

DRAFT: Minutes of 10/14/97 Meeting of the Four Creeks U.A.C.

The meeting began at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Members Leonard J. Davidson, Norm Green, Ray Griffin, Mary Ellen Hamblin, Francine Hamilton, Rich Harris, Kathryn J. Kaluzny, Stan Rabe, Bob Rhoades, J. Patrick Spencer, Jack Steidl, Ken Ulrich, Jr., and Everett Wilcock. Also in attendance were the following government officials: Bong Santo Domingo; Lou Haff, City of Issaquah Program Manager; Pam Fox, City of Issaquah Program Coordinator for Capital Projects; Peg Laux, Seattle-King County Public Health Department.

1. Minutes of Meeting for September 9, 1997. The minutes for September 9, 1997 meeting were approved.

2. Treasurer's Report. Mary Ellen gave the Treasurer's report; the UAC has a balance of \$264.20. The treasurer's report was accepted.

3. Election and Vacancies on UAC. We reviewed vacancies and candidates. Bob was the only candidate for District 1; Mary Ellen for District 5; Everett for District 7; Francine Hamilton, Jim Busch, and Dave Prochaza for District 9.

We discussed the following vacant positions with no candidates: three at-large positions, District 3 (Eastwood and Daniel), District 10 (Colleen, Haas, and Mirrormont), and District 11 (Tiger Mountain and Hutchinson). We encouraged those present for the meeting to consider serving on the UAC. Everett described what we do and our projects. Later in the meeting, it was agreed that Francine would run for District 9 and Dave and Jim for two at-large positions. The candidates for UAC vacancies made short speeches. Rich made a motion, seconded by Ray, to accept write-in votes. One member said that, if one wanted to be on the UAC, the person should have submitted a petition to be on the ballot. The motion passed 8 to 2, with two abstentions.

Rich volunteered to prepare the voter information pamphlet and ballots and Pat the election publicity.

4. Southeast Issaquah Bypass. Lou Haff, City of Issaquah Program Manager, Pam Fox, City of Issaquah Program Coordinator for Capital Projects were present for a presentation about the Issaquah bypass. These are the major transportation projects in Issaquah: the northeast Issaquah-Sunset interchange, to increase access to I-90; two regional arterials, one north to the Plateau, and one south to the Issaquah-Hobart Road, bypassing the city.

The city has just begun the technical studies for the Environmental Impact Study ("EIS") for the bypass. It will be finalized in the third or fourth quarter of 1999. 2/3rds of the traffic is not generated by city residents, yet the city is building it. The bypass would have to be downsized if related projects are not done. There are no plans by the county to increase capacity on the Issaquah-Hobart Road. Lou said many believe that the bypass may just move the traffic problem to the south. Ray asked whether the traffic would go straight through or be controlled with traffic lights. Lou said the plan is to minimize stops, with a 35-mph speed limit and two or three synchronized traffic lights. Mary Ellen asked whether there was an effort to meet concurrency under the Growth Management Act ("GMA"). Lou said yes, the only reason. He could not give figures about capacity yet because modelling was not completed and more was learned since the adoption of the 1994 Comprehensive Plan ("CP"). The CP runs until 2015.

Rich asked if the county, state, and federal government were involved. Lou said they all were, together with private interests. The south spur was 100% private funding, the Sunset interchange costs were divided and the north spur \_\_\_\_\_. Everett asked about the impact of bypassing downtown, whether it was bad for the core city and encouraged growth outside of downtown. Lou said the impact would be part of the EIS.

There was some additional discussion of funding. The EIS, including modelling and planning, was expected to cost \$5 to \$6 million for all of the projects. Someone asked when the areas south of town would be addressed, with lowered speeds. Lou said that, within two or three months, the modelling would include a projection of traffic on the Issaquah-Hobart Road in five years and ten years. He said that lowering the speed limit would reduce safety, not increase it, that it is a high speed arterial. Everett asked how Lou would fix the problem.

Lou said left turn lanes could solve some and made comments about driveways and intersections. He mentioned a new federal law, "404," and said it takes an additional nine months to study wetlands.

Francine said 900 and Newport were bad intersections, and there was little parking. Pam said they will add parking room at two park'n'ride areas next summer. Everett said he wants King County to take up the issue of safety on the Issaquah-Hobart Road. Rich made a motion to put this on the agenda for our next meeting. Ray suggested that we deal with traffic safety as an open agenda item, with county officials to attend and announce and facilitate a subcommittee dealing with safety on that road. Ray seconded Rich's motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the matter was assigned to the transportation committee.

5. Septic Drainfields, Wells and Community Water Supplies. Peg Laux of the Seattle-King County Public Health Department gave a presentation about septic systems, wells, and community water supplies. She said rain recharges the ground water, but it is a limited resource. Septic systems are only for disposal. About ten or 15 years ago, the state decided that septic water should be treated. Gravity systems were studied. The effluent is extremely toxic. It goes to a pipe with two inches of gravel above it and six inches below. Because of ponding, three feet of vertical separation, with permeable soil, are needed between this and the seasonal or regular water table. If a site has two feet of permeable soil, then a pressure distribution system is used, with the effluent going out all at once to a much larger area. The size of the drainfield is determined by the type of soil. There is a pretreatment system, with sand or another filtering agent before the drainfield. A mound system, above the ground, has two feet of special sand and 18 to 30 inches of special soil.

The county presumes the more bedrooms in a dwelling unit, the more people reside there. Peg said a septic tank should be pumped every three to five years, to alleviate the possibility of grease discharge, which shortens the life of the system. An easy way to remember to do this is to schedule pumping every presidential election year. The best way to improve drainfield usage is to use less water. Roots can clog the system. If the system leaks, it will smell like rotten eggs and debris that looks like tattered gray rags will be present. She noted that the law provides that complaints are anonymous.

Peg said Lake Sawyer has septic contamination. About three years ago one or two wells were found to be contaminated.

The county monitors private wells with one connection. Wells with two to nine connections, which are Class B wells, are sited initially, monitored, and tested.

6. Miscellaneous Matters. Rich made a motion, seconded by Norm, that the minutes be sent to all who paid to subscribed to the UAC newsletter, with the minutes marked prominently as "draft." The motion passed, with one abstention.

Mary Ellen said she might go to the Citizen Participation Initiative Development Meeting on October 15, 1997. Several other meetings were announced.

Representative Brian Thomas is preparing legislation to the effect that any large landfill with significant adverse effects on a community could be closed.

Everett read off the county permit matters pending by type and location and some information about county activities in unincorporated areas.

Mary Ellen gave a report on the Burnstead annexation.

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn J. Kaluzny, Secretary