



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Hall and City Councilmembers

FROM: Jessica Simulcik Smith, City Clerk

DATE: September 10, 2019

RE: Documents received at 9/09/2019 Council Meeting

CC: Debbie Tarry, City Manager
John Norris, Assistant City Manager

Attached hereto are documents received from the public at your September 9, 2019 City Council Regular Meeting.

- 1) Statement from Pat Anunsen regarding the City's assumption of Ronald Wastewater District. (1 page).
- 2) Statement from Gail Steele regarding regulations for Airbnbs in Shoreline (1 page).
- 3) Statement from Ginny Scantlebury regarding the King County Homeless Services Plan (1 page).

I had concerns when the Court of Appeals ruled that Ronald Wastewater had no right to serve customers in the Point Wells area – despite providing services there for decades. I was pleased that Ronald requested a review of this decision from the State Supreme Court.

All Shoreline residents have an interest in this. The City of Shoreline must support Ronald's efforts and do nothing that could disrupt or undercut their opportunity for success.

This morning, the *Shoreline Area News* reported that Shoreline formally notified the Ronald Wastewater District that the city plans to assume the Ronald District on March 1, 2020. This raises a number of questions:

- What impact will the City's action have on the Supreme Court's review and on the underlying legal action involving Ronald and Olympic View?
- Was a thorough review of this potential impact completed prior to the city making the decision to assume Ronald now?
- When did the City Council make the decision to take this action now?
- Did the City Council conclude that their decision would have no impact on the Supreme Court's review, and that the legal action would be allowed to run its course?
- Is the record of this decision-making process reflected in City Council agendas and meeting minutes? Is this information located somewhere else on the City's website?

Much value could be lost if Olympic View is allowed to take over Ronald's rights in the Point Wells area – and Ronald could incur significant costs.

- Revenue from new rate payers and hook-up fees in a compact area like Point Wells is an opportunity that should not to be given away for little or no return.
- The value of Ronald's property in Snohomish County is estimated at more than \$20,000,000.
- There could be significant costs for system changes to separate this lost service area from Ronald's remaining areas. How big are these costs and who will pay them?

Has Shoreline evaluated short and long-term impacts on Shoreline residents in terms of service and construction disruptions, increases to rates, increases to utility taxes, and other costs?

Shoreline citizens deserve and expect transparency as alternatives are developed and evaluated, and when decisions are made. Are these expectations being met on this issue?

Thank you. I look forward to you addressing these questions.

Airbnb

About 32 years ago, we had a meeting of neighbors on our street to learn about the Neighborhood Watch program. One of the main points from the policeman was that we needed to know who lives on our street.

When we were a "McGruff house," we had the sign of the McGruff dog in our window so everyone knew we were a safe house for kids to go if needed.

This brings me to Airbnb properties in our neighborhoods. How are they identified?

I inquired to see if Shoreline has codes and regulations for Airbnbs. Not at this time. It is treated like renting out a room.

I checked with the City of Seattle and they have codes/regulations.

I would like to encourage our city to consider that when we do establish a policy for Airbnbs that we make sure there is a way to identify the property as being an Airbnb as well as having established taxes and property codes/regulations.

Gail Steele

Richmond Highlands

September 9, 2019

To: Shoreline City Council

Regarding the King County Homeless-Services Plan

First of all, I want you to know that I think it is so sad that we have such a huge homeless problem throughout King County. So far we have failed in all of our attempts to solve these problems. We now have "one of the highest homeless populations per capita in the United States." (The Seattle Times, 9/5/19, Letter to the Editor by Reagan Dunn).

This political failure is why I am so concerned about having a new layer of government designed to oversee a homelessness policy for the entire county. Did you know that the estimated first-year budget is more than \$131 million? This is another "feel good" response to solving the homeless issue. It is supposed to provide a regional response to homelessness, but the steering committee will be comprised of only 1 or 2 seats out of 7 delegated as a voice for the 38 suburban cities. What are the chances that Shoreline will be represented on this board?

In addition, I understand that the actual policymaking authority would fall to a governing board made of "experts" who are appointed, rather than elected, leaving them unaccountable to taxpayers. Also, suburban cities will have no appointment power. Once again, Shoreline will be underrepresented.

We need to look around and see what is working in other communities. I already reported to the council about the successes in Marysville and Arlington right here in our state. Their solutions are to provide compassion along with "tough love". We need to tackle mental health and substance abuse problems. We must provide ample substance-abuse treatment and addiction recovery resources to those who need them. Housing is not the answer.

I agree with Reagan Dunn (Seattle Times Letter to the Editor, 9/5/19) : "It requires elected leaders who are bold enough to make tough choices regardless of the political consequences." I hope the Shoreline City Council members make the right choice. Please do not sign on to this new homeless services plan. It is not the solution.

Ginny Scantlebury
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