the Director of Shoreline Parks Eric Freidli but again nothing came of my concerns. It wasn't until I organized a volunteer work crew from among the neighborhood that we began receiving assistance from Kirk Peterson and his employees.

Working with Diggin Shoreline our efforts qualified this spring for a Mini-Grant from the City of Shoreline Department of Environmental Services. These funds as well as cash donations from the immediate neighborhood have allowed us to

bring in goats to consume the invasive plants. The Earthcraft Services goatherd will end their season on this site this coming Sunday and again on Tuesday. Though their presence has made a vast improvement to the problems presented in this email it will take several years of repeated grazing to turn this invasive spread into a meadow.

I will be in attendance on both days and I hope you can visit in person. Please extend this invitation to the rest of the Park Board. Our efforts have also protected the forest on this parcel and if the invasive species are eliminated native northwest pollinators could be introduced and a small park could easily be created. I hope you concur that this would be a worthy solution to a long term problem.

Sincerely,
Derek Creisler
206-465-4941
midvalegardens@gmail.com