

February 2014 Meeting Minutes

The roll was taken with everyone present except for Tara Mahoney, Steve Hiestler received her proxy. The Agenda was approved for tonight's meeting as Lorraine Blacklock made the motion and Les Dawson seconded, the motion was approved unanimously.

Sean Kelly Deputy Mayor of the City of Maple Valley spoke briefly sharing a desire for the Maple Valley City Council to work together with the Greater Maple Valley Unincorporated Area Council. The MVC would like to connect with us and share concerns and ideas for making our area better. Ms. Erin Weaver of the Maple Valley City Council, shared that since they have moved their meetings to the 2nd and 4th Monday, it will allow her to attend our meetings on the first Monday. While we may have differences on growth, we have many things in common like: Fire, Schools, County business, traffic, Community events etc. She also mentioned that the Healthy Community Coalition will be meeting in March and she will let us know when that meeting is to take place.

Membership Discussion

Chuck and Anne Meis have officially resigned from the council because of busy schedules.

After receiving our newsletter Nikki Long made contact with us and wants to be considered for membership. She would like to be considered for membership on the GMVUAC representing the Lake Francis area. Nikki has property management experience from her professional life. Due to her keen interests in growth and transportation issues, Nikki joined both the Area Council's Growth Management and Transportation Committees. Rob Morris made a motion to receive her as a member and Todd Mitchell seconded the motion, motion approved unanimously.

Tre' Maxie from the King County Assessor's Office shared some great information helping us to better understand how they assess our property taxes and what help is available to make sure that we are taxed fairly and accurately. They assess over 700,000 parcels a year in King County and physically inspect about 1/6 of those parcels each year. The Valuations are set on January 1st. The two considerations that affect citizens taxes are the most are property value and levies that are approved by voters for their local area (School, Fire, etc.).

Seventeen cents of every property tax dollar supports the King County General Fund. The other 83 cents are divided between the State, cities and other local jurisdictions. Break downs among levies are included in one's tax bill.

Property tax bills for 2014 will be mailed out on February 14. The first half property tax portion will be due on April 30. Appeals can be filed online. For more information please visit: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/Assessor.aspx>

King County Transportation Concurrency Ordinance

The Area Council discussed King County's annual update to its Transportation Concurrency Management (TCM) Program.

The County prepares Concurrency Maps that divide the unincorporated area into 25 "Travel Sheds" that are meant to look at traffic flows in an area.

We have concern with one of the major elements of the proposed update: Travel Shed Splitting. The proposed change calls for separate evaluation of Urban and Rural areas within the same travel shed. Such separate concurrency evaluation could be counterproductive by allowing approval of more development within travel sheds that have urban areas, even though the vehicle trips generated by those urban areas may impact the rural areas of the same travel shed.

The Area Council voted to approve its Transportation Committee's comments and officially submit them to the King County Council. Warren Iverson made the motion and it was seconded by Lorraine Blacklock and unanimously passed. Growth Management, Peter went to meeting with Covington City council. He was disappointed at the turnout and surprised that there were not more citizens there to voice their concerns over the proposed annexation and plans for growth. He was able to share our concerns, which were mainly dealing with traffic congestion and adding to the traffic in the rural area. While the Covington City Council listened they were none responsive.

Transportation: Warren reported the county and state is trying to help the situation with the Hobart/Issaquah Rd. highway 18 interchange with better marking with paint and other non- obstructive means of showing lanes.

Susan shared that the transportation committee has been meeting regularly with the Four Creeks Area Council to discuss and prepare comments for the Joint Transportation Initiative to help improve travel problems. The Joint Transportation Initiative has a long term goal of improving traffic issues by 2040. The comments are due by March 10th.

We are looking forward to the reopening of the Maple Valley Police Precinct. The tentative plans are for a March 18th grand opening watch newspapers for the details.