



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**May 13, 2003**

**Ordinance 14648**

**Proposed No.** 2003-0087.2

**Sponsors** Sullivan

1 AN ORDINANCE concurring with the recommendation of  
2 the hearing examiner to approve, subject to conditions, the  
3 application for public benefit rating system assessed  
4 valuation for open space submitted by Wendy Blair for  
5 property located at 27035 Vashon Highway Southwest,  
6 Vashon, WA 98070, designated department of natural  
7 resources, water and land resources division file no.  
8 E02CT038.

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10

11 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:**

12 **SECTION 1.** This ordinance does hereby adopt and incorporate herein as its  
13 findings and conclusions the findings and conclusions contained in the report and  
14 recommendation of the hearing examiner dated April 21, 2003, to approve subject to  
15 conditions, the application for public benefit rating system assessed valuation for open  
16 space submitted by Wendy Blair for property located at 27035 Vashon Highway  
17 Southwest, Vashon, WA 98070, designated department of natural resources, water and

**Ordinance 14648**

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18 land resources division file no. E02CT038, and the council does hereby adopt as its  
19 action the recommendation or recommendations contained in the report.

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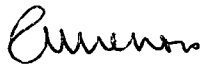
Ordinance 14648 was introduced on 3/10/2003 and passed by the Metropolitan King  
County Council on 5/12/2003, by the following vote:

Yes: 11 - Ms. Sullivan, Ms. Edmonds, Mr. von Reichbauer, Ms. Lambert, Mr.  
Phillips, Mr. Pelz, Mr. McKenna, Mr. Constantine, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague  
and Mr. Irons  
No: 0  
Excused: 1 - Ms. Patterson

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
Cynthia Sullivan, Chair

ATTEST:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments**      A. Hearing Examiner Report dated April 21, 2003

14648  
April 21, 2003

**OFFICE OF THE HEARING EXAMINER  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON**  
850 Union Bank of California Building  
900 Fourth Avenue  
Seattle, Washington 98164  
Telephone (206) 296-4660  
Facsimile (206) 296-1654

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE METROPOLITAN KING COUNTY COUNCIL**

**SUBJECT:** Department of Natural Resources, Water and Land Resources Division File No. **E02CT038**  
Proposed Ordinance No. **2003-0087**

Open Space Taxation (Public Benefit Rating System)  
Application of **Wendy Blair**  
27035 Vashon Highway Southwest  
Vashon, WA 98070

Location of Property: 27035 Vashon Highway Southwest  
Vashon, Washington

**SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Department's Preliminary:	Approve 2.50 acres for 50% of market value
Department's Final:	Approve 2.50 acres for 50% of market value
Examiner:	Approve 2.50 acres for 40% of market value, provided that this valuation may be amended administratively based on compliance with conditions

**PRELIMINARY REPORT:**

The Department of Natural Resources, Water and Land Resources Division Report on Item No. E02CT038 was received by the Examiner on April 9, 2003.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

After reviewing the Department of Natural Resources, Water and Land Resources Division Report and examining available information on file with the application, the Examiner conducted a public hearing on the subject as follows:

The hearing on item no. E02CT038 was opened by the Examiner at 10:00 a.m., April 16, 2003, in the Fifth Floor Conference Room, Union Bank of California Building, 900 Fourth Avenue, Seattle, Washington, and closed at 10:04 a.m.

Participants at the public hearing and the exhibits offered and entered are listed in the attached minutes. A verbatim recording of the hearing is available in the office of the King County Hearing Examiner.

**FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATION:** Having reviewed the record in this matter, the Examiner now makes and enters the following:

**FINDINGS:**

1. **General Information:**

**Owners:** Wendy Blair and Robert Stolk  
27035 Vashon Highway SW  
Vashon, WA 98070

**Location:** Same as above

**PBRs Resources Requested:**

HIGH PRIORITY RESOURCES

Aquifer protection area  
Significant plant, wildlife or salmonid habitat area  
Forest stewardship land

PUBLIC ACCESS

Limited access – Due to resource sensitivity (limited to appropriate user groups, permission from the landowner required)

**Zoning:** RA-10

**Parcel**  
**Total acreage:** 3.07  
**Requested for PBRs:** 2.50  
**Recommended PBRs:** 2.50

Please note: Recommended acreage is contingent upon implementation of restoration plan.

**STR:** SW-SW-25-22-02

2. Except as modified herein, the facts set forth in the King County Department of Natural Resources, Water and Land Resources Division Preliminary Report to the King County Hearing Examiner for the April 16, 2003, public hearing are found to be correct and are incorporated herein by this reference. Copies of the said Report will be attached to the copies of this Report submitted to the King County Council.

**CONCLUSIONS:**

1. Approval of current use valuation for 2.50 acres of the subject property, pursuant to the Public Benefit Rating System adopted by King County Ordinance No. 10511, would be consistent with

the purposes and intent of King County to maintain, preserve, conserve and otherwise continue in existence adequate open space lands and to assure the use and enjoyment of natural resources and scenic beauty for the economic and social well-being of King County and its citizens.

2. Timely application has been made to King County for the current use valuation of the subject property to begin in 2004. Notice of said application was given in the manner required by law.
3. The subject property contains priority open space resources pursuant to the King County Public Benefit Rating System, which justify a total award of 10 points. The resulting current use value is 50% of market value for 2.50 acres of the subject property.
4. The subject property may be entitled to bonus points in the Resource Restoration category contingent upon Applicant submission of a restoration plan by September 1, 2003, and King County approval by October 1, 2003. Credit for this category, if appropriate, will be granted administratively and will justify a total award of 15 points. The resulting current use value would be 40% of market value for 2.50 acres of the subject property. If credit is not awarded in this category, the total acreage enrolled in the public benefit rating system would decrease by  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre.
5. Additional bonus points may be applied for the Limited Public Access category contingent upon Applicant submission by August 1, 2003, of further justification for this category and documented evidence of present or potential use by an applicable group. Credit for this category would provide an additional 5 points. The resulting value would be 30% of market value for 2.50 acres of the subject property, assuming the concurrent approval of the restoration plan described in Conclusion no. 4 above.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE the request for current use valuation of 40% of market value for 2.50 acres of the subject property, subject to the conditions recommended in the Department of Natural Resources report for the April 16, 2003, public hearing and the following additional conditions of approval:

1. Approval of 2.5 acres at 40% of market value requires submission of a restoration plan by September 1, 2003, and its approval by October 1, 2003. Failure to meet this condition will reduce the qualifying acreage to approximately 1.75 acres and the current use assessment to 50% of market value.
2. Approval of the limited access category for 2004 requires submission of appropriate user group documentation by August 1, 2003.

Current use valuation shall be subject to all terms and conditions of RCW 84.34 and King County Code Chapter 20.36, as the same may be amended from time to time, and all regulations and rules duly adopted to implement state law and county ordinances pertaining to current use valuation.

RECOMMENDED this 21st day of April, 2003.

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Stafford L. Smith  
King County Hearing Examiner

TRANSMITTED this 21st day of April, 2003, to the following parties and interested persons:

Wendy Blair  
27035 Vashon Hwy. SW  
Vashon, WA 98070

Monica Clarke, Metropolitan King County Council  
Susan Monroe, Department of Assessments  
Ted Sullivan, Department of Natural Resources  
Charlie Sundberg, Office of Cultural Resources

**NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL  
AND ADDITIONAL ACTION REQUIRED**

In order to appeal the decision of the Examiner, written notice of appeal must be filed with the Clerk of the King County Council with a fee of \$250.00 (check payable to King County Office of Finance) *on or before May 5, 2003*. If a notice of appeal is filed, the original and six (6) copies of a written appeal statement specifying the basis for the appeal and argument in support of the appeal must be filed with the Clerk of the King County Council *on or before May 12, 2003*. Appeal statements may refer only to facts contained in the hearing record; new facts may not be presented on appeal.

Filing requires actual delivery to the Office of the Clerk of the Council, Room 1025, King County Courthouse, 516 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98104, prior to the close of business (4:30 p.m.) on the date due. Prior mailing is not sufficient if actual receipt by the Clerk does not occur within the applicable time period. The Examiner does not have authority to extend the time period unless the Office of the Clerk is not open on the specified closing date, in which event delivery prior to the close of business on the next business day is sufficient to meet the filing requirement.

If a written notice of appeal and filing fee are not filed within fourteen (14) calendar days of the date of this report, or if a written appeal statement and argument are not filed within twenty-one (21) calendar days of the date of this report, the decision of the hearing examiner contained herein shall be the final decision of King County without the need for further action by the Council.

Action of the Council is final. The action of the Council on a recommendation of the Examiner shall be final and conclusive unless within twenty-one (21) days from the date of the action an aggrieved party or person applies for a writ of certiorari from the Superior Court in and for the County of King, State of Washington, for the purpose of review of the action taken.

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 16, 2003 PUBLIC HEARING ON DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FILE NO. E02CT038:

Stafford L. Smith was the Hearing Examiner in this matter. Participating in the hearing and representing the Department was Ted Sullivan. There were no other participants in the hearing.

The following exhibits were offered and entered into the hearing record:

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Exhibit No. 1  | Not submitted  |
| Exhibit No. 2  | Not submitted  |
| Exhibit No. 3  | Not submitted  |
| Exhibit No. 4  | PBRs staff report  |
| Exhibit No. 5  | Affidavit of Publication   |
| Exhibit No. 6  | Notice of hearing from the Office of the Hearing Examiner                |
| Exhibit No. 7  | Notice of hearing from the PBRs Program                                  |
| Exhibit No. 8  | Legal notice and introductory ordinance to Council                       |
| Exhibit No. 9  | Application—signed and notarized   |
| Exhibit No. 10 | Letter to Applicant regarding received application and approval schedule |
| Exhibit No. 11 | Assessor map   |
| Exhibit No. 12 | King County Assessor's database  |
| Exhibit No. 13 | Arcview map and orthophoto   |
| Exhibit No. 14 | Forest Stewardship Plan  |

SLS:ms  
E02CT038 RPT

Attachment

**This document is provided for information only. DO NOT complete and return. A completed copy will be furnished to the Applicant(s) by the Office of the Hearing Examiner after an application has been approved by the Metropolitan King County Council.**

**OPEN SPACE TAXATION AGREEMENT**  
Chapter 84.34 RCW

(To be used for "Open Space", "Timber Land" Classification or "Reclassification" Only)

Owner(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Granting Authority \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Description \_\_\_\_\_

Assessor's Property Tax Parcel or Account Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Department of Natural Resources File Number \_\_\_\_\_  
This agreement between \_\_\_\_\_

hereinafter called the "Owner", and \_\_\_\_\_

hereinafter called the "Granting Authority".

Whereas the owner of the above described real property having made application for classification of that property under the provisions of Chapter 84.34 RCW.

And whereas, both the owner and granting authority agree to limit the use of said property, recognizing that such land has substantial public value as open space and that the preservation of such land constitutes an important physical, social, esthetic, and economic asset to the public, and both parties agree that the classification of the property during the life of this agreement shall be for:

**Open Space Land**

Now, therefore, the parties, in consideration of the mutual covenants and conditions set forth herein, do agree as follows:

1. During the term of this agreement, the land shall be used only in accordance with the preservation of its classified use.
2. No structures shall be erected upon such land except those directly related to, and compatible with, the classified use of the land.
3. This agreement shall be effective commencing on the date the legislative body receives the signed agreement from the property owner and shall remain in effect until the property is withdrawn or removed from classification.
4. This agreement shall apply to the parcels of land described herein and shall be binding upon the heirs, successors and assignees of the parties hereto.
5. **Withdrawal:** The landowner may withdraw from this agreement if, after a period of eight years, he or she files a request to withdraw classification with the assessor. Two years from the date of that request the assessor shall withdraw classification from the land, and the applicable taxes and interest shall be imposed as provided in RCW 84.34.070 and 84.34.108.
6. **Breach:** After the effective date of this agreement, any change in use of the land, except through compliance with items (5), (7), or (9), shall be considered a breach of this agreement, and shall be subject to removal of classification and liable for applicable taxes, penalties, and interest as provided in RCW 84.34.080 and RCW 84.34.108.



7. A breach of agreement shall not have occurred and the additional tax shall not be imposed if removal of classification resulted solely from:
  - a) Transfer to a governmental entity in exchange for other land located within the State of Washington.
  - b) A taking through the exercise of the power of eminent domain, or sale or transfer to an entity having the power in anticipation of the exercise of such power and having manifested its intent in writing or by other official action.
  - c) A natural disaster such as a flood, windstorm, earthquake, or other such calamity rather than by virtue of the act of the land owner changing the use of such property.
  - d) Official action by an agency of the State of Washington or by the county or city where the land is located disallowing the present use of such land.
  - e) Transfer of land to a church when such land would qualify for exemption pursuant to RCW 84.36.020.
  - f) Acquisition of property interests by State agencies or agencies or organizations qualified under RCW 84.34.210 and 64.04.130 (See RCW 84.34.108(5)(f)).
  - g) Removal of land classified as farm and agricultural land under RCW 84.34.020(2)(d).
  - h) Removal of land from classification after enactment of a statutory exemption that qualifies the land for exemption and receipt of notice from the owner to remove the land from classification.
  - i) The creation, sale, or transfer of forestry riparian easements.
  - j) The creation, sale, or transfer of a fee interest or a conservation easement for the riparian open space program under RCW 76.09.040.
8. The county assessor may require an owner to submit data relevant to continuing the eligibility of any parcel of land described in this agreement.
9. Reclassification as provided in Chapter 84.34 RCW.

This agreement shall be subject to the following conditions:

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It is declared that this agreement specifies the classification and conditions as provided for in Chapter 84.34 RCW and the conditions imposed by this Granting Authority. This agreement to tax according to the use of the property may be annulled or canceled at any time by the Legislature.

Granting Authority:

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
City or County

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

As owner(s) of the herein-described land I/we indicated by my/our signature(s) that I am/we are aware of the potential tax liability and hereby accept the classification and conditions of this agreement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner(s)

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Must be signed by all owners)

Date signed agreement received by Legislative Authority \_\_\_\_\_

To inquire about the availability of this notice in an alternative format for the visually impaired or in a language other than English, please call (360) 753-3217. Teletype (TTY) users may call (800) 451-7985.