

Lake Ballinger/McAleeer Creek Watershed Forum  
Lake Forest Park City Hall  
1st Floor Meeting Room  
Meeting Minutes  
February 22, 2011

Members Present

Mayor Jerry Smith, Chair (Mountlake Terrace), Councilmember Don Fiene, Vice Chair (Lake Forest Park), Councilmember D.J. Wilson (Edmonds)

Staff Present

Curt Brees (Mountlake Terrace Public Works Director), Phil Williams (Edmonds Public Works Director), Frank Zenk (Lake Forest Park Public Works Director), Aaron Halverson (Lake Forest Park Environmental Programs Manager), Mike Shaw (Mountlake Terrace Stormwater Program Manager)

Others Present

Brian Goodnight (Snohomish County), Jake Johnston (The Johnston Group), Joe Simmler (Otak)

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Jerry Smith called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m. at Lake Forest Park City Hall. The agenda for the February 22 meeting and minutes for the January 18, 2011 meeting were approved.

II. Federal Legislative Agenda

a. Status of Interlocal Agreement (ILA) Amendment

It was reported that all three jurisdictions have now adopted the new ILA. Curt Brees stated that an amendment to the ILA to contract with the Johnston Group is being routed for signatures to Edmonds, Lake Forest Park and Mountlake Terrace. Brian Goodnight reported that Snohomish County Council has scheduled a public hearing for the new ILA on March 16.

b. Update on Federal Funding – Jake Johnston reported that the House and Senate have passed a 1-year earmark ban. He added that in response to the ban the federal delegation is working with various agencies on how to best use discretionary funding. Mr. Johnston stated that the Forum should move forward with a strategy to apply for grant funding using delegation support. He added that the delegation has offered to broker a meeting for the Forum with potential agencies on grant funding opportunities.

c. Options for engaging the federal delegation in Washington D.C. – Mr. Johnston reported that the Forum should go to Washington D.C. between the last week in March and the first two weeks in April in order to avoid a possible government shutdown on March 4. All three members decided they should travel to Washington D.C. the last week of March or first two weeks of April to engage the federal delegation and let them know what their needs are. Mr. Johnston will make date suggestions to the Forum by the end of the week. He clarified that the goals of the visit include establishing a relationship and knowledge base with the delegation, making sure the Forum opens a dialogue so the delegation knows how they can provide support and take

advantage of the delegation's offer to set up meetings with agencies like the Army Corps of Engineers to gain an advantage in securing funding.

### III. Update on Limiting Phosphorus

Mike Shaw stated that after the Department of Ecology Presentation last meeting, the staff committee met and discussed ways to limit phosphorus in the Lake Ballinger/McAlier Creek Watershed. He stated that there were two bills working their way through the legislature that would ban phosphorus in lawn fertilizer statewide. Mr. Shaw explained that Lake Ballinger was listed in 1993 and had a program to reduce use of phosphorus within the watershed including a natural yard care seminar and requiring phosphorus control for all redevelopment projects. He added that Highway 99 complicates this issue, so they have discussed identifying constituents. Aaron Halverson stated that Lake Forest Park puts articles in their newsletter in spring and fall to educate citizens about using fertilizers with no phosphorus to improve water quality. He added that they also send letters to educate swimming pool owners on the proper way to back-flush pools to keep phosphorus levels down.

Edmonds Councilmember D. J. Wilson reported that both bills focusing on reducing the use of phosphorus in the watershed are in the second reading in the Rules Committee. He added that it was likely to pass the House based on the cosponsors, Stanford, Moscoso, Kagi, Lias, Ryu and Roberts. Mr. Wilson stated that the bill has strong support in the Senate but does not have McAuliffe and Shin. He recommended that the Forum pass a motion to send a letter of support for the bills.

**A motion was made and seconded to send a letter of support from the Forum before March 7 for HB1489 and SB5194. Motion passed.**

The Forum discussed moving forward on gathering hydraulic data to calibrate the model and removing the first culvert on the Nile as possible projects for this year.

After the meeting, the Forum went on a brief tour of the Fire Station in Lake Forest Park that has been flooded in the past.

### IV. Public Comments

Ken Peirce, Lake Ballinger Community Association (LBCA), provided written comments that the LBCA would like to see a large, wide, flat bottomed, pre-cast concrete culvert under the main road at the Nile, like the one on Hall's Creek under 228th Street, that allows high flow at low levels. He noted that even after that culvert is made right, and the other two culverts are removed altogether, the weir would still independently be a problem for flooding.

### VI. Adjournment

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 2:55 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 22, 2011 at Mountlake Terrace Interim City Council Chambers.