Marysville City Council Retreat March 4, 1995 - Public Works Building

Present: Mayor Dave Weiser

Councilmembers: Shirley Bartholomew

Ken Baxter Otto Herman Mike Leighan John Myers

Donna Pedersen - Mayor Pro Tem

Donna Wright

Administrative Staff:

Ken Winckler, Public Works Director Dave Zabell, City Administrator Lillie Lein, Recording Secretary

Others:

Larry Wade, Consultant

Margaret Natterstadt, Interested Citizen



Mayor Weiser began the retreat at 9:05 a.m. stating that the purpose of this retreat is to discuss areas to be serviced by Marysville water and sewer and maybe decide how, when and under the conditions could those areas outside of RUSA be serviced.

Ken Winckler explained that his department is going through the process of developing a water comprehensive plan and has asked Hammond, Collier, Wade-Livingstone to study specific areas adjacent to RUSA to see if Marysville could economically service those areas.

Larry Wade of Hammond, Collier, Wade-Livingstone explained the methodology used in obtaining the 20-year projected populations included in Table 2-1, page 16 of the handout. In referring to the map, figure 2-4, Mr. Wade explained that the red line approximated Marysville's Interim Urban Growth Boundary while the blue line delineated CWSP/Marysville Comprehensive Water Planning Boundary (CWSP). He noted that Table 2-2 shows what would happen if the rural (CWSP) areas became urban. He further stated that Area 4 is outside RUSA and CWSP which makes Table 2-2 inaccurate but you would still be looking at 50,000 additional people at build out. Ken Winckler pointed out that the City would be looking at a population of 60,000 plus 50,000 and Mr. Wade concurred.

Moving on to Figure 4-3, Mr. Wade noted that item 7 is the Stillaguamish water pipeline. Table 4-6 was developed by using acreage plus the census figure and using .015 dwelling units per acre plus 2.19% growth and using the assumption that Marysville would only serve 10% which equals 1029 persons needing service, an insignificant amount. Councilor Pedersen asked how they determined the 10% assumption and Mr. Wade replied that this is the area not included in one's urban growth boundary and would probably develop at rural densities, largely served private wells. Councilor Pedersen stated that the Snohomish County Health District is

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considering not allowing private wells on property of five acres or less so that figure may go up in 20 years. Councilor Baxter felt this could only be for properties where public sources of water are available. City Administrator Zabell asked if the figure deleted sensitive areas and Mr. Wade stated that it did not but was, in fact, gross acreage.

Mr. Wade distributed a new map, figure 2-2 which picks up area four and corrects the previous table. The new map also shows the County Council's proposed action on the urban growth boundary. Councilor Herman asked if the County's decision was consistent with the new annexation petition recently received and Mr. Zabell replied it was with the exception of a small section North of 152nd West of 51st Avenue.

Mr. Wade noted a comment regarding sewer in area 3 and stated that he was confident that area could be serviced through the 51st Street line. Mayor Weiser noted that they were discussing servicing the urban growth boundaries but planning for other areas and asked if the City had the capacity to serve the urban growth boundary? Mr. Zabell said the Council might want to consider having a rural service boundary and an urban service boundary. Councilor Herman asked if this would be for sewer and density and Mr. Zabell suggested it could be for both. Councilor Herman questioned if they would want to consider a longer range plan than 20 years on how the system ld be affected. Mr. Zabell stated that it was good policy to size utilities on a horizon of 50-100 years in some cases.

Councilor Baxter questioned whether the Tulalip reservation had been considered. He noted there is an option to serve the reservation and use their deep water outfall at Mission Beach. There was some discussion regarding this option with Mr. Wade explaining the water wheeling agreement currently being negotiated. Mr. Winckler stated that, based on his involvement in the negotiations, the Tribes were anxious to move the utility service issues forward.

Mr. Wade explained the sewer comp plan in relation to the Tribes; the affect on capacity of pipes and sewer treatment needs. He said there is plenty of capacity in trunk line A so after you solve the problem of connecting to it, then treatment capacity would need to be addressed in the long term.

Councilor Baxter asked what the next step in treatment would be? Mr. Wade stated the City has the necessary property to up-grade the current treatment plant but eventually a new outfall may be necessary depending on flows and future regulation..

Mayor Weiser asked if assuming the flows from the Tribes and from Arlington, would the City have enough capacity without impacting the City's ability to grow? Mr. Wade replied that with the recent up-grade of the treatment plant, they had allowed for an additional 2 million capacity ε^{*} are that anticipated by system growth over the 20 year period (1992-2012).

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There was some discussion of the need for policy and rate structures in regard to usage with Mr. Wade noting that there is a proposal in the process of being developed regarding rates for strong wastes. This proposal has not yet been presented to Council.

Councilor Bartholomew noted that another consideration to be made is that the Tribes are in the process of requesting recession from State regulation. If approved, the Tribes would have total regulation over themselves.

Mr. Winckler stated that his staff is looking for direction regarding the designation of boundaries, specifically, what boundaries will be served, what areas will need a variance and Council approval, where Marysville will not/cannot serve. Councilor Pedersen thought that at the last retreat the elimination of RUSA was discussed and that City Attorney Weed was to be looking into this. Mr. Zabell stated that the City Attorney was doing this but that there would need to be some type of service area boundaries prior to eliminating RUSA.

Mayor Weiser asked if they couldn't reduce down to two boundaries, i.e. CWSP for water and urban growth boundaries for sewer. Mr. Wade stated that one problem of just considering the urban growth boundaries is that it is a five-year boundary. Ten-fifteen years from now it could be stically changed. From a utility standpoint, he noted, you must consider the future further down the road than that. Mr. Baxter noted that, little by little, the service area is expanding back to what Marysville had planned for twenty years ago, mainly due to topography and infrastructure in place by Marysville.

Councilor Herman stated that he did not see any reason to do a lot of planning beyond Highway 9; however, he did feel the issues of deep water outfall with the Tribes and the issue of continued use of Stillaguamish water rights needed to be addressed. He also felt an agreement needed to be ultimately reached with Arlington.

Mr. Zabell noted that the North boundary and the triangle (area 2) was the toughest to pin down. Councilor Herman noted that he specifically was referring to water to Arlington through the Stillaguamish. Mr. Zabell said a filtration plant would be needed if this was done suggesting that Arlington should pay for that.

Councilor Leighan asked if there would be any logic to developing an industrial water supply? Mr. Wade felt that was the direction the City was headed.

Mayor Weiser stated that there was almost an earlier agreement based on logical not political lines showing a boundary at 188th and asked if they still wanted to consider that? Councilor Herman felt that was a "what if" situation assuming another municipality will enter into a revenue ring agreement for service. Councilor Leighan asked how that would affect the rate structure?

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Councilor Baxter was concerned that no matter where boundaries were put, there would be a need for further refining. He felt the infrastructure in existence should be used to distribute rates more equitably. Mr. Zabell stated that the further out you go, the higher maintenance and delivery costs tended to be.

Councilor Bartholomew asked if a tiered rate structure was needed and Mr. Zabell noted that the City already has rates for inside City limits and outside City limits. Councilor Wright suggested that maybe zones needed to be determined.

Mr. Wade referred to the comprehensive sewer plan map noting the green line was the ultimate boundary. He said the urban growth boundary was near term and the area to the northeast could be serviced by contract as well as the southeast area. He also added that the Tribes could also be a contract area for flow or Marysville may want the option to retain control of sewer flow.

Mayor Weiser asked how a contract would work on the north end. Mr. Wade suggested that, if Arlington were to annex that area, Marysville could propose that Arlington either purchase the system and treat the sewage or contract with Marysville to service the area, or, Arlington could be required to provide their own service within a specific time frame. A short discussion of the effect e options would create followed. Councilor Baxter thought the City had a practical boundary worked out with Arlington but that Marysville should not be bashful about rates to support the system. Councilor Bartholomew agreed and added that the City should consider having a reserve built into rates. Councilor Pedersen agreed with Councilor Bartholomew regarding the need for a reserve.

Mayor Weiser suggested the consideration of establishing rates outside with a break to those living inside Marysville proper. Councilor Leighan questioned the ability to charge higher rates and Mr. Zabell explained that the City would have to demonstrate the need. Mr. Wade noted that some arguments for higher rates in rural areas are the need for more pipe and the lower population density increasing the cost of maintenance. Mr. Wade further pointed out that the citizens of Marysville are responsible for utility revenue bonds, and that there is certainly a value to that to unincorporated citizens.

Councilor Bartholomew referred to an article in "Cities and Towns Magazine" and noted that City Attorney Weed had suggested the City get a copy of the study and begin discussions in RUSA. Mr. Zabell noted that we are in the process of getting a copy of that study.

Mr. Winckler asked if it would be helpful for the Council to begin with the water issue only? Councilor Herman suggested using Highway 9 as a dividing point and the other areas shaded in on the figure 2-4 map. Councilor Baxter asked if they couldn't go back to the original gravity flow hundaries? Mr. Zabell stated that density and pipe sizing was also important. Councilor

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Pedersen asked what the cost was on the respective line size and their capacity. Mr. Zabell explained that there was not a big difference in cost between 8-12" pipe but there was a big difference when using over 12" pipe mainly due to the need for different equipment to install pipe. Councilor Myers suggested a line including all of the shaded areas west of Highway 9.

Councilor Leighan expressed concern regarding Marysville announcing their intention to service certain areas before rates are established. His concern was that potential users have a clear picture of the cost involved for service.

Mr. Zabell noted that the boundaries are the first step. Next policies must be developed which will provide for logical and orderly implementation.. Councilor Leighan felt the capability of service versus who will be serviced should be defined.

Mr. Winckler asked if the new boundary could have a new name. Consensus was the new name should be "Proposed Water Planning Boundary" and this boundary will be: CWSP Boundary as shown on figure 2-4 plus study areas 1-6.

The retreat adjourned for lunch at 11:40 a.m. and reconvened at 12:25 p.m.

The discussion after the lunch break was centered around establishing a sewer boundary. It was noted that industrial water often uses less capacity than single family dwellings developed on large tracts of land. The problem is the strength of the sewage.

Councilor Baxter referred to the Soper Hill area and suggested going by topography noting that, if Lake Stevens wanted to service that area, Marysville should, where it makes sense, let them. Councilor Herman suggested serving all areas in the urban growth boundary for Marysville and serving others by contract. Mayor Weiser suggested using the green line on the comprehensive sewer plan map as the entire area of possible service with contracts for areas outside Marysville's urban growth boundary. After a short discussion of the requirements, implications, etc. of the new State law mandating municipalities to establish agreements with other municipalities regarding areas they are able to serve, the consensus was a boundary of:

South boundary to be determined by terrain and ability to serve
East boundary - Highway 9
North boundary - 172nd Street plus area 1 and a portion of area 2 (as designated on the sewer comprehensive map)
West boundary - I-5 to Third NW (greater portion Area 2)

Mr. Winckler recapped that the goal was that anything in the urban growth boundary would need c 'v staff approval as is done in RUSA today; outside the urban growth boundary would require

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City Council action. Mr. Zabell noted that staff will proceed from this point to develop a policy to bring to City Council for approval.

First Street:

Mr. Wade gave a brief history of the First Street By-Pass. He delineated several obstacles and changes in the transportation system that have occurred since the original plan, i.e., Public Works Building has been built and the front parking, additional traffic in the area, the proximity of the proposed traffic light at First and State, wetland issues, the completion of SR 528 connecting east/west Marysville and Second Street improvements. Councilmembers Herman and Wright suggested if First Street By-Pass were constructed, it would make sense to designate westbound traffic on First Place as right turn only on State. Councilor Leighan questioned the need for the by-pass suggesting the money might be better spent for a traffic light at First Street and State or other street improvements. Councilor Pedersen noted that this has been on the 6 year Transportation Plan since 1968 but has not materialized adding that a lot has changed since then. A discussion of public works traffic followed with Mr. Zabell estimating 400-500 trips per day emanating from 80 Columbia Avenue.

ncilmember Myers suggested postponing the First Street By-Pass and open Alder at the south end. Consensus on Councilor Myers suggestion was reached with the exception of Councilor Baxter who did not agree that opening Alder would replace the need for the by-pass.

88th Street N.E: Mr. Winckler gave a review of the recent neighborhood meeting regarding the extension of 88th Street N.E. to Highway 9 held February 15. He said those who attended were asked to complete a survey with a majority of responses being in the negative. He noted that most people were not concerned that the road was going in but where it would be going in. Mrs. Hunter had submitted a petition to stop the extension. Mr. Winckler reviewed additional responses to the study and will be including the results in the next weekly briefing.

Fourth Street By-Pass: Mr. Wade reviewed the route of the Fourth Street By-Pass. He noted that Welco needs a 15' haul road South to the log dump to continue operation. He stated that the area where the haul road meets the by-pass is a concern. He felt adding a left hand turn pocket by widening the curve might help. He also recommended left turn pockets at State Avenue and First Street adding that he thought this corner meets four or five warrants for a stop light justification.

Mr. Winckler noted the haul road was not a legal issue for the City because Marysville has no jurisdiction there but it is a safety concern to the citizens of Marysville. Mr. Winckler said the next step was for the City to meet with the State and Tribe. Mr. Winckler stated that John Klassell remed him that the State would improve their portion to meet Marysville standards. Mr. Zabell ationed that a good written record of the City's concerns on the other side be made. Councilor

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Bartholomew suggested addressing those concerns to Mr. Klassell emphasizing that the safety factor is a major concern of the City Council.

Mr. Winckler further noted that Mr. Klassell has indicated that they were intending to discontinue access to the boat ramp. A brief discussion about the boat ramp followed with no conclusion reached.

The retreat adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Lillie Lein, Recording Secretary