



City Manager's Friday Newsletter

Community Meetings Provide Update on City Focus North of US-2

Mayor Guzak and Councilmembers Greg Guedel and Lynn Schilaty convened community forums on May 25th and 26th to share information about the City's effort to plan for lands north of US-2. The City has designated a "North Planning Area" that demarks 640 acres of land suitable for incorporation into the City. City officials described our request to Snohomish County to enlarge the City's Urban Growth Area (UGA), a prerequisite before any annexation can occur. It is unknown at this time whether the County Council will approve the City's request for a larger UGA.

The City is interested in expanding to the north primarily because: 1) property owners have indicated an affiliation with Snohomish; 2) we prefer that any future urbanization adhere to City standards; and 3) the North Planning Area contains land that would be ideal for commercial development and the City must secure new sources of retail sales tax revenue in order to support ongoing services and preserve the character of our community. Snohomish has long preferred to remain relatively compact and grow modestly, thereby ensuring that Snohomish's character and charm is not lost.

These two forums brought our elected officials and citizens together for open discussion and dialogue. City representatives explained that because of new rules expected to be adopted this year by the County, changes to the City's UGA may not be considered until 2015—but that this additional time can be used to continue our community-based planning and visioning.

The City will adopt long-range land use plans created through partnership with property owners and residents of the North Planning Area. It is recognized that urban land development may not occur in this area for 10-20 years. When that time comes, the City of Snohomish will be prepared to guide and manage urban growth so that it will be a thoughtful and positive addition to our community. For more information, contact Corbitt Loch at (360) 282-3170 or loch@ci.snohomish.wa.us.

✧ ✧ Calendar 2010 ✧ ✧

Memorial Day (Observed)

Monday, May 31

City Hall CLOSED

City Council

Tuesday, June 1

Regular Meeting - 7 p.m.

Gilbertson Board Room

1601 Avenue D

Planning Commission

Wednesday, June 2 - 7 p.m.

Gilbertson Board Room

1601 Avenue D

May 28, 2010

www.ci.snohomish.wa.us