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DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

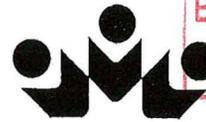


EXHIBIT 26
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Northshore
School District

Capital Projects

December 11, 2013

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Bothell, WA 98021-4409
(425)408-7850

David Kuhl, Development Services Director
Thomas Hansen, Director Public Works
Woodinville City Hall, Council Chambers & Development Services Department
17301 – 133rd Avenue NE
Woodinville, WA 98072

**Subject: CUP Public Hearing - Vinterra Subdivision
Northshore School District Comments Regarding Planned Crosswalk**

Dear Mr. Kuhl and Mr. Hansen,

The Northshore School District has reviewed the Vinterra residential development proposal and its plan to meet the City's request of providing a pedestrian crosswalk on 124th Avenue NE just south of NE 154th Place. Based on this review, the District has several concerns and would like to express its strong preference for locating the crosswalk further south on 124th Avenue NE. The following outlines the concerns and reasons for the District's preferences.

1. **District supports improving pedestrian crossing safety at the best location.** As outlined in the District's comment letter on the proposed residential development (dated October 11, 2013), the District is supportive of pedestrian improvements such as a Rapid Flashing Beacon crossing. However, our comment letter did not indicate a preferred location for the crossing. The comment letter did include suggestions for a raised sidewalk on the east side of the 124th Avenue NE from NE 149th Street to approximately NE 154th Place including the frontage at the Tolt Pipeline Trail. The comment letter also suggested increased pedestrian crossing time at the signalized NE 160th Street/124th Avenue NE intersection. These suggestions were specifically included based on the walking routes established for the two nearby schools. The location of the 124th Avenue NE crossing must also consider the expected users and walking routes of students at both Woodmoor Elementary School and Northshore Junior High School.
2. **Proposed location does not consider the required walking route to Woodmoor Elementary School.** The existing walking route to Woodmoor Elementary School includes the walkway on the east side of 124th Avenue NE north to NE 160th Street, and then west to the school entrance. This walk route will continue to be the recommended route for elementary school students and is actively enforced by the school's principal. This walk route will be enhanced by the developer's proposed sidewalk frontage improvements along the east side of 124th Avenue NE. The school has established this walk route intentionally to discourage students from walking into the school site using the access on 124th Avenue NE. The school's principal and District transportation staff do not want students crossing the very busy school driveway throat on 124th Avenue NE nor the very busy parent-drop-off/pick-up drive aisle within the site. Crossing both of these points would be required for elementary students if they were to cross 124th Avenue NE at the proposed new crosswalk location south of NE 154th Place. The District is concerned that the proposed crosswalk location will encourage elementary school students to enter the site from 124th Avenue NE creating new safety conflicts at the access driveway throat and within the school property at the pick-up/drop-off area.

3. **A new crossing located further south could better serve the community and Northshore Junior High School.** Junior high school students are likely crossing 124th Avenue NE further south at the Tolt Pipeline Trail and using the trail on the way to and from school. This location or some point south of the proposed access to the Vinterra residential development (currently defined as 'Road A'), would be preferred by the District, and would serve as part of the walking route for Northshore Junior High School. It would also be located sufficiently south of Woodmoor Elementary School so as not to encourage elementary school students to use the crossing and attempt to enter the school site on foot from 124th Avenue NE.

4. **District supports the enhanced crossing system.** The District believes that a crosswalk south of the Vinterra residential development access, enhanced with the appropriate crossing technology and a raised center street refuge island, would meet the needs of the community. Implementation of this technology (regardless of location) should be accompanied by an education effort and signage for both pedestrian users (such as instructions to push actuation buttons before crossing) and drivers. Police enforcement of the crossing should also be provided periodically.

It appears the enhanced crossing system could be accomplished south of the Vinterra access and would enhance the trail network for the community. A crossing at this location would not interfere with access to the proposed Vinterra residential development. The roadway configuration at the trail crossing appears to be conducive to implementation of a raised center refuge island. A raised island could also have the benefit of reducing vehicle speeds on this roadway near the crossing.

As always, safety of our students and their families as they travel to and from school is one of our top priorities. Please thoughtfully consider the location of the planned crosswalk on 124th Avenue NE in light of the concerns presented above.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Evan Ujiye, Capital Projects Director