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WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
**Finance and Administrative Services Committee**

May 6, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 11:10 a.m. by Committee Chair Sam Crawford in the Council Chambers, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, Washington.

Present:

L. Ward Nelson  
Sharon Roy

Absent:

None

Also Present:

Barbara Brenner  
Seth Fleetwood  
Dan McShane  
Laurie Caskey-Schreiber

**COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL**

**1. ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF LIMITED TAX GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS (AB2003-156)**

Crawford stated the Prosecuting Attorney's Office has engaged the services of attorney Cynthia Weed, who specializes in bond issuances. She has reviewed the ordinance and signed off as to legal form of the ordinance.

Barbara Cory, Treasurer, stated the County has a unique opportunity to refund a bond issue that has been on the books since 1993. She is refinancing this issue because rates are so low. It will save the taxpayers over \$460,000 over the life of the bond. Whatcom County has received an A1 rating. Many municipalities' ratings have been downgraded. The County administration worked hard to put this together.

When she refunds bonds, she looks for three to five percent savings to justify the cost. Because of the historic low interest rates, the refund is a savings of almost 12 percent.

Crawford stated they are investing \$45,000 to save \$460,000. Cory stated that is correct.

Nelson asked if they are going to call the old bond with an interest rate of 3.9 percent. Cory stated \$700,000 that had not been spent is left over from another bond. They decided to use the money to help refund this bond issue.

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1 Nelson asked if they need to use County reserves to pay it off. He asked to  
2 know the differences between the bonds and what they can and can't do with the  
3 new bond.

4  
5 Karen Thomas, Treasurer's Office, stated they are refinancing the original  
6 bond.

7  
8 Cory stated that if they don't spend the \$700,000 on the old bond, they will  
9 lose this deal.

10  
11 Nelson asked who made this decision. Cory stated the Administrative  
12 Financing Committee made the decision. In the past, she has not run bond issues  
13 past that committee, but decided to do so this time. The administration  
14 participated in those discussions also.

15  
16 ***Nelson moved*** to recommend adopting the ordinance to the full Council.

17  
18 ***Motion carried unanimously.***

19  
20  
21 **COUNCIL "CONSENT AGENDA" ITEM**

22  
23 **1. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO AN**  
24 **INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND THE**  
25 **CITY OF BELLINGHAM FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AS**  
26 **APPROVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL ON 4/22/03 WITH**  
27 **RECOMMENDED CHANGES BY THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM (AB2003-**  
28 **165A)**

29  
30 Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, stated the City of Bellingham is  
31 proposing changes that the County administration agrees with. Changes regard  
32 sharing decision-making on certain issues.

33  
34 ***Nelson moved*** to recommend approval of the substitute agreement, with  
35 changes proposed by the City of Bellingham.

36  
37 Caskey-Schreiber read the letter from Mayor Asmundson regarding the  
38 agreement. The City Council prefers to hold the election in September.

39  
40 Brenner stated she doesn't want to leave fire districts #16 and #18  
41 stranded, but there is an alternative. They can put their levy on the primary  
42 election, at a cost of just a few thousand dollars. If the County puts it on the  
43 primary election, and that is the only issue, the County will spend \$60,000 of  
44 taxpayer money, which isn't fair. There is not enough time to hold the election in  
45 September and make sure the public is aware of the issue. General elections are  
46 better to get a feel for what a majority of the people want. They have to get 40

1 percent of the people who voted in the last election. It will be easier to do that in  
2 the general election. She won't support a primary election.  
3

4 Roy stated her concern is to give this the best chance possible to pass. She  
5 wants the voters to see the attitude from the government that it will pass. She  
6 asked if there must be 40 percent turnout from the previous election. Desler stated  
7 this issue needs 40 percent of those who voted in the last general election to vote.  
8 Of that 40 percent who vote, 60 percent plus one person must approve the levy.  
9

10 Roy stated she is concerned about the requirement for 40 percent voter  
11 turnout if there is no other reason for a primary. It's likely that this will be the only  
12 item on the ballot.  
13

14 Crawford stated he didn't think they would get the 40 percent turnout.  
15 During the last general election, the turnout was about 90,000. That would require  
16 a turnout of 36,000 people. They'll get that in the general election this year, but  
17 not the primary election.  
18

19 Desler stated he has updated information from the Auditor. The cost would  
20 be \$140,000 to \$150,000 for a primary election for emergency medical services  
21 (EMS) only, that does not involve another countywide race. If that were the chosen  
22 date, the City and County would split the cost equally. A November election would  
23 be far less costly.  
24

25 Roy asked if the City Council asked for the September date instead of the  
26 November date. Desler stated he heard there was a request from the City Council  
27 for the County Council to reconsider the date and hold the election in September.  
28

29 Roy stated the fire districts sent a letter requesting a September election  
30 date.  
31

32 Brenner stated she would like to consider using a small portion of the EMS  
33 levy for the ballot measures for fire districts #16 and #18. Then they can put it on  
34 the primary ballot, and can campaign for it. If the general levy passes, the formula  
35 will be redone to make sure they don't lose any money.  
36

37 ***Motion carried 2-1 with Crawford opposed.***  
38

39 Nelson stated Councilmember Brenner's issue is separate from that issue.  
40

41 Desler stated the administration would bring forward a resolution amending  
42 the existing resolution that was sent to the Auditor regarding the levy date.  
43

44 Roy stated she would like to consider Councilmember Brenner's suggestion.  
45 She really wants this to pass. Consider the repercussions to these two fire districts.  
46

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1 Desler stated a district vote-by-mail election, which the Auditor  
2 recommends, would cost approximately \$4,000. It would not be necessary if the  
3 countywide levy passes. The district has the same voting requirements to meet.  
4 The County or City could not pay the election cost of the district. It is a district  
5 responsibility because it does not have a countywide impact.  
6

7 Brenner withdrew her request, but stated it is a small amount of money for  
8 the fire districts. It would be a wise move to hold their election during the primary.  
9

10 **2. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO AWARD BID#03-**  
11 **32 TO THE LOWEST BIDDER, WHATCOM BUILDERS, FOR THE**  
12 **ASPHALT CONCRETE OVERLAY AND PRELEVEL AT MISCELLANEOUS**  
13 **COUNTY LOCATIONS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$822,095 (AB2003-182)**  
14

15 *Nelson moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.  
16

17 *Motion carried unanimously.*  
18

19 **3. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO AWARD BID#03-**  
20 **30 FOR THE ANNUAL SUPPLY OF ASPHALTIC MIXES FOR COUNTY**  
21 **ROAD PROJECTS TO THE APPROPRIATE LOW BIDDER, BASED ON JOB**  
22 **LOCATION AND DISTANCE FROM PLANT, AND PRODUCT**  
23 **AVAILABILITY, FOR A TOTAL EXPENDITURE OF APPROXIMATELY**  
24 **\$400,000 (AB2003-183)**  
25

26 *Nelson moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.  
27

28 *Motion carried unanimously.*  
29

30 **4. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**  
31 **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM**  
32 **COUNSELING & PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC AND WHATCOM COUNTY**  
33 **HEALTH DEPARTMENT, TO ENGAGE HOMELESS PEOPLE WITH CO-**  
34 **OCCURRING DISORDERS IN MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE**  
35 **ABUSE TREATMENT, AND TO ASSIST THEM IN OVERCOMING**  
36 **BARRIERS FOR HOUSING, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$42,122 (AB2003-**  
37 **184)**  
38

39 *Roy moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.  
40

41 Nelson asked how this helps the lighthouse mission reduce stress.  
42

43 Andy Byrne, Human Services Division Manager, stated it's not aimed to help  
44 the Lighthouse Mission, but to help homeless people with co-occurring disorders.  
45 That might have an indirect effect on the Lighthouse Mission. Emergent housing  
46 exists in various places in the county, including the Lighthouse Mission.  
47

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1 Nelson asked if there is adequate housing to meet the needs of the client at  
2 this level. Byrne stated there is not, countywide. There are programs for interim  
3 hotel vouchers. Once someone is in treatment, the case managers can help those  
4 folks get housing.

5  
6 Nelson asked if the beds that are closed down through the State budget  
7 process would fall under Section 8. Byrne stated he's told that Section 8 housing  
8 has not been capped. Wherever those people come to, they will apply.

9  
10 Roy asked the amount of direct service. Byrne stated 150 to 180 hours per  
11 month are for outreach workers that go into the community. They are hoping to  
12 have a revolving caseload of 20 to 25 people, with no one being in the program  
13 longer than six months.

14  
15 Roy asked if they could have repeat clients. Byrne stated they can reengage  
16 someone who has backed far out of treatment, so the existing service unit has to  
17 close them out as a client.

18  
19 Roy asked why the contractor must assure that no more than two persons  
20 perform the outreach and case management services. Byrne stated they didn't  
21 want a contract that would divvy the money up to existing staff of a contractor.  
22 They want a fulltime person or two part-time people doing outreach and case  
23 management.

24  
25 Brenner asked the process that will let them know if this program has any  
26 effect. She asked if there would be program monitoring. Byrne stated he is  
27 holding the contractor responsible for providing monthly reports. He convenes all  
28 outreach coordinators for many programs monthly.

29  
30 ***Motion carried unanimously.***

- 31  
32 **5. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**  
33 **CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF**  
34 **ECOLOGY – REHAB THE LAB PROGRAM, TO PROVIDE**  
35 **REIMBURSEMENT TO PROPERLY REMOVE HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS**  
36 **FROM WHATCOM COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE LABS, IN THE**  
37 **AMOUNT OF \$35,550 (AB2003-185)**

38  
39 ***Nelson moved*** to recommend approval to the full Council.

40  
41 ***Motion carried unanimously.***

- 42  
43 **6. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**  
44 **CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND COASTAL GEOLOGIC**  
45 **SERVICES, INC. (CGS), TO PROVIDE FOR THE FIFTH (2003) AND**  
46 **SIXTH (2004) YEARS OF MONITORING OF THE LIGHTHOUSE PARK**

1           **BEACH RESTORATION PROJECT, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,340**  
2           **(AB2003-186)**

3  
4           *Nelson moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

5  
6           Roy asked when they would see the results of the monitoring.

7  
8           Paula Cooper, River and Flood Division Manager, stated they've monitored  
9 for four years. They are learning some things. They've installed measures that  
10 have saved the erosion of the park. Fish habitat is coming back.

11  
12           *Motion carried unanimously.*

13  
14   **7.    REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**  
15   **FARMLAND LEASE BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY PARKS AND**  
16   **RECREATION AND ARON HOVANDER, TO FARM APPROXIMATELY 80**  
17   **ACRES OF LAND AT HOVANDER HOMESTEAD PARK IN FERNDALE, FOR**  
18   **A TERM OF THREE YEARS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,000 PER YEAR**  
19   **(AB2003-187)**

20  
21           *Nelson moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

22  
23           Roy stated the farming techniques are changing to organic.

24  
25           *Motion carried unanimously.*

26  
27   **8.    REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**  
28   **LAND LICENSE AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY PARKS**  
29   **AND RECREATION AND GARY VAN DYK, TO CUT HAY AND SILAGE AT**  
30   **DEMING HOMESTEAD EAGLE PARK IN DEMING (AB2003-188)**

31  
32           *Nelson moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

33  
34           *Motion carried unanimously.*

35  
36   **9.    REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO**  
37   **AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT**  
38   **BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND URS CORPORATION, FOR**  
39   **ASSISTANCE DURING BIDDING AND CONSTRUCTION PHASES ON THE**  
40   **SAAR CREEK SEDIMENT TRAP PROJECT, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$27,982**  
41   **FOR A TOTAL AMENDED CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$42,556**  
42   **(AB2003-189)**

43  
44           *Roy moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

45  
46           Nelson asked why they are doubling the cost.

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1 Paula Cooper, River and Flood Division Manager, stated they needed a  
2 contract to get the drawings they needed for the bid process. They developed a set  
3 of plans through the first contract. Modifications were required due to changes as  
4 they went through the specification process. They needed to get going early, so  
5 they did a contract within the administration's authority, to get the modifications,  
6 so the plans could go out for bid.

7  
8 Nelson stated the original contract was for \$14,000. The last increase was to  
9 \$28,000, which was double. Cooper stated that gave them enough money to get  
10 through the stuff they needed to get through before putting it out for bid.

11  
12 Nelson stated it was not for implementation. Cooper stated that is correct.  
13 It was not for assistance during the actual construction and the bid process. This  
14 gives them the consultant's assistance during implementation.

15  
16 ***Motion carried unanimously.***

17  
18 *(Clerk's Note: End of tape one, side A.)*

19  
20 **10. RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING COUNTY ROAD PROJECT NO. 901002**  
21 **AND THE AWARD OF CONTRACT TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE**  
22 **BIDDER, SOTO AND SONS CONSTRUCTION LLC, FOR THE WEST**  
23 **SMITH ROAD IMPROVEMENTS, FERNDALE CITY LIMITS TO**  
24 **NORTHWEST DRIVE, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,298,846.28 (AB2003-**  
25 **190)**

26  
27 ***Roy moved*** to recommend approval to the full Council.

28  
29 Nelson asked if they have to have the whole amount, or if it can be  
30 amended.

31  
32 Joe Rutan, Assistant Director/County Road Engineer, stated they've had to  
33 go out for bid again.

34  
35 Nelson stated he's reluctant about putting in cement sidewalks. He can't  
36 support the item. It sets a precedent of putting in sidewalks and other urban  
37 fixtures in the urban growth areas (UGA's). The County has a responsibility to rural  
38 communities for roads and adequate shoulders, but there is a limited amount in the  
39 road fund for all their needs. As the fish projects get underway, and other water  
40 resource inventory area (WRIA) projects, they are going to begin dipping into the  
41 reserves. He asked how the sidewalks got into it. Rutan stated the sidewalk was  
42 to be on one side to match the cross sections on both sides of the project. There is  
43 a sidewalk on the west end of the project on the north side of the road. At the east  
44 end of the project there is a sidewalk on the south side of the road.

45  
46 At that point, the administration went to the public with the plan. There was  
47 a large outcry for improved sidewalks on both sides. Staff looked at school

1 patterns and determined that sidewalks on the south side were warranted. He  
2 agrees that this is a very unusual rural area. On weekends, it is probably the most  
3 densely populated area in the county. There are a lot of kids going from Ferndale  
4 to the soccer fields. There are two schools, the soccer fields, cross sections to  
5 meet, and other services. It is an unusual situation.

6  
7 Crawford asked if there is a mechanism for the City of Ferndale to  
8 compensate the County.

9  
10 Brenner stated there is not. This is not in the UGA.

11  
12 Brenner stated there is a small amount of sidewalk in front of the Northwest  
13 Annex. Don't continue the anomaly by adding more sidewalks. She talked to a  
14 bunch of people from that area, and none of them knew about the public meeting.  
15 She lives in the area, and was not notified about the public meeting. People are  
16 concerned about changing the look of the area. The cost will be borne by the  
17 county taxpayers to do something that will look strange. Northwest Road has a  
18 wide shoulder. Kids can walk safely. There is no need to put sidewalks on both  
19 sides. Just widen shoulders. Rutan stated that was proposed, but would require an  
20 ordinance to allow people to walk on the shoulder and prohibit parking. People  
21 park on that road now. The houses are close to the road and people have short  
22 driveways. The County is exacerbating the problem. People walking on an  
23 enhanced shoulder will have to walk around the cars, into the lane of travel. They  
24 need to account for parking and pedestrians.

25  
26 Jim Karcher, Engineering Manager – Design/Construction, stated this project  
27 went to an open house in 2002. The public at the open house wanted sidewalks on  
28 two sides, because of the North Bellingham Elementary School. Staff looked into  
29 some of the reasons and some of the things the County has done in the past.  
30 Marine Drive, Bennett Road, Austin Street, and Yew Street Road have the same  
31 sections. They are similar situations, so they accommodated that.

32  
33 Nelson stated those roads are in the urban growth areas.

34  
35 Crawford stated Austin Street is not in the UGA.

36  
37 Karcher stated this is a heavy utility corridor. Most utilities are under  
38 sidewalks, not roadways. The general recommendation from the public was for  
39 sidewalks on both sides. Density is one acre lots or less. School and soccer fields  
40 are the reasons for the primary uses of the sidewalk. There is a lot of movement.  
41 A 40-foot section allows for increased options for modification in the future. Given  
42 today's permitting issues and requirements, it's easier to modify a section rather  
43 than rebuild a section. The 40-foot section without sidewalks match the West Smith  
44 Road to the east. They looked at a one-mile radius around the school. The  
45 sidewalks are in keeping with current Whatcom County standards. Notification is  
46 given to all adjacent property owners. In addition, they notified a number of

1 residents on roadways to the north. They would send out a flyer to the public.  
2 They use the Assessor's database for address information.

3  
4 Crawford asked if the kids in those neighborhoods are bussed to school.

5  
6 Brenner stated a lot of the kids in the area are bussed. Some walk. There  
7 has never been a problem on Northwest Road. People have parked on Northwest  
8 Road. Lots of kids have come to school on that road. Rutan stated the pedestrian  
9 volume in this area is much greater than on Northwest Road.

10  
11 McShane stated half of the area is zoned urban residential, three units per  
12 acre (UR-3) on both sides of the road, on the west end. The east half is zoned  
13 rural residential, one unit per acre (RR1), although there is a school, library, store,  
14 and cluster lots that are denser than the current underlying zoning. Even though it  
15 is not in an urban growth area, it is close to an urban level of development. He  
16 asked if they've looked at the growth expectation of the area, under current zoning.  
17 Rutan stated the Traffic and Development section of the department has looked at  
18 it.

19  
20 Caskey-Schreiber stated there are kids everywhere at that intersection on a  
21 Saturday. With this kind of pedestrian use, it behooves the County to have  
22 sidewalks. People aren't looking for pedestrians at these intersections. The County  
23 has spent just as much on projects that benefit fewer people. She is in favor of it.

24  
25 Roy stated she is concerned about precedence. There are places all over the  
26 County that can use sidewalks. They need something to measure these things  
27 against. Rutan stated there is a Washington Administrative Code (WAC), such as  
28 the safe school walking zone. It's the school's responsibility to develop the plan.  
29 The County is working with the schools to make sure their plans exist or are up-to-  
30 date. The County will begin to incorporate those needs into its annual plan. They  
31 are going forward with developing policies.

32  
33 Nelson stated he would defer to Councilmember Brenner, as the  
34 representative of the area. They would all like sidewalks, but the Council has a  
35 fiduciary responsibility to the entire County. They need a policy before they go  
36 down the path of spending money that they won't have for future projects.

37  
38 Brenner stated this area has been the last barrier between the cities of  
39 Ferndale and Bellingham. Historically, the area has been known as North  
40 Bellingham. It is not part of Ferndale. It is not an urban neighborhood. It has  
41 rural characteristics. There are a lot of kids on the weekend, because the parking  
42 lots are filling up. There are not many kids playing in the road. Widen the  
43 shoulders. If the shoulders are wide enough, going around the car won't be a  
44 problem.

45  
46 Roy asked if there is anyway to amend this. Rutan stated they could re-bid  
47 the project.

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1  
2 Karcher stated they would have to do more public outreach also.

3  
4 ***Motion failed 1-2 with Crawford in favor.***

5  
6  
7 **OTHER BUSINESS**

8  
9 **Presentation regarding concerns of Public Facilities District.**

10  
11 Tony Larson, 4929 Lewis Avenue, Bellingham, spoke on the interlocal  
12 agreement for the Public Facilities District. He represents Support Our Community  
13 Kids (SOCKS). His group went through the interlocal agreement. The  
14 responsibility of the County in the agreement is to sign the money over to the City  
15 of Bellingham. The City responsibility to the County is that there is an intention  
16 that the project, if feasible, be consistent with Whatcom County Civic Center Master  
17 Plan, which may include a parking facility. That is not very strong language.

18  
19 It is not generally understood that this is a Whatcom County district, not just  
20 for Bellingham. The question is the benefit that the County residents would  
21 receive. His group would not be concerned with the responsibilities of the County  
22 and the City if the process the City is taking is appropriate. He listed examples of  
23 things that are going on. Mayor Asmundson did not follow through on a promised  
24 public hearing. They asked the City to provide the community with a specific plan  
25 for the funds and projects. Those plans have not been granted.

26  
27 In two days, there will be an open house. Public input will not be allowed,  
28 but the City will try to sell its project to the public. There is a \$60 million project,  
29 but only \$13 million will come into the district. It is reasonable to ask where the  
30 rest of the money will come from. All he's asking for is an opportunity to be heard.  
31 He made the same request to the City Council. Rather than getting a response  
32 from the City, the Mayor put together an interlocal agreement between the Public  
33 Facility District and the City Council.

34  
35 The interlocal agreement concerned him. Without the public comment, that  
36 interlocal agreement would have determined the project concept. It would have  
37 provided power to the City to exercise its power of eminent domain, which would  
38 displace downtown businesses. The intent was to get a parking facility near the  
39 courthouse. He requested that the Council write a letter to Public Facilities District  
40 and/or City Council and/or Mayor requesting a specific plan, the cost, and how they  
41 are going to fund it. Also, he asked that his organization be given a chance to be  
42 heard. It has a plan.

43  
44 Nelson asked if it is appropriate for the County to have the public hearing.

45  
46 Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, stated the decision rests with the  
47 people appointed to the Public Facility District. They have an obligation to hear the

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1 information and develop a plan. They do have a responsibility to hold a public  
2 hearing. The decisions on these matters aren't just with City Council or County  
3 Council.  
4

5 Larson stated there was a public process leading up to the project the Public  
6 Facilities District is proposing, but it was focused on downtown. The Public Facilities  
7 District didn't look at alternatives. In October, the Mayor told the Public Facilities  
8 District to do this project. No other alternative projects were allowed in the debate.  
9

10 Roy stated she asked about representation from the County when this  
11 committee had the presentation.  
12

13 Crawford stated the County's interest is to approve the members of the  
14 board, jointly with the City Council.  
15

16 Larson stated there are two county representatives on the board, and five  
17 city representatives.  
18

19 McShane stated the members of the Public Facilities District were jointly  
20 appointed.  
21

22 Crawford stated he would draft a letter to present to the Council tonight.  
23

24 Roy stated she wants to make sure they are not behaving inappropriately or  
25 jumping the gun.  
26

27 Larson stated they've gotten feedback from the City about why they haven't  
28 been allowed to be involved. His group has a proposal that originated many years  
29 ago. If the intent is to do what is best for the community, there is a way to do both  
30 projects. His group hasn't been able to present its proposal.  
31

32 McShane suggested the Council revisit the purpose of the Public Facilities  
33 District. The question is the power the County may or may not have over the  
34 Public Facilities District. He recalled that the County could pull out if it doesn't like  
35 what the Public Facilities District is doing. He doesn't know if that can actually  
36 happen. The Public Facilities District Board members are volunteers trying to do a  
37 public service. There are two groups in the community pulling in different ways.  
38 The City has been very engaged in the process. His question is whether the  
39 agreement is being satisfied, and if the County is still happy with the agreement.  
40 Beyond that, look at the issue before they do anything too quickly.  
41

42 Larson stated the start date for the project must be by January 2004.  
43

44 Caskey-Schreiber stated she is hesitant about getting into the fray. The  
45 County was clear about its parking needs. Mr. Larson's issues are with the Public  
46 Facilities District. It's possible that the Public Facilities District is not ready for a  
47 public hearing yet. Let the Public Facilities District do its work.

