

From: [Russ Philbrick](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Tolling study amendment to 2016 City budget
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The Point Wells development will impose many burdens on the City of Shoreline and the Richmond Beach community. Covering costs of these burdens is important and, while annexation is an option, this also comes with significant liabilities, particularly from landslide risks and railway traffic. The recent landslide in Oso has demonstrated that we cannot be complacent about the risks of landslides at Point Wells. Practically every winter we already see closures of the railway due to landslides, some of which have occurred at Point Wells. Annexation makes Shoreline responsible for these hazards as well as the infrastructure improvements necessary to mitigate their impact. Leaving these responsibilities to Snohomish County helps ensure that they bear some of the consequences of supporting this development.

Tolling creates an opportunity for Shoreline to mitigate some burdens that the Point Wells development will impose without fully inheriting the liabilities. Indeed, the net economic benefit of tolling can far outweigh the taxes and associated costs from annexation.

Regards,
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