



City of Olympia

City Hall
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Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, June 3, 2014

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

Special Study Session

1. ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Mayor Stephen H. Buxbaum, Mayor Pro Tem Nathaniel Jones, Councilmember Jim Cooper, Councilmember Julie Hankins, Councilmember Steve Langer, Councilmember Jeannine Roe and Councilmember Cheryl Selby

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Council met as scheduled at 6:00 p.m. and recessed to Executive Session for no more than forty-five minutes to discuss a real estate matter and potential litigation. All Councilmembers and the City Attorney were present. No decisions were made and the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

2. BUSINESS ITEM

2.A [14-0419](#) Storm and Surface Water Update

The City Council was introduced to three new Storm and Surface Water Utility initiatives:

- Storm and Surface Management Plan updates
- Low Impact Development (LID) code revisions
- Habitat and Land Stewardship Strategy

Water Resources staff explained approaches for updating the management plan, completing the State-mandated LID code revisions, and implementing the stewardship strategy. Work on the management plan will begin in earnest later this year. Work on the other two efforts is underway.

Council discussion focused on the means and tools to improve water quality and aquatic habitat in our community. The challenges of managing natural systems in an urban setting were discussed. In light of these challenges, the importance of alternative technologies, education, and community involvement were emphasized. The goal of improving both water quality and aquatic habitat was supported.

Council reinforced the importance of including the community on the management plan and LID initiatives. Achievable outcomes and respective costs will need to be discussed as the work efforts evolve. Understanding the feasibility and ultimate effectiveness of implementing new techniques will be critical to success. Implications of no action are important for the community to understand. Historical losses of habitat due to development remain a concern.

Council was interested in stormwater system maintenance on privately-owned systems and the current state of maintenance. Interactions with private owners, other jurisdictions, and various State agencies is important.

In-depth analysis of utility finances and potential rate structure will be needed as the planning work progresses.

The work session was completed.

3. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.