

Attachments: Future Parks and Openspace Aquisitions.docx ;

From: [Janet Way](#)

Sent: Monday, October 11, 2021 3:23:42 PM

To: [Jessica Simulcik Smith](#); [City Council](#)

Cc: [Janet Way](#); [Janet Way](#); [Wendy DiPeso](#); [Lance Young](#); [Kathleen Russell](#); [Boni Biery](#); [Melody Fosmore](#); [Steve Zemke](#); [RICHARD ELLISON](#); [David Moehring](#); [Kevin Orme](#); [Michael Oxman](#); [Joyce Moty](#); [John barber](#); [Stuart Niven](#); [Claudia Turner](#); [Susanne Stsoming](#); [Cell Bob Seidman](#)

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Parks and Open Space Acquisitions

Sensitivity: Normal

Archived: Monday, October 11, 2021 3:32:20 PM

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Dear Council and Ms Smith:

Please see our letter here and attached for tonite's meeting.

Janet Way
SPS

Shoreline Preservation Society

c/o Janet Way

940 NE 147th St

Shoreline, WA 98155

October 11, 2021

Shoreline Mayor and City Council

1700 Midvale Ave N

Shoreline, WA 98155

Subject: Park and Open Space Acquisitions Priorities

Dear Mayor and Council:

Regarding your agenda item tonight on Open Space and Parks Acquisitions, please accept our testimony as possible suggestions for Open Space Acquisition and improvements to Parks.

The future of the Firlands Way neighborhood should be considered by Council in a historical context and as an area ripe for protective acquisition due to extreme development pressure underway. It was of course originally built when the Firlands Tuberculosis Sanitarium was created by King County to provide access in the largely undeveloped Richmond Highlands neighborhood. (It is actually overlaid with the original "Red Brick Road.") This neighborhood is actually lacking in Parks and Open space.

The single-family homes along Firlands Way and the surrounding neighborhoods are host to high-quality Urban Forest ecosystems. The greenbelt behind the homes on the east side of Firlands is an important buffer and protective ecosystem for the Echo Lake groundwater systems which protect water quality and provide infiltration. The greenbelt adjacent to the Metro Park and Ride is actually an extremely valuable defense against Climate Change and serves as a buffer to those single-family homes. The Park and Ride actually was an extensive wetland providing water quality retention and feeding the lake historically.

The greenbelt should be considered as a valuable acquisition for the Firlands neighborhood and the entire Echo Lake ecosystem, which has been long in need of restoration and is now also under huge development pressure. Echo Lake is fish habitat and also many other species.

We sincerely hope that this valuable stretch of mostly native conifers and understory will be considered as a supportive natural area to protect ground waters and provide clean air to the surrounding neighborhood on Firlands Way. These places are in grave danger of being lost forever if nothing is done to protect them from development.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted.

Janet Way, Chair

Shoreline Preservation Society



c/o Janet Way
940 NE 147th St
Shoreline, WA 98155

October 11, 2021

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