

**Illahee Community Plan
Tuesday, April 15, 2008
Sylvan Way Library
Sylvan Way, Illahee**

MEETING SUMMARY

Present: 23 citizens; Staff: Patty Charnas, Dave Tucker, Dave Greetham, Katrina Knutson and Jonathan Pavy

Introduction and Overview: Jonathan Pavy opened the meeting at 6:00 pm. He welcomed everyone and introduced the other county staff in attendance with a brief overview of what each speaker would be talking about at the meeting. He also reminded everyone that this meeting is the only one that will be held at the Sylvan Way Library and all the others will be held at the Unitarian Church on Perry Avenue. He encouraged those in attendance to persuade their neighbors and friends to attend future meetings.

Old Business:

- The DCD Director has the pros and cons of installing a development moratorium on which he had many questions. Knutson said she had more research/work to do on the document.
- Emailing questions in advance seems to be working very well and we should continue doing so.

New Business:

Patty Charnas, Environmental Programs Manager, gave a brief overview of the environmental programs that the county manages – Critical Areas Ordinance, Shoreline Master Program, SEPA, etc. She informed the group that through reorganization, Natural Resources and Environmental Review Divisions were combined under one manager titled Environmental Programs. This would promote information sharing thereby being more effective.

Dave Greetham spoke next and started by giving a short history of his employment and involvement with SEPA. He said that in making a decision under SEPA the responsible official will consult certain documents like the SEPA checklist that the applicant fills out, any special studies or reports that may have been commissioned for the project or any other study that may have been accomplished for the general area. Taking all available information into consideration and consulting with KCC, a determination of the level of impact of the project, if any, will be published. There is no hard and fast rule of thumb that the determination (no significance, mitigated significance, etc) can be measured by but by only weighing all applicable information associated with the project.

A question was raised on what weight does, for instance, 300 people objecting to the proposal of one contractor have under SEPA? Greetham said the responsible official must evaluate the proposal by the prevailing policies and regulations. The topic of EIS was explained as to why and when one would be required. An EIS would more likely be required by the scope of the project and the amount of issues needed to be addressed.

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New Business (continued):

For instance, a development such as White Horse or ArborWood would require one because of the great amount of acreage involved. Judy Krigsmann wanted to know how can a project be conditioned if we do not have the science to substantiate our decision, especially related to aquifer recharge and water purveyors. Greetham said there is no comprehensive study on the aquifers in Central Kitsap as there are in the Suquamish area. This topic generated much discussion where it was made clear that the County does not regulate quantity but do regulate the quality of the water by stipulating what type of activity can take place in the Critical Aquifer Recharge areas.

Greetham continued with a discussion on critical areas which includes wetlands, lakes streams, steep slopes, critical aquifer recharge areas, etc. He discussed level of importance, buffer requirements and setbacks required for each instance. Frequently flooded areas commonly known as the flood zones require property owners to purchase flood insurance. Critical Aquifer Recharge areas are regulated by the allowed activity in those areas thereby ensuring water quality. KCC does not regulate quantity or rates of infiltration or base flow of Illahee Creek.

Dave Tucker talked about the advantages of Low Impact Development. His discussion was aided by PowerPoint and handouts showing examples of LID projects that promoted infiltration of storm/rainwater. He illustrated the benefits of installing rain gardens to reduce Stormwater runoff and filter pollutants before reaching waterways. Some of the basic strategies to plan and implement LID include: maximize retention of native vegetation to intercept, evaporate and transpire precipitation; preserve permeable, native soils and restore disturbed soils with compost and other amendments to infiltrate and store Stormwater; retain and incorporate topographic site features that promote infiltration and storage of Stormwater; direct the location of buildings and roads away from critical areas and soils that can effectively infiltrate stormwater.

He went on to say that as with any new technology, it takes a while to have wide spread acceptance. Developers are using more and more LID applications but in areas of pervious pavement, there are no vacuum trucks to periodically vacuum these pervious pavements. The county does not have any of these vacuum trucks and, as the practice become more prevalent, some private firm(s) may be contracted to perform the necessary maintenance.

Patty Charnas returned to the podium to talk about the Shoreline Management Master Program which is subordinate to WA State's Shoreline Management Act. She said that all counties have to revise their SMMP by 2012 which is a daunting undertaking.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Summary prepared by Jonathan Pavy