From: <u>Nicholas Bratton</u>

To: City Council; Shari Winstead; Chris Eggen; Keith McGlashan; Will Hall; Doris McConnell; Jesse Salomon; Chris

Roberts

Subject: 185th St. Station Area - choosing a future

Date: Monday, February 23, 2015 3:13:44 PM

Attachments: Forterra 185th letter Feb 23.pdf

Dear Mayor Winstead and Shoreline City Council Members,

Please find attached a letter from Forterra speaking to the 185th St. Subarea Plan. Thank you for considering our input ahead of tonight's council meeting.

Nick

Nicholas Bratton

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CREATING GREAT COMMUNITIES

February 23, 2015

Dear Mayor Winstead and members of the Shoreline City Council,

Our region is an attractive place to live and do business. People move here for a host of reasons, including the natural beauty of the area and the burgeoning economic opportunities. We can expect more growth in Central Puget Sound and some of that will come to Shoreline. One question before you now is how can the city grow with grace and prepare for a community that is larger than the one here today?

Shoreline is fortunate to have two future light rail stations. These present a rare opportunity to act with foresight in shaping how the city will look and feel for years to come and to anticipate future needs. Chances to plan on this scale don't come around often so when they do it's imperative to approach them thoughtfully. This is what the city has done.

We are near the conclusion of a lengthy and open process through which city staff and leadership have gathered public input on a vision for the 185th Street Station Area. The city has convened public workshops, incorporated feedback into a range of planning scenarios, extensively studied the environmental impacts of these options, established design guidelines, and chosen a preferred alternative for how the neighborhood can grow. All this work has been done transparently and with the intent to advance multiple policy objectives.

Amid the healthy dialog around the rezone let's not lose sight of the reason for it: light rail is going to bring Shoreline closer to other cities and draw more people and businesses here. The thought and community input given to the subarea plan will give direction for the character of the neighborhood while encouraging growth where and how it is desired. Forterra supports the city's efforts to anticipate the changes that lie ahead. A subarea plan that promotes business, encourages a walkable community with access to transit, and offers a range of housing choices will further Shoreline's goals for sustainable growth. Thank you for considering these issues as you make a decision on the Subarea Plan.

Nicholas Bratton

Policy Director, Markets

Nicholas Brath