

Lake Ballinger Work Group
March 26th
Edmonds City Hall
Meeting Notes

Meeting called to order at 2:05.

Welcoming comments by Gary Haakenson, Edmonds Mayor: Intro, thanks, efforts of “green”, multiple municipalities

Introductions around the table: apologies to those who joined late and are missed

Gary Haakenson, Edmonds Mayor
DJ Wilson, Edmonds City Council
Don Feine, Assistant City Engineer
Dave Hutchinson, Mayor Lake Forest Park
Don Fiene, City Council Lake Forest Park
David Cline, City Administrator Lake Forest Park
Aaron Halverson, LFP Engineering and Stormwater Technician
William Franz, Lynnwood Director of Public Works
Jared Bond, Lynnwood Environmental Program Manager
John Caulfied, City Manager of Mountlake Terrace
Mike Shaw, MLT Stormwater Program Manager
Chris Eggen, Shoreline City Council
Janet Way, Shoreline City Council
Jerry Schuster, Shoreline Stormwater Manager
Sam Downing, Office of Hon. Bob Ferguson
Gene Williams, Snohomish County Director of Public Works,
Marcia Isenberg, Council Chief of Staff, Snohomish County
Rep. Ruth Kagi – 32nd
Rep. Maralyn Chase – 32nd
Rep. Mark Ericks – 1st
Rep. Marko Liias – 21st
Ralph Svrjcek, Department of Ecology
Tricia Shoblom, Lakes Specialist, DOE
Doug Wood, Water Resource Specialist, DOE
Andrew Fuller, Office of Rep. Jay Inslee
Sharmila Swenson, Office of Rep. Jay Inslee
Chris Fyall, Enterprise Newspaper

DJ Wilson Agenda and meeting framework

- “Can we get to agreement on the problem set?”
- Impressive to have all of these folks at the table, in the room

Mike Shaw History of issue (powerpoint presentation)

- Watershed Vicinity Map, McAleer Creek movement, orientation of watershed

- Lk Ballinger Rehabilitation Project, flooding 12/3/2007 event – weir, LFP issues
- Water quality issues, waterfowl, sewer overflows, nutrients (phosphorus, nitrogen), algae blooms, heavy metals
- Upcoming studies, lowering winter levels of lake, water quality – phosphorus levels

Don Fiene Edmonds perspective

- Nile responsible for weir winter levels, program disbanded, winter 2007 event
- Citizens group in Edmonds formed on its own over concern of storm events, algae blooms, weir levels, water levels – began educating council members
- Hydrology study, weir levels versus I-5 corridor
- Government \$, consensus of what should be done and how, who pays and what

Janet Way Shoreline perspective

- Echo Lake concerns, working on resolution across the cities, basin wide effort desired
- Jerry Shoreline, public education - lawn care quality, what is good for Echo Lake is good for Lake Ballinger-major inflow to Ballinger from Echo Lake, water quality studies, water sampling
- Janet work comprehensively with Seattle on flood issues, have ways to help because they are upstream, look for ways of water retention

Bill Franz Lynnwood perspective

- Suffer from same issues relating to water quality, 4th city wide comprehensive water plan, 4 member crew to clean and maintain storm, public education is important
- Recognize their responsibility as neighbor but need to consider their citizens (rate payers) – fairness,
- Think that with basin effort this can happen, reiteration of water quantity approach from last year
- Apology for not participating – waiting for the appropriate time

Jared Bond, Lynnwood perspective

- Government \$, consensus of what should be done and how, who pays and what
- Likes watershed approach, believes it will work
- Brought copies of Lynnwood resolution, preliminary scope of work based on meetings
- Thinks majority of work focus on water quality, water quantity not an issue that can be helped due to current building practices
- Problems with securing funding and a method of determining who gets what amount of money

Janet Way – thinks that it is crucial to get citizens to be involved in issue, knowledge base

Mike Shaw MLT perspective

- Existing program efforts – support group efforts within budget means, adopted 2005 DOE Design Manual

John Caulfield MLT perspective

- Very important for city council, Mike Shaw is in front of city council 2-3 times a year to brief
- Spoke with Jay Inslee in December about issue
- Environmental and financial issue (golf course city-owned, run by third-party) hits the pocketbook of general fund for their city
- Need to address issue of storm water codes across cities, should have a consensus

Mike Shaw MLT perspective

- Water quality programs – water filtration of pollutants, waterfowl control
- Believes MLT only jurisdiction that helps to control geese
- Water quality sampling – volunteer program, algae identification program (blue-green algae, toxicity level, informing citizens)
- Other needs: data sharing

Dave Hutchinson LFP perspective

- Flooding causes moving of citizens, salmon have left creeks and streams, council has \$400,000 towards this end
- What specific things can they do to prevent other floods
- Sign any agreement to help resolve this issue

Aaron Halverson LFP perspective

- 2 major flood events in last 2 years, pictures of flood damages shown, water quality issues
- 4 major groups involved in issue, goals: create partnerships, improve water quality, decrease flooding events

Don Fiene LFP perspective

- Property damage to citizenry is increasing
- Possible litigation down the road foreseen if nothing is done with this issue
- Unique perspective as downstream city
- Find some storm water \$ can be spent in other jurisdictions
- Forming inter local can have advantages, possibilities: public education, reporting problem hotline, work together to get state \$ showing group effort and show that you can get more done with group effort than on your own

Rep. Marko Lias

- Short term action plan to spur service
- Flooding has created state attention

Rep. Mark Ericks

- Can't just focus on the water levels of the lake, if region is to attract support beyond individual cities it needs to be a basin watershed approach,
- During legislative session helped secure \$200,000 in funding
- Wants to see funding maximized in a year where every dollar is compared to one somewhere else

DJ Wilson

- Highlight Lake Ballinger Action Plan page in packet
- Preliminary summary of staff efforts

Ralph Svrjcek, Dept. of Ecology

- Government \$, consensus of what should be done and how, who pays and what
- Centennial grant funding a possibility
- Not from permitting side but rather focuses on cleanup: fishable, swimmable

DJ Wilson

- Possible next steps for staff:
 - o Address "draft" of Lk Ballinger basin action plan
 - o Develop draft interlocal agreement
 - o Begin RFP planning process so at next meeting we can flush those out

Janet Way

- Need a scoping process, need to have input from citizens that are stakeholders
- Need a core group in addition to elected who might not be able to make every meeting

Dave Hutchinson

- Need to address this issue in a timely fashion as citizens clearly do not want any more flooding
- Funding issue, break out short term plan from long term plan

Maralyn Chase: focus on low-impact development

Don Feine, LFP

- Work group needs to have support of council
- Establish monthly meeting date for next 3 to 4 months to establish structure and plan ("next steps" reiteration)

Dave Hutchinson: two groups, one of staff and one of elected for policy

John Caulfield

- Government \$, consensus of what should be done and how, who pays and wha
- Will direct Mike Shaw to begin draft of inter-local

- Does not want to get too far ahead of city council

Janet Way: Tuesdays work best for meetings for her

DJ Wilson:

- Will plan to meet again no sooner than 6 weeks, but will wait for staff to make progress on summary Action Plan, RFP development & options for inter-local agreement
- Next meeting to be at Mountlake Terrace, with Lake Forest Park to follow

Meeting adjourned at 3:38 pm