



CITY OF KIRKLAND
Planning and Community Development Department
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MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager
From: Eric Shields, Planning Director
Date: May 7, 2012
Subject: Planning Work Program

RECOMMENDATION

Determine the sequence of the following two projects in the Planning Work Program:

- Zoning Regulations and Comprehensive Plan Policies for the Houghton Business District
- MRM private amendment request

If the Council would like the Houghton Business District project to proceed first, pass the attached resolution amending the Planning Work Program.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION

The City Council adopted the 2012 - 2014 Planning Work Program on May 1, 2012. At the meeting, City Council members expressed an interest in accelerating work on the regulations for the Houghton Business District and asked staff to provide information on how this might be accomplished. As shown in attachment 1, this project (task 4.2) is scheduled to be accomplished in 2013 after completion of the MRM private amendment request (task 1.3). If Council desires, the Houghton Business District project could be sequenced prior to the MRM request.

Staff is currently engaged in three long range planning projects: Totem Lake zoning code amendments; miscellaneous zoning code amendments, and zoning code amendments for commercial zones (phase 1: BN & BC zones). These projects will be completed in June, July and August, respectively. At that time, work on the following new projects will begin: Totem Lake comprehensive plan amendments, 2012 comprehensive plan amendments (including the Howard and Parker private amendment requests) and phase 2 of zoning code amendments for commercial zones (including CBD ground floor uses). In addition to the above projects, staff has the capacity to start one additional project in the near future.

The work program adopted on May 1 indicates that the additional project will be the MRM private amendment request. The first step will be to determine the geographic scope for which an amendment should be considered. For example, the amendment may be appropriate for a larger portion of or even the entire CBD 5 zone. We will also

need to determine the extent of SEPA review required. Preliminarily, an EIS is likely to be required to supplement the environmental review prepared for the Park Place comprehensive plan and zoning code amendments. Given these requirements, it is not possible to complete the MRM request in time to be adopted with the 2012 comprehensive plan amendments in December.

As an alternative, work on the Houghton Business District could begin this year and the MRM project could be delayed until 2013. Given the policy work already included in the Houghton Neighborhood plan, staff believes it would be possible to complete this project this year. In addition to preparing new zoning regulations for the business district, amendments to the Everest Neighborhood Plan would be needed and could be incorporated into the 2012 plan amendments.

A further alternative would be to proceed with both projects in 2012 and delay another project. The only other project easily able to be delayed would be the Totem Lake comprehensive plan amendments. Staff does not recommend delaying the Totem Lake amendments as proceeding with them is consistent with the adopted Totem Lake Action Plan and the adopted 2012 City Work Program which prioritizes Totem Lake revitalization.

Council Direction Needed

Staff is seeking direction on whether the Council wishes to prioritize the Houghton Business District for 2012 and delay the MRM private amendment request until 2013. If so, the Council should adopt the attached resolution amending the Planning Work Plan. If the Council prefers to leave MRM first and take up the Houghton Business District in 2013, no action is needed.

RESOLUTION R-4921

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND
ADOPTING THE 2012–2014 PLANNING WORK PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the Kirkland City Council and the Kirkland Planning Commission met at a joint meeting on April 3, 2012, to discuss the proposed planning work program tasks and to set priorities; and

WHEREAS, the Kirkland City Council reviewed the work program at the April 19, 2012, study session and provided direction to staff for revisions; and

WHEREAS, the Kirkland City Council reviewed a revised work program at its May 1, 2012, regular meeting and passed Resolution R-4919 adopting the revised work program; and

WHEREAS, the Kirkland City Council further revised the work program at its May 15, 2012, regular meeting;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Kirkland as follows:

Section 1. The 2012-2014 Planning Work Program for the City of Kirkland, attached as Exhibit A, is adopted.

Section 2. This adopted Planning Work Program shall be generally used by the City staff and Planning Commission in scheduling work tasks and meeting and hearing calendars.

Section 3. A copy of this Resolution shall be distributed to the Planning Commission, Parks Board, Transportation Commission, Design Review Board, Neighborhood Associations, the Chamber of Commerce and Houghton Community Council.

Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open meeting this 15th day of May, 2012.

Signed in authentication thereof this _____ day of May, 2012.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

