



**Press Release**

**CITY OF MOUNTLAKE TERRACE**

23204 58<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE W.

MOUNTLAKE TERRACE, WASHINGTON 98043-4629

TELEPHONE: (425) 776-1161

FAX: (425) 778-6421

**DATE:** May 31, 2006  
**CONTACT PERSON:** Shane Hope, Planning and Development Director  
(425) 744-6281 or [shope@ci.mlt.wa.us](mailto:shope@ci.mlt.wa.us)  
**PUBLICATION DATE(S):** Immediate Release through June 16, 2006

**Mountlake Terrace Council Quickens Pace  
For a Town Center Plan**

The Mountlake Terrace City Council approved a revised schedule at its May 18 meeting for completing a Town Center Plan this year.

“Downtown has great potential but it needs help to get there,” said Mayor Jerry Smith. “We want to come up with a plan of action that the community supports and that will make a real difference. The thing is we want it sooner, rather than later.”

The schedule speeds up an earlier version and calls for a draft plan to be ready in late fall. Community meetings start in July and continue throughout the planning process. More details are posted on the City’s website at <http://www.cityofmlt.com/news.htm>.

“Our Town Center is a diamond in the rough,” Councilwoman Angela Amundson said after the meeting. “We are absolutely committed to getting a plan that makes economic sense to vitalize the downtown, but we cannot do it by ourselves. It starts with you, the citizen.”

To launch the work plan, Council is holding a special joint meeting with its appointed Planning Commission on June 26, 7:00 pm., at City Hall. The Planning Commission is made up of local citizens who advise the Council on urban planning and development.

Late this year, the Commission will make a recommendation to Council on a final Town Center Plan. That recommendation will be considered by the City Council at a public hearing, probably in December.

Town Center is also known as the main downtown business area of Mountlake Terrace. It is the area along 56<sup>th</sup> Avenue West between 244<sup>th</sup> Street Southwest and almost to 228<sup>th</sup> Street Southwest. At most points, downtown is only 1 block deep, but between 236<sup>th</sup> Street Southwest and 232<sup>nd</sup> Street Southwest, it spreads out to 3 blocks deep.

In recent years, downtown had lost business to outside shopping malls and people began writing off the area as ever being a “real downtown.” Now, local residents are talking with urgency and excitement about what’s possible.

For more information, contact the Mountlake Terrace Planning Division at 425.744.6266 or check the website: <http://www.cityofmlt.com/news.htm>.

- - - **END** - - -

N:\PLANNING\PressRelease\TownCntr\_Plan\_0530066.doc