

From: [Elaine Phelps](#)
To: [City Council](#); [Debbie Tarry](#)
Cc: [Cik](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Utility Yard siting in Hamlin Park
Date: Monday, October 09, 2017 1:08:35 PM

Dear Shoreline Mayor, Shoreline City Council Members, and Shoreline City Manager:

In support of my opposition to siting a Utility Yard on what is now Hamlin Park property, I cite these statements from the City of Shoreline website

<http://www.ci.shoreline.wa.us/government/departments/parks-recreation-cultural-services:>

Vision: *Shoreline will continue to have the highest quality parks, recreation, and cultural services that promote public health and safety, protect our natural environment, and enhance the quality of life of our community.*

Mission: *To provide life-enhancing experiences and promote a healthy community and environment. To celebrate arts and culture, enhance our natural environment and pass this legacy to the next generation.*

It makes no sense to consider the siting of a Utility Yard in any Shoreline park as the exclusive province of Public Works for the patently obvious reason that it must first be considered by those who have the authority and responsibility to oversee Shoreline parks, namely Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services.

That said, I include herewith by reference to <http://www.shorelinewa.gov/home/showdocument?id=11240> the 54-page report entitled

Hamlin Park Vegetation Management Plan,

Prepared for: City of Shoreline

Prepared by: Nelson Salisbury, Ecologist, Ella Elman, Ecologist, Sarah Zerbonne, Ecological Field Assistant

Seattle Urban Nature - 5218 University Way Northeast - Seattle, WA 98105-4495

January, 2008

What was the cost of this report, and what was done with it and its recommendations? None of this report includes any suggestion at all that even one square inch of this park should ever be given away or sold for non-park uses.

The Shoreline City Council and/or its staff should not even be considering the destruction of 4.5 acres of prime parkland at the entrance to Hamlin Park to put a totally incompatible Utility Yard in that space, especially one that would add untold numbers of vehicle trips to the traffic on 15th NE and require major expensive and disruptive changes in the boundary roadway.

When park bonds were raised and spent for the management and development of Hamlin Park (among others), there was no mention that 4.5 acres of it could be deprived of all living things

– trees, plants, soil – that provide habitat for wildlife and both active and passive healthy enjoyment for the public.

Parkland in an urban or suburban setting is precious for the health of the residents – human as well as wildlife – and acquisition of more such natural spaces becomes less and less probable as the population increases.

Far preferable for the quality of life for the city’s residents is protection and maintenance (and expansion of parkland when possible) than would be park destruction for a non-park facility.

It is absolutely false economy to sacrifice natural parkland for any other use.

I therefore wish to register my strong objection to the further consideration of the proposal to site a Utility Yard on what is now Hamlin Park property. In addition, please make this letter and the aforementioned **Hamlin Park Vegetation Management Plan** a part of the permanent record on the Utility Yard siting issue. I wish to be made a party of record with legal standing.

Thank you for your consideration.

Elaine Phelps

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