



News Release

CITY OF MOUNTLAKE TERRACE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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New Regional Jail to Be Postponed City of Shoreline site may not be needed

MOUNTLAKE TERRACE—King County cities may not need a new regional jail, at least not so soon, according to an announcement Mountlake Terrace received. Six possible sites, including one in Shoreline, have been under study for the new jail, which would be shared by several King County cities.

The Mountlake Terrace City Council had voted in March to oppose the Shoreline site, due to concerns about the closeness of the proposed jail site to Mountlake Terrace residential neighborhoods as well as the City Council's concerns about air quality, transportation, and land use impacts from a regional jail.

The new announcement reflects King County's latest finding that jail use is declining and that it can extend contracts with cities to continue using King County jail services. Earlier, the county had warned the cities that they would need to find their own jail locations by 2014.

Last month, based on public comment, the North and East King County cities informed Mountlake Terrace officials that environmental review of the jail site alternatives would be broadened to include air quality, populations and housing, public safety, and property values. Because of the additional issues, the draft environmental impact statement (EIS) would not be ready until December, 2009. Public meetings would follow in January 2010.

More information is available at the website: <http://www.necmunicipaljail.org/>.

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