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Discussion of Ordinance No. 912 - Authorizing
Assumption of the Ronald Wastewater District
(RWD) and Authorizing the City Manager to
Execute and File the Joint Petition of Dissolution
of the District

John Norris, Assistant City Manager
November 23, 2020



Background

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- Assumption almost 20 years in the making
- 2002 Interlocal Operating Agreement; set 15-year timeframe for assumption
- Initial Assumption Ord. No. 681; set assumption date of Oct. 23, 2017
- Assumption Transition Planning Process – 2014-2017
- Continued litigation of RWD's historical service in Point Wells area
- First Amendment to the ILA and operation of the utility on behalf of RWD starting Oct. 2017; wastewater utility staff became City employees
- Litigation culminated in State Supreme Court ruling this year that RWD did not have a service area in Snohomish County
- Staff now proposing to move forward with the full assumption of the sewer utility



Ordinance No. 912

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- Sets formal assumption date of April 30, 2021.
- Confers upon the City Manager the authority to jointly file with RWD petition for dissolution of the District.
- Directs continued orderly transition of governance.



Potential Next Steps

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- Continue to coordinate with the RWD Board of Commissioners Transition Committee and staff.
- Obtain the RWD signature on the joint petition for dissolution of RWD and file with King County Superior Court.
- Continue to implement the remaining Assumption Transition Plan work plan items.
- Formally assume and dissolve RWD on April 30, 2021.

Recommendation

- No action is required; staff is seeking Council feedback on Ordinance No. 912.
- Staff recommends that Council adopt Ordinance No. 912 when this ordinance is brought back to Council for adoption on December 7, 2020.

