

From: Council
Sent: Wednesday, December 09, 2009 5:19 PM
To: 'Heidi Johnson'
Subject: RE: Puget Sound Park

Thank you for your message to the Burien City Council. It will be forwarded to the Councilmembers and included in the Correspondence for the Record for a future Council meeting.

L. Clausen
Burien City Manager's Office

From: Heidi Johnson [mailto:yiiiyyiiy@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 09, 2009 1:05 PM
To: kcexec@kingcounty.gov
Cc: bob.ferguson@kingcounty.gov; larry.gossett@kingcounty.gov; dow.constantine@kingcounty.gov; pete.vonreichbauer@kingcounty.gov; reagan.dunn@kingcounty.gov; larry.phillips@kingcounty.gov; kathy.lambert@kingcounty.gov; jane.hague@kingcounty.gov; julia.patterson@kingcounty.gov; jstoneback@northhighlineuac.org; rlopes@northhighlineuac.org; pprice@northhighlineuac.org; rhelms@northhighlineuac.org; dharrell@northhighlineuac.org; cwaldman@northhighlineuac.org; rpritchard@northhighlineuac.org; gduff@northhighlineuac.org; tvert@northhighlineuac.org; rjohnson@northhighlineuac.org; cwaldman@northhighlineuac.org; bong.stodomingo@kingcounty.gov; kevn.brown@kingcounty.gov; Margaret.Anthony@kingcounty.gov; Mike Martin; Council; kayjohn@kcls.org
Subject: Puget Sound Park

Good Afternoon King County Executive Dow Constantine, King County Council Members, Burien City Management, Burien City Council Members, King County Parks, King County Library System, and NHUAC Members,

I am concerned that no public outreach has occurred in our community regarding the sale of Puget Sound Park located in the North Highline Unincorporated Area of King County. The park was put up for sale during the previous Executive Administration soliciting developers for affordable housing and our community objected to that proposal as they valued the park as remaining a park. Parks are not easily acquired considering that development and growth occurs rapid within select communities. Our Community is one of them.

Although Libraries are also valued assets in our communities, closing down two Libraries to build one is not the answer. Both Libraries in Boulevard Park and White Center are very well used, are within waking distance to the community residents and students attending the local schools, and offer a wide variety of resources for both Boulevard Park and White Center residents and community groups. At the Burien City Council Meeting on December 7th, a woman named Rachael who is a member of the Library Guild testified during public comment the numbers of use for the White Center Library alone, and in a 2 month period, the usage amounted to 10,000 individuals as they have a door count.

In addition to the above, the Washington State Growth Management Act was enacted to move forward the processes of all unincorporated areas here is King County to become united with a neighboring city of the voters choice. It was said that the County needed to get out of the County Business of supplying Unincorporated Areas with resources. The previous Executive Administration worked very hard over many years with countless hours, and held many meetings through out the County trying to comply with the WSGMA. The City of Burien designated a portion of North Highline

CFT: 12/14/09

to annex to their City complying with the WSGMA standards. The Vote of the people in that area accepted the annexation proposal. It is unfair to our Community Residents and to the City of Burien to suddenly sell a park in this area. Burien proposed this annexation based on what our community is and that includes our park.

Our community is left with uncertainty because the sale of the park is affecting the peoples vote to annex by stopping the annexation date of March 2nd until the issue is resolved. Our votes do matter, our opinions do matter, and it is completely unfair to even think of selling our Park considering all the issues contained here in this letter without public input.

I would like to know what the KC Parks Department has to say about the social and environmental impact to communities when downsizing or selling park land like this is?

I would like to know from King County Library System how they foresee the social impact by closing two community libraries that are highly used?

There are allot of unanswered questions and I am hearing them at various community meetings and would like to reiterate the importance of public input on such issues that affect our community residents in so many different ways.

Thank you for your time,
Heidi Johnson