

**From:** [Nicholas Bratton](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** comment for 9/12 study session  
**Date:** Friday, September 09, 2016 4:09:15 PM  
**Attachments:** [Forterra Shoreline 145th letter Sep 9.pdf](#)

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Dear members of the Shoreline city council,

Please find attached a comment letter from Forterra regarding the 9/12 agenda item for the 145<sup>th</sup> St. Light Rail Subarea Plan. I plan to attend the upcoming public meetings and look forward to the discussion. Thank you,

Nick

Nicholas Bratton

**Policy Director, Markets | Forterra**

For the people. For the land. Forever.

901 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2200

Seattle, WA 98164

T 206-905-6941 | W [forterra.org](http://forterra.org)

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September 9, 2016

Dear Mayor Roberts and Members of the Shoreline City Council,

The light rail stations in Shoreline will bring greatly needed mobility to residents, giving more people access to more transportation choices and bringing us closer to other communities across the region. In anticipation of this transformation, now is the time to decide how we want the city to look and feel when the trains start running. Light rail is going to make Shoreline an even more attractive place for people to live and do business. Growth will come with it, but how will we face these changes?

A plan that supports commerce, encourages a walkable community with access to transit, and offers a range of housing choices will help ensure that Shoreline remains welcoming. This includes establishing zoning for apartments, townhomes, and mixed-use development close to the station so residents can take advantage of the light rail and support neighborhood businesses. The city set an example worth following with the 185<sup>th</sup> Street Subarea Plan. The city gained recognition for leading a thorough and engaging process for this plan. As a result, Shoreline received a 2016 Washington State Governor's Smart Communities Award. Additionally, The Washington Chapter of the American Planning Association and the Planning Association of Washington jointly recognized Shoreline with its Honor Award for an "outstanding example of good planning in Washington."

The alternative for the 147<sup>th</sup> Street Subarea as endorsed by planning commission will allow Shoreline to grow with grace as more people move to this region. Forterra supports the alternative before you and encourages the city to consider the extent of the 70-foot zone. Is it configured to include the optimal area within walking distance of the station? Could it serve residents better by expanding access to light rail and buses? Similarly Forterra supports the addition of a bridge for non-motorized traffic that will improve connectivity between the station and neighborhoods west of I-5.

Forterra believes that a sustainable future means having options. People want options for where to live, how to get around, where to shop, what kinds of amenities are nearby. The subarea plan for the station area helps provide these options and creates opportunities for growth in a thoughtful and intentional way.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nicholas Bratton". The signature is stylized and includes a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nicholas Bratton  
Policy Director