

Lake Ballinger/McAleer Creek Watershed Forum  
Lake Forest Park Council Chambers  
Meeting Minutes  
February 23, 2010

Members Present

Mayor Jerry Smith, Chair (Mountlake Terrace), Mayor Dave Hutchins (Lake Forest Park), Dave Gossett (Snohomish County Council, Chair), Chris Eggen (Shoreline City Council), Jared Bond (Stormwater Program Manager and Alternate Forum Member, City of Lynnwood), Noel Miller (Edmonds Public Works Director)

Staff Present

Jerry Shuster (Edmonds Stormwater Engineering Program Manager), Aaron Halverson (Lake Forest Park Engineering and Stormwater Technician), John Caulfield (Mountlake Terrace City Manager), Curt Brees (Mountlake Terrace Public Works Director), Mike Shaw (Mountlake Terrace Stormwater Program Manager), David Cline (Lake Forest Park City Administrator), Gene Williams (Snohomish County Stormwater Manager), Brian Landau (City of Shoreline Surface Water and Environmental Services Program Manager)

Others Present

Pete Mills (Congressman Jay Inslee's office), Joe Simmler (Otak), Strom Peterson (Edmonds City Council), Ralph Svrjcek (Ecology), Trisha Shoblom (Ecology), Frank Zenk (Lake Forest Park Director of Public Services), Jerry Thorsen (LBCA), Barbara Sharkey (LFP), Bob Lee (Lake Forest Park City Council), Chris Roberts (Shoreline City Council)

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Jerry Smith called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. at the Lake Forest Park Council Chambers. The agenda for the February 23, 2010 meeting and minutes from the January 27, 2010 meeting were approved.

II. Resource Analysis/Financing Strategy

Mountlake Terrace City Manager John Caulfield presented a synopsis of financing options and resources available to the Forum. He pointed out two documents in the packet: 1) the CIP that was accepted by the Forum at the last meeting, and 2) a funding summary prepared by staff to show revenues available in support of projects.

Mr. Caulfield said Congressman Jay Inslee submitted a request on behalf of the Forum for \$1.2 million for projects in general pending from Water Resources Development Act (WRDA). He added that State funding includes the \$200,000 appropriation from 2008. Mr. Caulfield noted that the Forum discussed developing a Federal Legislative Agenda to pursue federal funding. He said the next issue is governance and there could be more opportunities for future state and federal funding. Local funding from each jurisdiction adds support in both hard dollars and in-kind services based on the six-year CIPs from 2009-2014. There is potential grant funding but more research is needed to find grants for specific projects. The total amount is about \$3.8 million possibly available to the Forum.

Mayor Hutchins suggested clarifying the funding summary by distinguishing between what funding is actually available, what has been spent and what is pending.

Mr. Caulfield stated that the purpose of the chart was to provide the Forum with a snapshot of where they are and what options were available.

### III. Future Governance Options

Mountlake Terrace City Manager John Caulfield explained that the current Interlocal Agreement expires on June 30, 2010. He stated that at the last meeting, the Forum directed he and Edmonds Councilmember DJ Wilson meet with Hugh Spitzer to obtain a scope of services for the Forum that included attending three meetings and assisting in reviewing the future governance options. The cost for the scope of work is \$32,000 or \$5,400 per agency. Mr. Caulfield recommended that the Forum move forward with the proposed scope of services.

Snohomish County Councilmember Dave Gossett stated he would have to go back to his Council to consider funding, however, it sounded like a good idea to find out how best to move forward.

Lake Forest Park Mayor Hutchins, sitting in for Don Fiene, stated that he would need to go back to his Council and had reservations about changing the current structure and spending the money. He stated that it is a good idea to look at options, but he was concerned about setting up a new entity. He stated that this current process is working and asked if the Forum really needed a new administrative structure.

Jared Bond stated that because of budget concerns, he would need to go back to the Lynnwood Council for direction. He agreed with Mayor Hutchins and said he would be happy to take the request back to the Lynnwood City Council, but was not sure what the outcome would be.

Shoreline Councilmember Chris Eggen stated that with the tight budgets, he too would be concerned that taking the proposed scope of work back to his Council would take some time with unknown results. He said Shoreline has not committed any projects to the Forum because they have other flooding projects taking up their available funding.

Snohomish County Councilmember Gossett asked about previous discussions on structure. Mr. Caulfield explained that they had reviewed all options from letting the Forum expire to creating a new stand-alone municipal agency. Mr. Caulfield stated that the purpose of the discussion was to evaluate all options.

Chair Smith asked what the impact would be on the Forum if they did not create a new entity. Mr. Caulfield suggested the Forum must do something because the agreement expires at the end of June and at the very least, they should renew the current Interlocal Agreement (ILA), and include the acceptance of the CIP and move forward from there.

Mr. Bond stated that Lynnwood was definitely interested in keeping the Forum going, but didn't care for the idea of the taxing authority or new government agency. He commented that his Council preferred to look at projects on a case-by-case basis and make sure that the cost sharing is equitable, but they would be interested in continuing with the Forum.

Chair Jerry Smith stated there was consensus to keep the Forum the same by revising the Interlocal Agreement. Mr. Caulfield stated that the draft ILA could possibly be ready by the March 23 meeting and certainly for the April 27 meeting to incorporate the general concepts. Councilmember Gossett suggested that at the next meeting Councilmembers Wilson and Fiene could review the discussion and inform Forum members on governance options that might have been missed. He added that the Forum may decide go back to the Hugh Spitzer scope of services at that time. Councilmember Eggen commented the bonding authority might be the main difference in moving to the next option. Chair Smith asked what was needed to revise the current Interlocal Agreement. Mr. Caulfield stated that the ILA could be updated by changing the dates adding the adopted CIP and taking the document back to Councils in May for formal adoption in June.

#### IV. Overview of “Lake Forest Park Flood Reduction study—McAleer and Lyon Creeks

Aaron Halverson, Lake Forest Park Engineering and Stormwater Manager stated that the purpose of the study was to identify the source of the flooding in Lower McAleer Creek and Lyon Creek and develop alternatives to reduce the flooding. He said Part I of the study deals with needs to comply with the NPDES II permit and Part II is a flood reduction study with CIP to reduce the flood risk. Mr. Halverson remarked that there was \$4 million dollars in damage in Lake Forest Park in the December 2007 flood. Mr. Halverson stated that the study found that if they could keep Lyon Creek from overflowing into McAleer Creek, they could reduce the risk of flooding in Lake Forest Park. He added that the solutions included increasing detention at Lake Ballinger by modifying the weir, increasing storage at the Cedar Way Facility, channel berming along lower McAleer Creek, retrofitting King County bypass intake on McAleer Creek, developing high flow bypass on Lyon Creek, modifying Lyon Creek channel/culverts through the Town Center, and enhancing and replacing culverts on both creeks.

#### V. Public Comments

Jerry Thorsen asked about the weir and water level of Lake Ballinger. Mr. Shaw responded that the lake would be lowered in the winter to accommodate potential increase in flow. Mr. Thorsen asked about water quality and expressed a concern about algae.

Barbara Sharkey of Sheridan Beach thanked Aaron Halverson for the presentation and his efforts in assisting the Sheridan Beach neighborhood.

#### VI. Adjournment

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 3:00 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 23, 2010 at the City of Shoreline.