

From: [Bill](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: 145th St rezone
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In order to provide for orderly growth and to maximize Shoreline city revenue without damaging the experience of living in Shoreline, I urge that the Shoreline City Council strive to avoid allowing tall or even medium-sized apartment buildings except within reasonable walking distances of transit stations. We cannot do without vehicles, and even enjoy them, but it makes sense to minimize the aggravations associated with them.

Some people may think wetlands are not valuable, because they make traditional value-enhancing activities such as farming and erecting homes and other structures more expensive, but in a city, they provide much enjoyment to the citizens. Of course, so do traditional parks with trees and picnic tables, grassy fields, baseball fields, etc.

It is important to avoid making irrevocable plans because it is impossible to foresee everything. Keeping this in mind, it is obvious that a "Planned Action" is not a good option for the 145th St rezone. A "zoning overlay" appears to be a better approach. I urge you to retain all parks, and even make more parks if that becomes practicable; these enhance the lives of the citizens who live nearby; thus they increase the values of nearby properties.

Such nearby properties should be zoned R6 so that there is as much of an "open space" feeling as possible, making the parks most effective at what they are there for.

Cromwell Park in Shoreline has a wetland that attracts many birds and other wildlife. I often see ducks, including a duckling this spring, and wetland-loving songbirds such as red-winged blackbirds,. Most of said wetland is relatively new, and it is much more interesting than the typical playing field, though Cromwell Park also has a baseball diamond with backstop, a basketball court, a swing set, and some nice climbing equipment and benches right next to the wetlands. There are also grassy fields and parkland with trees and benches, a nice roofed structure next to the wetland, and a picnic table or so with benches. I frequently see lots of kids and their parents enjoying the equipment, attending concerts, and generally having fun.

The whole thing is a wonderful addition to the neighborhood, and must increase the values of the surrounding homes considerably. This is the sort of thing the city should encourage. The wetland helps dispose of a lot of surface water runoff much more efficiently and with better results than more mechanical methods would. The City of Shoreline should be proud of Cromwell Park, and I thank whoever in Shoreline City government decided to make it as it is.

There are lots of smaller parks and "undeveloped" areas, some including wetlands, in Shoreline. They also have much value; although they are not so spectacular as Cromwell Park is, they are also not as valuable for development simply because they are smaller, but they are valuable because they are convenient for their neighbors' enjoyment. I am especially interested in the Paramount Open Space, which has some size to it, interesting topography, and wetland. All of these enhance the values of neighboring areas.