

From: [Sigrid Strom](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed expansion of Public Works utility yard in Hamlin Park
Date: Monday, October 02, 2017 4:58:47 PM
Attachments: [Public Works Base Expansion in Hamlin park letter 10-02-2017.docx](#)

Please see the attached Word document for comments on the proposed Public Works utility yard in Hamlin Park.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
Sigrid Strom, Shoreline resident

October 2, 2017

To: City of Shoreline City Council
Shoreline City Hall
17500 Midvale Avenue N.
Shoreline, WA 98133
council@shorelinewa.gov

RE: Proposed Expansion of the Shoreline Public Works Utility Yard in Hamlin Park

Members of the City Council:

I am dismayed, but not really surprised, at the apparent desire of the Public Works Department and the Planning Department to use part of Hamlin Park to expand the Public Works utility yard. I continue to wonder how long it will take those of you in governing and management positions to understand the long-term consequences of destroying part of a superior natural resource such as Hamlin Park just for the short-term economic benefit and convenience of having such an expansion on this site.

I hear a lot of words about “green” beliefs and objectives on the part of many of you, but I see precious little in terms of a real commitment to them when it comes to developing and implementing City policy. Perhaps this is because too many people mistakenly believe that if we curb fossil fuel use, weatherize our buildings a bit better, recycle more, and throw in a couple more pocket parks with a few trees, that’s all we need to do to be green. It’s not.

When you destroy a section of something like Hamlin Park, you are not just removing a few trees and some undergrowth. You are destroying part of a comprehensive ecosystem and also changing the dynamics of the remaining parts of the ecosystem in a negative way. Among other essential ecological benefits, natural settings like Hamlin Park help maintain the type of natural environment that is actually essential to optimal human living.

There is not time nor is there space to go into a lengthy discussion of the whys, wherefores, and whats of the relationship between humans and the natural world. I ask only at this time that you reject what is expedient today and opt for what is truly a present and future benefit to residents of the City. Create additional utility yard space for the Public Works Department somewhere other than Hamlin Park.

Respectfully submitted,

Sigrid Strom, Shoreline resident