



**Signature Report**

**May 22, 2007**

**Ordinance 15799**

**Proposed No.** 2007-0144.2

**Sponsors** Gossett

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 Jack Greathouse and  
5 Melinda Horiuchi for property located at 48026 Southeast  
6 Mount Si Road, North Bend, WA 98045, designated  
7 department of natural resources and parks, water and land  
8 resources division file no. E06CT076.

9

10 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

11 SECTION 1. This ordinance does hereby adopt and incorporate herein as its  
12 findings and conclusions the findings and conclusions contained in the report and  
13 recommendation of the hearing examiner dated April 26, 2007, to approve subject to  
14 conditions, the application for public benefit rating system assessed valuation for open  
15 space submitted by Jack Greathouse and Melinda Horiuchi for property located at 48026  
16 Southeast Mount Si Road, North Bend, WA 98045, designated department of natural  
17 resources and parks, water and land resources division file no. E06CT076, and the

**Ordinance 15799**

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18 council does hereby adopt as its action the recommendation or recommendations  
19 contained in the report.  
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Ordinance 15799 was introduced on 3/5/2007 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 5/21/2007, by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Mr. Gossett, Ms. Lambert, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Phillips, Ms. Hague and Mr. Constantine  
No: 0  
Excused: 2 - Ms. Patterson and Mr. Ferguson

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
Larry Gossett, Chair

ATTEST:

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

**Attachments**      A. Hearing Examiner Report dated April 25, 2007

15799  
April 25, 2007

**OFFICE OF THE HEARING EXAMINER  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

400 Yesler Avenue, Room 404  
Seattle, Washington 98104  
Telephone (206) 296-4660  
Facsimile (206) 296-1654  
Email: hearex@metrokc.gov

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

**SUBJECT:** Department of Natural Resources & Parks (DNRP), Water and Land Resources Division,  
file no. **E06CT076**  
Proposed Ordinance No. **2007-0144**

Open Space Taxation (Public Benefit Rating System)  
Application of  
**JACK GREATHOUSE & MELINDA HORIUCHI**  
48026 Southeast Mount Si Road  
North Bend, WA 98045

Location of Property: 48026 SE Mount Si Road  
North Bend, Washington

**SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Department's Preliminary:	Approve 5.08 acres for 20% of market value
Department's Final:	Approve 5.08 acres for 20% of market value
Examiner:	Approve 5.08 acres for 20% of market value

**PRELIMINARY REPORT:**

The Department of Natural Resources & Parks, Water and Land Resources Division Report on item no. E06CT076 was received by the Examiner on March 30, 2007.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

After reviewing the report and examining available information on file with the application, the Examiner conducted a public hearing on the application as follows:

The hearing on item no. E06CT076 was held by the Examiner on April 11, 2007, in the Hearing Examiner's Conference Room, 400 Yesler Way, Room 404, Seattle, Washington.

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. Owners: Jack Greathouse and Melinda Horiuchi  
48026 SE Mount Si Road  
North Bend, WA 98045

Property location: Same as above

PBRS categories requested: **Open space resources**  
Aquifer protection area  
Buffer to public land  
Forest stewardship land  
Significant wildlife or salmonid habitat  
Surface water quality buffer  
Watershed protection area  
**Bonus category**  
Resource restoration

Categories recommended: **Open space resources**  
Buffer to public land  
Forest stewardship land  
Significant wildlife or salmonid habitat  
Surface water quality buffer  
Watershed protection area  
**Bonus category**  
Additional surface water quality buffer

STR: SE 07-23-09

Zoning: RA-2.5

Parcel no.: 072309-9023

Total acreage: 6.33

Requested for PBRS: 5.21

Recommended PBRS: 5.08

(The land area recommended for PBRS enrollment is the entire parcel less the excluded area(s), which is what has been calculated by DNRP. In the event the County Assessor's official parcel size is revised, the PBRS acreage shall be administratively adjusted to reflect that change.)

2. Except as modified herein, the facts set forth in the King County Department of Natural Resources & Parks, Water and Land Resources Division, Preliminary Report for the April 11, 2007, public hearing are found correct and are incorporated herein by reference. Copies of the department report will be provided with the copies of this report submitted to the King County Council.

3. Timely application was made to King County for current use valuation of the subject property to begin in 2008. Notice of the application was given as required by law.
  4. The property contains priority open space resources and is eligible for a total award of 26 points under the King County Public Benefit Rating System. The resulting current use value therefore would be 20% of market value for 5.08 acres of the property.
  5. Credit for the following categories is contingent upon approval and implementation of the Applicant's forest stewardship plan by August 1, 2007, and replanting/reforestation as noted below:
    - A. Forest stewardship land category - replanting/reforesting at least 1.25 acres within 3 years.
    - B. Surface water quality buffer – replanting and creation of a forested buffer to the east side of the unclassified seasonal stream of not less than 98 feet in width on average.
    - C. Watershed protection area – reforesting of not less than 1.65 acres.
    - D. Additional surface water quality buffer – replanting and creation of a forested buffer to the east side of the unclassified seasonal stream of not less than 130 feet on average.
- Failure to qualify for these categories would decrease the total point award to 8 with a resultant current use valuation of 50% for the enrolled portion of the property.
6. Credit could be awarded administratively for the resource restoration category upon submission and approval of a resource restoration plan. Credit for this category cannot overlap credit for the forest stewardship land category. Therefore, credit for this category would increase the point total by 5 points only in the event points are not awarded for the forest stewardship land category. The current use valuation for the enrolled portion of the property could be adjusted accordingly.
  7. An increase in credit for the additional surface water quality buffer category could also be awarded administratively, from 3 points to 5 points if the buffer width is increased to an average of not less than 195 feet.

#### CONCLUSION:

1. Approval of current use valuation of 20% of market value for 5.08 acres of the property pursuant to the Public Benefit Rating System adopted by Chapter 20.36 KCC, 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.

## RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE current use valuation of 20% of market value for 5.08 acres of the subject property, subject to the conditions recommended in the Department of Natural Resources & Parks report for the April 11, 2007, public hearing, and the following additional conditions of approval:

1. Credit for the forest stewardship land, surface water quality buffer, watershed protection area, and additional surface water quality buffer categories is contingent upon approval and implementation of the forest stewardship plan and replanting/reforesting as noted in Finding no. 5 above. Failure to qualify for these categories will result in a total point award of 8 point with a current use valuation of 50% for the enrolled portion of the property.
2. Credit for the resource restoration category could be awarded administratively as noted in Finding no. 6 above. Credit for this category would increase the point total by 5 points in the event points are not awarded for the forest stewardship land category, with the current use valuation for the enrolled portion of the property being adjusted accordingly. Credit for this category cannot overlap credit for the forest stewardship land category.
3. Additional credit of two (2) points (5 total) for additional surface water quality buffer could be awarded administratively if replanting and creation of a forested buffer to the east side of the unclassified seasonal stream of not less than 195 feet on average is achieved.

Current use valuation shall be subject to all terms and conditions of RCW Chapter 84.34 and KCC Chapter 20.36, as 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 25th day of April, 2007.

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James N. O'Connor  
King County Hearing Examiner *pro tem*

TRANSMITTED this 25th day of April, 2007, to the following parties and interested persons:

Jack Greathouse & Melinda Horiuchi  
48026 SE Mt. Si Rd.  
North Bend, WA 98045

Susan Monroe, Department of Assessments  
Ted Sullivan, Dept. of Natural Resources & Parks  
Charlie Sundberg, Office of Cultural Resources  
Marilyn Cope, KCC – Committee Staff  
Bill Bernstein, Dept. of Natural Resources & Parks  
Sally King, Dept. of Natural Resources & Parks

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

In order to appeal the recommendation 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 9, 2007*. If a notice of appeal is filed, the original and 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 16, 2007*. 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 14 days calendar days of the date of this report, or if a written appeal statement and argument are not filed within 21 calendar days of the date of this report, the Clerk of the Council shall place a proposed ordinance which implements the Examiner's recommended action on the agenda of the next available Council meeting. At that meeting, the Council may adopt the Examiner's recommendation, may defer action, may refer the matter to a Council committee, or may remand to the Examiner for further hearing or further consideration.

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 11, 2007, PUBLIC HEARING ON DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES & PARKS FILE NO. E06CT076:**

James N. O'Connor was the Hearing Examiner in this matter. Participating in the hearing and representing the Department was Bill Bernstein. No others participated in this 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 DNRP Preliminary Report to the Hearing Examiner
- Exhibit No. 5 Affidavit of Publication
- Exhibit No. 6 Notice of hearing from the Hearing Examiner's Office
- Exhibit No. 7 Notice of hearing from the PBRs/Timber program
- Exhibit No. 8 Legal notice and introductory ordinance to County Council
- Exhibit No. 9 Application signed/notarized affirmation
- Exhibit No. 10 Assessor's map

- Exhibit No. 11 King County Assessor's database printout
- Exhibit No. 12 Arcview and orthophoto/aerial map
- Exhibit No. 13 Letter to neighbors re: notification of PBRs application
- Exhibit No. 14 *Reserved for future submission of Forest Stewardship Plan*
- Exhibit No. 15 *Reserved for future submission of legal description of area to be enrolled*
- Exhibit No. 16 Letter to applicant re: received application and approval schedule

JNOC:ms  
E06CT076 RPT  
Attachment





- g) Removal of land classified as farm and agricultural land under RCW 84.34.020(2)(e).
  - 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 under RCW 76.13.120.
  - 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.
  - k) The sale or transfer of land within two years after the death of the owner of at least a fifty percent interest in the land if the land has been assessed and valued as forest land under chapter 84.33 RCW, or under chapter 84.34 RCW continuously since 1993. The date of death shown on the death certificate is the date used.
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. The owner may apply for reclassification as provided in Chapter 84.34 RCW.
  10. This agreement shall supersede any previous open space taxation agreement entered into for the subject property.

This agreement shall be subject to the following conditions:

**See attached Hearing Examiner Report and Recommendation**

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 is not a contract and can be annulled or canceled at any time by the Legislature (RCW 84.34.070).

Granting Authority:

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ King County, Washington

\_\_\_\_\_  
Council Chair

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 (must be signed by all owners).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

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

For tax assistance, visit <http://dor.wa.gov> or call 1-800-647-7706. To inquire about the availability of this document in an alternate format for the visually impaired, please call (360) 705-6715. Teletype (TTY) users may call 1-800-451-7985.  
REV 64 0022e (w) (7/27/05)