

## Kitsap Public Facilities District

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### Meeting Notes

#### Annual Planning Retreat to Develop 2006 Priorities

Saturday, January 21, 2006

La Garmache Catering, 1327 Bay Street, Port Orchard, WA 98366

**Attendance:** Walt Draper, Chair; Linda Berry-Maraist, Vice-chair; Christine Rolfes, Treasurer; Rick Smith; Steve Stagner; Warren VanZee. Staff: Anne Blair, Administrator.

**Call to Order:** Walt Draper convened the Annual Planning Retreat at 9:15 A.M. He explained that, although this meeting was subject to the Open Public Meetings Act, it was not a regularly scheduled meeting and that no formal action would be taken. Subject to approval by the board during the next regular board meeting (February 13, 2006), these Meeting Notes will be made available to the public on the KPFD website.

1. The board reviewed the findings of the October 2005 Citizen Survey regarding Kitsap County Parks and Open Space. There was general agreement that more information and background was needed to interpret the seemingly strong shift in community sentiment and priorities from those gleaned from a similar survey in 2002. Based on a superficial look at the survey results, despite the board's belief that there continues to be a shortage of sports and recreation facilities in the county, the board has little interest this year in putting forward a ballot measure to increase sales tax as a way of funding more sports, recreation facilities.

Anne will invite Mary McClure, who designed and conducted the 2002 survey (this survey is the model for the 2005 survey too), as well as the Trust for Public Lands Survey taken in 2000, to educate the board about the differences among these surveys and offer insights into interpreting the differences shown in community priorities between 2000 and 2005. She also will invite Terri Battuello, County consultant for the 2005 survey, to educate the board about these survey results. Terri will be invited to offer additional interpretations or guidance for using this information.

Anne will review the accuracy and completeness of the facilities inventory completed in early 2005, and, once confident that this inventory is an appropriately developed tool, she will design and present a plan for comparing Kitsap County's field and facility inventory/resources to those in other counties in Washington. This information is an important component in understanding and determining an effective use of the sales tax rebate funds in the future.

2. Based on the anecdotal reports, as well as past surveys, the board continues to be committed to increasing the number and quality of multi-use sports facilities in the county. They identified ways of identifying and verifying community needs for PFD funds. Much will be learned through feedback obtained during the County Open Space focus group discussions and from more accurate figures about school district maintenance costs due to the community use of the school-district owned fields. There was general agreement that, although PFD funds may be used for maintenance and operations of regional facilities built with revenue from the sales tax rebate, these funds are slated to sunset in 2027. Using current sales tax rebate is not a sound way to address on-going facility maintenance costs. The board discussed other approaches to increasing the funds available for constructing and improving more fields, trails and other recreational facilities in this county. All felt that it was important the community have accurate and persuasive information linking revenue generation from tournament hosting/utilization of high quality fields and the need for and reasonableness of an increased sales tax to pay for these improvements.

There was consensus that because the current revenue stream from the sales tax rebate exceeds the bond debt service, it is appropriate to work with the State Legislature to amend the initial sales tax rebate legislation to assure these funds are more accessible for a longer period of time. Anne will research the various issues underlying extension of both the window of time permitted to begin building public facilities with the sales tax revenue and the sunset date for the sales tax rebate. Currently, it is scheduled to sunset in 2027. She also will contact other PFDs in WA State about this approach and report to the board with a recommendation for action.

3. The board asked Anne to develop a new power point presentation to highlight the positive economic impacts of the new KPFd funded facilities in Kitsap County. This presentation is an appropriate way to keep the community service groups, Chambers of Commerce and city councils aware of the KPFd and to discuss with each group future plans/needs for funding for additional public facilities. The economic impacts can be reported, using dollars and cents figures where available, "heads in beds" statistics for a given time period, and by showing increases (percentages) in number of events and/or attendance at the events or programs. Once this slide show is ready, Anne will work with board members to schedule presentations in each constituent area.

4. Linda Berry-Maraist showed the board the most recent schematic/conceptual drawings for the NK REC Master Plan and discussed the estimated costs, as well as the initial construction priorities for the project. The board discussed these priorities and generally agreed that, if there are sufficient funds available in the PFD Capital Projects budget, the PFD would allocate \$1million to the NK REC to launch the project in a visible and immediately impactful way. Tentatively, the board is interested in supporting installation of artificial turf to increase the public use of the High School stadium field and adding to the matching funds requirements for a grant to refurbish the Strawberry Fields similarly to increase public use of these fields. Specific numbers for this allocation and the projects it will help fund will be determined at a later date and acted upon in a Regularly Scheduled meeting of the board.

5. The board next discussed new information from the County about the need to re-establish and maintain the debt stabilization fund (Fund 286) at the \$900,000 level following refund of \$500,000 from that fund for immediate use in PFD-qualified capital projects. The board agreed that this change was contrary to their earlier understandings about the purpose of and need for a stabilization fund. Walt and Anne will research the basis for this change in the resolution and work with the County to remove the stipulation that the stabilization fund be reestablished at the \$900,000 level.

6. The board reviewed the current proposal that a Stadium Facilities District (SFD) build, own and operate a stadium in the south county to host ISC/NASCAR races and other special events. There is a difference in the funding obligations and risk to bond holders between SFDs and PFDs. The ISC/NASCAR proposal is based on issuance of revenue bonds with repayment coming from an especially named revenue stream related to the project being financed. Bond holders bear the risk for these bonds. The PFD bonds are General Obligation bonds and, while the bond debt may be served by a specific revenue stream, the bond indebtedness is guaranteed by the government entity's general fund and that entity carries the risk.

7. The KPFd is interested in participating in the County's stated focus on trails and waterfront purchases. It was suggested that the PFD might decide to support staff working on trail development/planning. Christine Rolfes will work with Anne and the County to bring lessons learned from Bainbridge Island's successful and recent trail development efforts to the county effort.

**8.** The 2006 Planning Retreat adjourned at 2 PM.