


CITY OF MARYSVILLE AGENDA BILL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY FOR ACTION

CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 12/11/17

AGENDA ITEM:	
Consideration to Petition to Withdraw from the Snohomish Conservation District	
PREPARED BY:	DIRECTOR APPROVAL:
Kevin Nielsen, Public Works Director	
DEPARTMENT:	
Public Works	
ATTACHMENTS:	
N/A	
BUDGET CODE:	AMOUNT:
N/A	N/A
SUMMARY:	

The Snohomish Conservation District is a political subdivision of state government with no regulatory authority. They have been working with farmers, city residents, and rural and suburban landowners on a voluntary basis since 1941 to implement conservation practices. At that time, District boundaries did not include the then-current City limits and therefore the District boundary for Marysville excludes the downtown portion south of Grove Street, but includes all areas annexed since 1941. As approved in 2010, the District annually assesses \$5 per parcel or \$.05 per acre within their District boundaries. On November 29, 2017, the Snohomish County Council voted to increase the assessment to \$6.

Per RCW 89.08.185 the local governing body of any city or incorporated town within an existing district may approve by majority vote a petition to withdraw from the District. If the Council votes to withdraw, staff will draft a petition. The petition shall be submitted to the district for its approval. If approved by the district, the petition shall be sent to the commission. The commission shall approve the petition and forward it to the secretary of state and the boundary of the district shall be adjusted accordingly. If the petition is not approved by the district, the district shall adopt a resolution specifying the reasons why the petition is not approved. The petition and the district's resolution shall be sent to the commission for its review. The commission shall approve or reject the petition based upon criteria it has adopted for evaluation of petitions in dispute.

Based on staff communication with the WA State Conservation Commission's Policy Director, the Commission has not adopted rules with criteria for evaluating a petition to withdraw from a district, but has committed to bringing this issue to the attention of the commission for their consideration as to the development of such criteria. In the absence of criteria, staff will make recommendations to the commission as to criteria and procedures that should be used.

<p>RECOMMENDED ACTION: Staff is seeking direction from Council regarding how to proceed.</p>
