

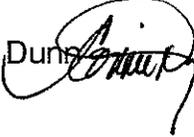
SULTAN CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

ITEM NO: C - 4

DATE: January 10, 2008

SUBJECT: Set Public Hearing to Consider Establishing a Stormwater Utility

CONTACT PERSON: Public Works Director 

ISSUE:

The issue before the City Council is to set a Public Hearing for January 24, 2008 at 6:00 pm to take comment on establishing a stormwater utility for developed residential and commercial properties in Sultan.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. City staff recommends the City Council set a Public Hearing to take comment on establishing the stormwater utility for developed residential and commercial properties in Sultan.

BACKGROUND:

The City has endeavored to keep the community informed and involved in the discussion to establish a stormwater utility.

The City established a Small Work Group comprised of a city resident, business owner and Planning Board member to review alternative and make a recommendation to the Planning Board.

- The Small Work Group met on February 20th, March 6th, April 17th and May 1st.
- The City held an open house on March 13, 2007. The Open House included information on the proposed Stormwater Utility. Notice of the Open House was mailed to all residents and businesses within the Sultan zip code including residents outside the City limits.

- On March 20, 2007, the Planning Board received an update from the Small Work Group – the Board reviewed the need to form a stormwater utility and the survey of stormwater utilities across the state.
- On April 12, 2007, the City Council received an update from the Small Work Group – the Council reviewed the need to form a stormwater utility and the survey of stormwater utilities across the state and key policy questions.
- A second Open House was held on May 15, 2007.
- On May 1, 2007, the Planning Board reviewed the calculations for the ERU, draft Stormwater Utility Report and budget and directed staff to areas of concern.
- On May 17, 2007, the City Council subcommittee received a similar update.
- Notice of the proposed formation of the Stormwater Utility was included in the June and July utility billing statements.
- On May 24, 2007, the full Council reviewed the calculations for the ERU, draft Stormwater Utility Report and budget.
- On June 26, 2007, the Planning Board discussed credits for private facilities, public schools, non-profit organizations and senior citizens and low-income residents. The Board also reviewed the draft ordinance and credit manual and directed staff to set the Public Hearing for July 17, 2007.
- July 17, 2007 a Public Hearing was held.
- On July 23, 2007, a meeting with the Sultan School Board was held to discuss the proposed utility, calculation of equivalent residential units and grass as a pervious/impervious surface.
- August 9, 2007, the Council conducted a Public Hearing.

The schedule to review and adopt a Stormwater Utility is as follows:

- Planning Board public hearing and recommendation to Council – July 17, 2007 (complete)
- Final Draft Report and recommendation to Council – July 26, 2007 (complete)
- City Council conducted a Public Hearing on August 9, 2007 (complete)
- January 10, 2008 Council to set Public Hearing for January 24, 2008 @ 6:00 pm to receive comments on the Stormwater Utility.
- City Council action to adopt ordinance and amend fee schedule – February 2008
- Public outreach and implementation – December 2007 through February 2008
- City Council to conduct a Public Hearing on January 24, 2008
- Implementation – March 1, 2008

SUMMARY:

Faced with Federal and State Stormwater Requirements the City of Sultan is preparing, as many Cities nation wide are or have to address the Discharge Permit requirements.

The Storm Water Utility will address:

- Water quality
- Fish habitat
- Flood management

FISCAL IMPACT:

None at this time.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Set a Public Hearing for January 24, 2008 at 6:00 pm to take comment on establishing a stormwater utility for developed residential and commercial properties in Sultan.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A – Letter to Business

COUNCIL ACTION:

DATE:



City of Sultan

December 5, 2007

Business Owners
Street
City, WA

RE: Stormwater Utility Charges

Dear Business Owner,

November 30, 2007, the City issued a SEPA determination of non-significance on the City's proposed Storm Water Utility. Rick Cisar, Community Development Director will receive comments until December 14, 2007 at 5:00pm.

Residents and business owners within the City will pay a storm water utility fee.
Storm Water Utility:

- special assessment district
- generates funding specifically for storm water management.

January 24, 2008:

- City Council will hold a second public hearing to consider implementing a storm water utility fee of
- Approximately \$12.35 per month per single-family home (one ERU).
- Business owners will be charged \$12.35 per month per Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU).
- One ERU is equivalent to 4,519 square feet of impervious surface.

Impervious surfaces include hard surface areas such as rooftops, driveways, parking lots, and gravel roads.

Attached to this letter:

- Facts Sheet
- Details on the Proposed Storm Water Utility

Please feel free to contact me at 360-793-2231 or connie.dunn@ci.sultan.wa.us if you have questions or concerns regarding your property's impervious surface calculation or eligibility for the proposed credit program.

Please direct your comments in response to the SEPA determination of non-significance to Community Development Director, Rick Cisar at 360-793-2231 or rick.cisar@ci.sultan.wa.us

Sincerely,
Connie Dunn
Public Works Director