

From: [Sandra Distefano](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: 185th St Rezone
Date: Sunday, March 15, 2015 8:56:37 AM

Please hold off on the rezoning of the 185th street subarea.

I feel that the current rezoning plans are way too aggressive, not fully thought out, and are too rushed.

The more I find out about the degree of rezoning that is planned, the less I understand what the motivation is. Communications from the city indicate that the motives are to prepare for impending growth and foster a more walkable/public-transportation-fueled lifestyle within the city. The current plan, including the not-very-reduced "phased alternative", upon closer inspection seems somewhat disconnected from those motivations. The scope of expansion (in terms of housing units) seems to be significantly larger than forecasts for growth that I've seen (particularly so when the rezoning/developments under way or under consideration for other areas of the city (145th st, Westminster triangle, Pt. Wells, Ballinger) are taken into consideration.) Development along the 185th "corridor" rather than in a compact area surrounding the light rail station seems to make the likelihood of large numbers of residents living along the corridor without a car unlikely.

Before such a drastic rezone is finalized, I would have assumed that things like: planning (including funding sources) for improvement along 185th, planning (including funding sources) for utility improvements, the fate of Shoreline Center (whether it is to be developed and when/how) would have been fairly well sorted out. But I see absolutely no sign of this.

These things have a large impact on whether the rezone will produce the kind of benefits which are being touted. As far as I can tell, no one knows quite how any of these things are going to work out.

One of the best parts of Shoreline is it's affordable single-family housing with foster neighborhoods of long-term residents and a sense of community. This rezone, obviously, does irreparable damage to that aspect of Shoreline.

The very large apartment buildings on 175th and 12th are any sign of the future, this rezone is going to turn Shoreline into Lake City. Lots of cars, clogged traffic, increased burglaries, and a dismantling of any sense of community while turning those neighborhoods into sleeping quarters for people who can't afford to live in trendy parts of Seattle but wished they could.

Once the area is rezoned, it will be impossible to undo, even if the will to undo it should become manifest.

This is an important issue and I feel that the city government is not serving the interests of city residents very well on it. How you vote on this will certainly affect who I support and vote for in elections going forward.

sincerely
Sandra Distefano
North City