

**From:** [Nora Johnson](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Statement regarding 145th subarea plan  
**Date:** Monday, September 12, 2016 3:40:00 PM

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Dear Mayor Roberts and Members of the Shoreline City Council,

I was born and raised in Seattle and recently returned to the area after 10 years on the East Coast, for college and grad school, with a few years in between working in Washington DC. While in DC, I saw first hand how transit connectivity is vital to a city and region's health. The light rail stations in Shoreline will bring welcome access to residents and reduce traffic congestion that is an unpleasant consequence of rapid growth, and puts unnecessary costs and stressors on every day life, through sitting in traffic, and losing time both at work and at home. The demand for growth in Shoreline is driven understandably by Shoreline's attractive community in close proximity to several major job centers.

Now, in my current role at Redfin, I closely follow housing markets not just here in the Seattle area, but all across the country, and understand what makes a neighborhood desirable. Two major factors are walkability and access to transit. Shoreline is fortunate to have 2 light rail stations, and those stations will be best utilized when there are people who can walk to the station. Creating a range of housing choices also means that another key issue our region is struggling with - housing affordability - can be part of the solution as well. Regardless of income, current and new residents of Shoreline can benefit from creating a walkable community around the station.

The new reality in our region is that growth is going to come to the city and that can either happen haphazardly or can be planned for carefully. The 145<sup>th</sup> subarea plan will allow the city to grow in a predictable and sustainable way while also promoting conservation and community-building outcomes. I encourage you to adopt the plan.

Thank you,

Nora Johnson