

**NORTH HIGHLINE UNINCORPORATED AREA COUNCIL
RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS ASKED OF SEATTLE¹ AND BURIEN² ON OCTOBER 20, 2005**

Question	Response from Seattle	Response from Burien
<p>1. How would the following interests be addressed by the City?</p>		<p><i>A community based, comprehensive visioning process in 2006</i></p> <p>If the Burien City Council decides it wishes to expand its boundaries into North Highline and serve this area, it will only do so after a through community involvement process in Burien and North Highline. We have begun an intensive community conversation in our own backyard to determine Burien’s own threshold for change. Our own residents have asked the same questions you pose – and we have asked them to help in answering these concerns.</p> <p>The Burien City Council would engage in community discussions to understand North Highline’s vision and expectations for its neighborhood and commercial areas. We would specifically ask about expectations for public safety, human services, parks, streets and other physical elements of the community. We’d build a clear, prudent business plan that assures Burien and North Highline that we know the long term prognosis for paying for basic services and growing a healthier revenue base over time.</p> <p>The thoughtful work of the North Highline Unincorporated Area Council governance study is important groundwork that is being completed. Other groups in the community including White Center Community Development Associations, Trusted Advocates and Making Connections, Friends of Hicks Lake, the Highline School District have also undertaken community building work that would be folded into a rich public involvement process.</p>

¹ Seattle responses provided by Kenny Pittmann, City of Seattle Office of Policy & Management

² Burien responses provided by Scott Greenberg, City of Burien Director of Department of Community Development-Administration

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		The following describes how Burien would address each specific topic mentioned.
<p>a. Affordability</p>	<p>Seattle has and will continue to develop various programs and techniques to maintain affordability to for lower-income families. This includes zoning/land use provisions, use of state/federal tax provisions and housing finance techniques (homeownership and rental housing)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cost of housing. Burien would continue to work with King County Housing Authority, King County Housing & Community Development and other local community housing and development interests to develop a wide range of housing choices for different incomes. Both Burien and North Highline were highly rated recently by Seattle Magazine as desirable neighborhoods for the services, easy access and affordable real estate market close to the employment centers in King County. We pride ourselves in an efficient and high-quality permitting process – much less complex and cumbersome than Seattle’s. Permits for new houses and remodels are granted within four to six weeks as opposed to an average of three months for Seattle’s most streamlined permit. This helps to reduce the cost of housing. ○ Public services/transportation. Burien’s cost of doing business and contract service arrangements with utilities allow us to serve North Highline with lower taxes and utility bills than Seattle. Burien also does not have a huge bureaucracy or distant elected leadership that can’t get things done the public sets as priorities. We would strengthen transit improvements by improving passenger facilities, maintaining express access to Seattle and by improving access to South and East County employment centers. Unlike Seattle’s costly and now failing Monorail, Burien’s transit strategy would be a model we would replicate in North Highline. Partnerships would include Metro, Sound Transit and federal grant support.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Private goods and services. Burien has over one thousand businesses – mostly small family owned businesses. We support our businesses with city/private partnerships for marketing, promotional events, commercial streets landscape and flower maintenance programs. The highlight of these programs is that we market Burien business to Burien people –something a larger city cannot do. These services are all delivered through the cost-efficient contracts for services with Discover Burien and other local non-profits. <p>The small business profile in Burien is quite similar to North Highline. Indeed, a third of our businesses already report North Highline as their primary customers. Our businesses offer a range of goods and services at a far lower cost than Seattle. For example, today gasoline in Burien is 12 cents less per gallon than the same gas in Seattle. Some offer special items that cannot be found elsewhere. To support the success of small businesses, Burien funds a small business assistance center in partnership with Highline Community College. A range of services are offered. Many of our small business owners are culturally diverse and often starting a line of business to serve their own ethnic community as well as a larger clientele.</p>
<p>b. Openness to Diversity</p>	<p>Seattle is one of the most diverse cities in the nation and has embraced and supported its racial and cultural diversity on a neighborhood and city-wide basis.</p>	<p>Burien works with and celebrates its diversity! We expect our diversity to grow from 28% to 30% of today’s population to closer to 50% in the next census in 2010. Seattle’s diversity is currently at 30% and expected to go to approximately 39%.</p> <p>Burien currently is the only city in the state other than Seattle to have comprehensive civil rights legislation</p>

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		<p>protecting all classes and all housing and employment categories regardless of size. Businesses of one or more employees are included (unlike the state which covers fewer classes of people and for employers of 7 or more employees). The Council has acted unanimously on civil rights measures.</p> <p>Burien currently leads a community agency partnership of public and non-profit service providers (the Burien Service Providers Forum) to address education, human service, employment and other issues for non-English speaking families. Key partnerships include the Highline School District, Para Los Ninos, New Futures, King County Housing Authority, Highline Community College and many others. Products of this partnership include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • summer school cultural program for Latino children/parents • additional grant funding and non-profit services for before and after school language and educational programs • Spanish language city notices and newsletter (something not done in Seattle; in addition we offer Spanish notices on our cable TV access) • translation services for community meetings • involvement of diverse cultures and students in neighborhood parks and Town Square planning • community concerts and events for diverse communities • innovative community involvement where our door-to-door surveyors offer multi-lingual translations in over nine languages <p>Annexation would mean new challenges and opportunities to work with an even richer, more diverse cultural community. Unlike other areas which might want to assimilate cultures into their broader scheme of</p>

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		<p>neighborhood plans already written, we are very amenable to having new and diverse neighborhood plans that allow for multi-cultural development – perhaps a White Center that becomes an international shopping, grocery and restaurant area. We are open, more nimble and already moving faster at appreciating cultural economic development by the people who live there.</p> <p>We don't have a stand alone staff to address issues of diversity. In the Burien model, that is a responsibility and value of all our staff across every department.</p>
<p>c. Services to support a diverse population</p>	<p>See responses below and information provided [previously] to NHUAC and consultants.</p>	<p>Burien currently contracts with several nonprofits for an array of human services ranging from basic nutrition, emergency shelter, housing, educational support to non-English Speaking families, senior programs and youth outreach. Those contracts will be further expanded in 2007 when the city commits one percent of its budget to human services.</p> <p>In an annexation decision, Burien would negotiate a continuity of services commitment with King County, the major human services provider for all cities in King County. We also propose to work within the existing network of non-profit agencies and community service system already serving North Highline.</p>
<p>d. A voice in governance</p>	<p>Residents participate in governance and the decision-making process through City Council meetings, participation in neighborhood councils and on various city boards and commissions.</p>	<p>In November 2007, three seats on the Burien City Council would be open for candidates from North Highline. Burien has very grassroots campaigns (our average Burien candidate spends less than \$25,000; Seattle's City Council candidates this year are spending an average of \$200,000 per seat).</p> <p>The City has a number of Boards, commissions, and</p>

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		<p>advisory bodies that would welcome new members in a transition, and it would likely want to continue to work with leadership groups such as the NHUAC. Likewise, we would want to have a clear, long-term contract agreement developed with the sewer, water and fire districts on how the transition would work and how services would be configured for the long term after annexation.</p>
<p>e. Local control in decisions</p>	<p>See above.</p>	<p>This was a fundamental value that drove Burien’s incorporation in 1993 and guides the city today. We use neighborhood based planning, community involvement meetings in all of our work in the community, boards and commissions to assure adequate community engagement before Council actions are taken. Some examples include: dozens of public meetings over 10 years to plan our Town Square project; ad-hoc committees or task forces formed to address planning for pedestrian and bicycle facilities, park & recreation facilities, parks master planning, neighborhood planning for our Salmon Creek (Shorewood) and NE Burien neighborhoods, and the Burien Service Providers Forum (focusing on issues related to diversity and community partnerships), to name a few. In addition, we have our formal boards and commissions: Planning Commission, Parks Board, Arts Commission and Business & Economic Development Partnership.</p> <p>Burien’s city staff is accessible and available. Our staff business cards contain our direct phone and fax numbers for ease of communication. Letters to the City Council are answered in writing by the appropriate Department Director.</p> <p>A City Councilmember in Seattle represents about 300,000 voters; a Burien City Councilmember would represent about 30,000 voters.</p>

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<p>f. Readiness to accept and serve North Highline</p>	<p>See responses below.</p>	<p>Burien first asked North Highline to be incorporated with them when Burien’s charter was being developed. Many of our own residents moved from North Highline to Burien. We already share the same schools, police and fire services and some of the same utilities.</p> <p>In November, the Burien Planning Commission, Business & Economic Development Partnership and City Council will receive our own community survey, additional economic analysis, alternatives for funding services and a proposed process for the Council to review the reports and give direction to the staff on next steps. We are currently processing a Comprehensive Plan amendment to designate North Highline as a “Potential Annexation Area”—the first step toward any annexation decision.</p> <p>If the Burien City Council adopts a Potential Annexation Area, we would envision a good deal of the community work occurs in the first half of 2006 between North Highline and Burien. The various interagency negotiations to define the practical business arrangements for the future governance of North Highline would also be a critical task to be completed in 2006. Given our contract for service model, if annexation was supported by both Burien and North Highline, we would be able to serve the community in short order.</p>
<p>g. Management of growth to maintain a small town atmosphere that includes both urban and rural elements</p>	<p>See responses below.</p>	<p>If an annexation occurs, a land use plan amendment will be developed for North Highline based on community involvement of its residents and business owners.</p> <p>Most likely some of the same principles being used in Burien today would apply to North Highline. Small town feel, pleasant neighborhoods, nice parks, safe pedestrian improvements, a vibrant downtown with a personal touch</p>

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		<p>between owners and customers are some of the most valued experiences of living in Burien. <u>Our</u> vision of the future is attached—how closely does it match <u>your</u> vision for North Highline?</p> <p>Burien has protected and enhanced its low density residential neighborhoods. To strengthen its downtown and commercial areas it has planned for residential density to be concentrated in downtown where we have transit, public parks and recreation services, short walking distances to most of our public and private services.</p> <p>The commercial areas of North Highline have their own unique character but with a good plan building on what is already there, a good balance of preservation of the neighborhoods and good quality commercial, mixed use development could help businesses grow and help the tax base grow to cover the city services funding gap.</p>
<p>h. Recognition of the history of the area and its residents</p>	<p>See responses below that relate to the neighborhood planning process and Department of Neighborhood.</p>	<p>There are a variety of ways to celebrate the history of North Highline along with Burien and the other Highline Communities of SeaTac, Normandy Park and Des Moines and portions of Tukwila. Burien uses the book “The Many Roads to Highline” as one of its basic source documents and works closely with the Highline Historical Society.</p> <p>The Highline Historical Society owns property in Old Burien where it plans to build a new museum at SW 152nd St. & Ambaum. Due to the inclusive jurisdiction of the Highline School District, the Society maintains collections of interest to North Highline.</p> <p>The new Town Square when built will have a feature element that begins at the most prominent place in the Square and tells the history of Burien over the decades. The</p>

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		<p>story of our native and immigrant communities will be kept and celebrated. In North Highline, many histories are similar to Burien’s neighborhoods and many are different. The early public planning work that is done for North Highline should define how best to record this history and how best to tell the stories and keep them alive.</p>
<p>i. Recognition of the jurisdiction with which people affiliate (even if it means splitting North Highline between two cities)</p>	<p>That would not pose a problem for Seattle. We understand that residents closer to Roxbury Avenue may identify more with Seattle while residents closer to 128th may identify more with Burien. However, any decision to split the North Highline area must be made by the residents with the understanding of what are the long-term ramifications.</p>	<p>The option to split North Highline does not seem to have momentum and creates exhausting challenges that would have to be worked out with utility and fire districts. It also means Seattle, Burien and King County would need to resolve many boundary and service relationships over at least the first ten years of the split if not longer.</p> <p>There are options to phase in annexation and make it a progression of decisions in defined neighborhoods. The downside is that phasing will take longer – perhaps so long that the time and effort don’t make sense for North Highline, Burien or King County.</p>
<p>j. Loyalty to fire and police staff</p>	<p>This is not an issue. Besides the state law requires the retention of police & fire staff that are affected by an annexation, we will want to retain as many of police & fire staff to ensure a smooth operational and community transition. Seattle will work with the affected organizations as part of the formal annexation assessment/implementation plan and the annexation agreement with King County.</p>	<p>Burien is currently served by both North Highline Fire District 11 and Burien/Normandy Park Fire District 2. We also contract with King County for police services. Given that the level of service we are considering with annexation matches what North Highline receives today, we don’t see much changing in the public safety arrangements in police or fire employment levels. Determining appropriate levels of service would be part of the community conversations that would occur next year.</p> <p>Some organizational changes in administration at the Precinct level that currently serves Burien and North Highline and in the Fire Command structure between Districts 2 and 11 would occur as these groups are consolidated to serve one city. If the Burien City Council</p>

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		<p>declares a Potential Annexation Area, the details of how and when that would happen would be part of the contract negotiations between the city and special districts in early 2006. If for some reason, one or more employees currently serving North Highline did not have an assignment in the new organizational structure, we would work with the County or Fire District to develop a career plan for that person so they could make a job change without losing employment or critical pension and other insurance coverage.</p> <p>From talking with our own residents as well as reading your public comments about annexation, public safety and fire protection, we have learned that service stability is of top concern. Both our residents and yours would like to see a seamless transition of governance during annexation so that public safety response times remain the same or better. Because the public safety services you receive today will be the same as the services you would receive after annexation, response times would not increase.</p>
<p>k. Provision of human services, parks and open space</p>	<p>See responses below.</p>	<p>Burien is a founding member of the South King County Human Services Forum--a coalition of local governments representing over 600,000 people. The Forum's mission is to coordinate local response to regional human service issues in cooperation with private and nonprofit service providers. Councilmember Lamphear is the Chair of the Forum.</p> <p>Burien would use its current model of contracting for human and community services. This service delivery approach allows the city to best match the needs of our citizens to efficient and effective provision of services.</p> <p>Many services are coordinated by Burien's Parks</p>

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		<p>Department, which integrates parks, arts, recreation, senior and community services. This combination allows us to serve residents of all ages with a variety of services depending on their needs, ages and financial ability and promote genuine community connections across areas. We provide “scholarship” services to children if their families are eligible for free or reduced school lunch services. We partner for families to have day care, language training, teen leadership and community service, outdoor environmental education and beach experiences, art training programs. We jointly fund and manage a senior services program for North Highline and Burien.</p> <p>It is likely that the most obvious visual change that people will see in North Highline should North Highline annex to Burien, is the noticeable maintenance and improvement of North Highline’s parks.</p> <p>Burien has over 300 acres of parks and open space it owns and manages. Fifty acres have been added in the past five years. Burien operates a regional park at Seahurst, soccer and ball fields at Moshier and a number of well-maintained neighborhood parks. Burien has also invested in school ball fields in partnership with the Highline School District and has added soccer and softball or baseball facilities in all of its neighborhoods. Like North Highline, Burien incorporated with a strong concern that its neighborhood parks be better cared for than the County’s level of maintenance. We have delivered on that promise. The level of service Burien defined for North Highline is the same as we use for Burien today.</p>
<p>I. Respect for North Highline as an entity</p>	<p>Not an issue. North Highline will not be a separate entity, in the sense of governance, but will become part of a jurisdiction that is made up of over 39</p>	<p>We – Burien and North Highline – already have a great deal of respect for each other, and will no matter what happens in the annexation process. We have gone about studying</p>

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	<p>distinct neighborhoods and/or areas. These areas are respected for their diversity and how they add to the make up of the overall City of Seattle.</p>	<p>annexation of North Highline with that ethic in mind. We have acted cooperatively, we have played by the rules, and we have a small town community’s fierce independence that is closer to yours than Seattle’s is closer to yours. We have worked on joint information brochures with you, and respected the advice not to campaign in the streets but provide facts to the UAC and in the economic reports. Our police and fire officials come to most of your meetings – not just an annexation presentation meeting.</p> <p>We would argue that the best evidence of how will we respect North Highline is in how we have worked collegially in this annexation process. Being good neighbors starts with trust, and not being overwhelmed by a bigger city which can create its own rules because it is so big.</p>
<p>2. What evidence can the city provide that North Highline is wanted as part of the City?</p> <p>3. What evidence is there that the City Council would support annexation of North Highline?</p>	<p>The City has continued working on the annexation assessment process, the Mayor and city staff have meet with community leaders/organizations over the past 2-year period to discuss impacts of annexation to Seattle and has conducted tours showing example of projects or activities that could be accomplished if the area was annexed into Seattle. The City Council has passed a resolution requesting specific information that will be used in their decision-making process regarding the inclusion of the areas, as well as the West Hill area, as potential annexation areas in the Seattle Comprehensive Plan update process. This is still underway.</p> <p>The Seattle City Council will determine their support for annexation after they evaluate information from the initial annexation assessment that is being prepared (part of their decision-making process during the Seattle Comprehensive Plan update process in late</p>	<p>“North Highline Unincorporated Area/Potential PAA” is one of the City Council’s highest priorities for 2005 and is one of the seven major goals for the City this year. Where is it on Seattle’s priority list? The City has been working with King County on studying annexation since 1999. Since the first Burien annexation study in 2003, we have spent about \$111,000 and hundreds of staff hours on annexation studies. In July 2004, the Burien City Council formally recognized that work by adding consideration of a Potential Annexation Area (PAA) as part of our Comprehensive Plan amendment docket. A City Council decision designating North Highline as a PAA may be made by the end of 2005 or early 2006 after studying the reports and surveys that will be completed in the coming weeks.</p> <p>We have gone to our community – in both surveys and focus groups – to ask them about annexation, North Highline, international neighborliness, service delivery levels, long-term city aspirations and short term needs, as well as how to</p>

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	<p>summer 2006). Several council members have stated that for governance and service delivery reasons that annexation of unincorporated urban areas that border Seattle should be done. They have also passed a council resolution (CR 30666) that requested information that they will need for their evaluation process that includes interest of area residents in being annexed into the City of Seattle.</p>	<p>begin an integration of our two communities.</p> <p>We have listened to North Highline at all of the public meetings of the UAC, plus read and heard public comments from North Highline residents about being part of Burien. We have more people working on a possible annexation of North Highline than Seattle, despite their 10 to one staffing levels compared with us.</p> <p>We take potential annexation of North Highline seriously and respectfully.</p>
<p>4. How will the annexing City be able to afford serving North Highline, given the revenues it will provide?</p>	<p>Seattle looks at the provision of services on a city-wide basis and does not base it on the amount of revenue that an individual area generates. Once the assessment process is completed, includes revenues and expenses associated with area, the City will look at methods to address any revenue “gaps.” There may not be a large revenue “gap” since the city already provides the services on a city-wide basis (economies of scale) and does not have to base its expenses on starting up new programs or services like a jurisdiction that is looking at incorporating.</p>	<p>Many of the services that would be provided after annexation are already our services or would be provided by the same special districts currently providing services to North Highline. There is great efficiency in keeping the same people and institutional memory of where the trouble spots have been in the past. We know what it would cost to serve North Highline. We have been successful in starting revitalization of our downtown core with the support and involvement of our residents and businesses. When the core revenue sources of Burien were dramatically affected by the development of Southcenter – and we saw many businesses relocate or close, we rebuilt the city’s revenue base, learning about the need to diversify the economy and be nimble.</p> <p>We are still studying this issue by identifying all current and potential possible revenue sources that could help bridge the gap between costs and revenues. Burien will not annex North Highline unless we have a well thought out plan to finance city services. We believe this is possible with the creative problem-solving and partnering that defines how we get things done in Burien.</p>
<p>5. How will the City work</p>	<p>City will develop a detailed annexation</p>	<p>Planning for an annexation involves four main objectives:</p>

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<p>with North Highline to plan for annexation?</p>	<p>implementation study as part of the overall annexation process (currently in the initial phase with continued development of annexation assessment study). During the annexation implementation study, the City will work with area residents and organizations to identify, in greater detail, area needs/concerns and city responses/services to address those needs/concerns (this will also include any agreements with special purpose district affected by annexation). In addition, the City will work with King County in developing an annexation agreement that will spell out timeline and responsibilities of both the county and city as part of the annexation process (this agreement will be subject to public hearings).</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Educating both the community in Burien and North Highline; 2) Listening to them separately and then together; 3) Integrating stakeholders (such as those listed below) into a process that includes what the people in both communities are thinking: the Burien City Council, Planning Commission, Business & Economic Development Partnership, North Highline UAC, special districts currently serving the area, White Center CDA, Making Connections, Trusted Advocates, Annie Casey Foundation and others; 4) Developing a governance strategy and governance transition agreement that provides an explicit set of business arrangements with current public agencies serving North Highline, including the NHUAC. <p>Our goal would be broad participation by all interests—including translation services, door to door surveys, focus groups, speakers bureaus, and special cable access TV presentations as needed. If desired by both communities, we would consider recommending formation of an annexation task force comprised of Burien and North Highline leaders, residents and businesses.</p>
<p>6. How will North Highline be assured that commitments made in negotiating an annexation will actually be fulfilled? * E.g., taxation rates * E.g., specific facility or service commitments</p>	<p>Commitments made and agreed to as part of any annexation agreement will be met. In regards to rates of taxation, any increase in the rate of local taxes (does not include taxes of special purpose districts that may still operate in the area such as school districts or water/sewer districts) must be approved by the Seattle City Council. The ability to create a new tax is the sole authority of the Washington State Legislature.</p>	<p>Burien has established a history of commitment in treating North Highline as we wish to be treated ourselves. We have responded with studies and public involvement; we have paid detailed attention; we have invested as neighbors in building a sense of small business support; and we have a fierce independence in staying a small town. That we would double our population, more than double our land size, and open the door to more community planning – all signifies a commitment to making the North Highline annexation a serious proposition where we would build a new community <u>with</u> you, not <u>to</u> you.</p>

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		<p>In addition, we are suggesting a Burien City Council Resolution establishing any commitments we make as a set of “annexation principles.” The City Council would also give approval to its interlocal agreements with current public agencies to become effective only if there is a positive vote for annexation.</p>
<p>7. What will the city do to support children and youth in North Highline?</p>	<p>Seattle is a leader in the provision of programs and services that support children and youth on a city-wide basis. These programs will be made available to residents of areas annexed into the City of Seattle.</p> <p>Examples of programs/services include, but are not limited to (subject to meeting eligibility requirements):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child care subsidy services • Full range of children and family support services • Funding for school-based health center (high & middle schools) • Funding for community health centers • Oral Health Field Dental (for at-risk children in schools, child care & head start programs) • Primary Care - Medical & Dental Access Services (uninsured & underinsured low-income residents of Seattle) • Full range of youth recreation programs and community centers • Youth educational support programs, through the Seattle Families & Education Levy (for those Highline School District students that would be residents areas annexed by Seattle) 	<p>The City of Burien’s Parks and Recreation Department works with the Highline School District in developing and offering after school programs and classes at several schools. It has also taken a lead role in the support of a Teen Leadership Council, working to develop outreach programs to older youth and offering community service and other opportunities for community leadership. The Department’s recreation programs for children and youth also include teen trips, special events, a summer daycamp program and other special interest classes.</p>
<p>8. How will the repairs and maintenance on the</p>	<p>While the repair or replacement of the South Park Bridge (which is owned by King County and the City</p>	<p>Burien is not proposing to annex the South Park Bridge. We would support efforts by King County, WSDOT and others</p>

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“Boeing” Bridge be addressed?	of Tukwila) is the responsibility of King County, we recognize that we could own the bridge at some future date upon satisfactory construction completion and satisfactory completion of the annexation process for the area in the South Park neighborhood. The City of Seattle has been, and will continue to be, an active partner in working with King County throughout the process for either the repair or replace the South Park Bridge. King County is in the early stages of receiving public input on the environmental process and identifying funding sources for the potential \$90 million project.	to obtain the necessary grants and/or loans to repair or rebuild the bridge. We will continue to monitor the EIS process currently underway by King County.
9. What grant-writing capacity does the city have to support needs in North Highline?	The different departments have staff that prepares grant applications to secure funding from federal, state or private organization for city projects. The city has and will continue to seek outside funding for projects that support its economic development and housing initiatives. The city also provides grants; through programs like the Neighborhood Matching Fund (MNF), to neighborhood organizations for a variety of activities that can include organization capacity building to support its projects (could include grant-writing technical assistance).	We currently prepare grant applications through three departments: Finance, Public Works & Parks. We contract with state and federal lobbyists and have an active intergovernmental relations program. We are very aggressive and successful in our efforts, leveraging over \$60 million in grants in the past 4 years.
10. Would the annexing City meet with us in North Highline?	Yes. The City of Seattle has met and will continue to meet with community groups and individuals to discuss the impact of annexation of the North Highline area on residents and businesses. We have been discussing the annexation process with residents and businesses more than 2 years and will continue this dialog throughout the annexation process.	Yes. Staff would strongly advocate meetings with the NHUAC and other governance and private or non-profit leadership groups. The Burien City Council is able to meet with the NHUAC prior to annexation—maybe in a community forum or open house setting. They could also hold a study session in North Highline—to give North Highline residents an idea of how the Council operates. We could do similar meetings with all of our boards and commissions. Following annexation, all City Council meetings would be available on cable channel 21 to North

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		Highline subscribers. In addition, the Council could hold meetings in North Highline periodically.
<p>11. How would North Highline be absorbed into the city if it were annexed? <i>(This part of the question was particularly emphasized for the City of Burien)</i></p> <p>* What are the city’s plans for the future?</p> <p>* How will the city work with North Highline to improve the area?</p> <p>* How will the city help improve safety (or the feeling of safety) in North Highline?</p>	<p>The most important thing to remember is that the North Highline neighborhoods would retain their identity if they were annexed into Seattle (similar to other areas that were standalone jurisdictions before becoming part of Seattle, such as Georgetown and Columbia City).</p> <p>Seattle has developed a comprehensive plan that provides an overall framework for the direction of city development. If North Highline were annexed into Seattle the following steps would take place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City and residents would work on the development of neighborhood plans for the area to help shape the future of <u>their</u> neighborhood. In early 2000, the City concluded a five-year neighborhood planning process that covered 32 individual neighborhood plans. This process gave community members the opportunity to participate in this important process. The neighborhoods in the North Highline area would conduct a similar process (working with the Department of Neighborhoods and Department of Planning and Development) • The City would work with existing or future organizations, such as the White Center Chamber of Commerce and White Center Community Development Association to identify and implement plans for improvements to the neighborhood business districts and/or residential areas. We are also aware that there have been 	<p>How to blend North Highline into Burien will be part of a comprehensive community-based effort that would be part of our collective work on a governance framework agreement and governance transition policies. We would not expect the level of public safety services to be reduced as a result of annexation. Some specific ideas we’ve been discussing on the staff level include the following. These have not been discussed yet with the City Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After designating a PAA, expand our advisory boards and commissions for 4 years (one term) to include specific North Highline seats. This will give North Highline an almost immediate voice in areas such as planning, parks, arts and business issues. • Setup a neighborhood planning process after annexation to address neighborhood issues. • Consider creation of additional advisory boards or task forces to address issues important to North Highline. • Contracting with White Center CDA and other agencies for services. <p>It should be noted that Burien smoothly annexed the Manhattan/Woodside Park neighborhood in the southern part of Burien in 1998.</p>

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	<p>efforts to improve the area, such as the recently-announced King County-sponsored White Center Initiative and various plans to improve the 16th avenue neighborhood business corridor. Where appropriate, we will work the community to implement those plans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public safety is the paramount duty of the City. While there are general public safety activities that are conducted on a city-wide basis, each area has specific issues that must be addressed after discussions with neighborhood residents and businesses. To the extent feasible, the joint Weed and Seed effort with King County will be maintained (depends on what areas are annexed into Seattle). The City’s focus is also on crime prevention programs and is working work both neighborhood business areas to identify “hot spots” for increased emphasis patrols and the Seattle Public School, in selected area, to increase efforts to reduce school truancy and get the kids back into schools. These and other type of appropriate activities will be tailored to the specific areas. 	
<p>Additional information from each City</p>	<p>Questions specific to Seattle:</p> <p>How will North Highline be assured that the monorail tax will not apply to them?</p> <p>The answer to this question may have to be answered by the Courts. The Monorail Project, and it associated tax on vehicles, is before the Seattle voters this November. If the voters turn down the latest monorail proposal, then the monorail tax would not apply to anyone (Seattle residents or residents in areas annexed</p>	<p><i>Our Vision of the City of Burien is as...</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ a friendly community with well established neighborhoods and a small town atmosphere. ❖ a culturally diverse, safety-conscious, crime-free, and people-oriented community. ❖ a community that has established programs serving people of all ages.

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	<p>into the City). If the revised monorail project is approved, then it becomes a legal question if it applies to those areas that did not vote on it.</p> <p>How will Seattle maintain the police storefronts and CSOs?</p> <p>The operation existing police storefronts and community service officers (CSOs) in North Highline are questions that will be addressed as part of the formal annexation assessment/implementation study. The input of area residents is vital to this process. It should be noted that State law requires the automatic lateral transfer of qualified county sheriff's office employees who would otherwise be laid off as a result of the annexation (this would apply to the number determined by the city that is needed to provide service to the area, those not immediately retained are moved to the front of the city's police department hire list for a period of 36 months).</p> <p>How will Seattle address the \$3-4 million financial hole left by not renewing the Parks Levy in 2008 (should it not be resubmitted to or reapproved by the voters)?</p> <p>The future funding of park and open space (acquisition and operation & maintenance) are ongoing discussions. Over the next two to three year period, Seattle will explore various options, including a possible levy, for the acquisition and operation & maintenance of parks and open space on a city-wide basis.</p> <p>Since there is discussion in Seattle of using part of the Seattle Family Education Levy for direct school services instead of associated</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ a community with an open, responsive, local government with active, informed citizens. ❖ a community with natural open spaces, neighborhood parks, paths, and trails. ❖ a community that has preserved and enhanced its historic and natural features, habitat areas, and air and water quality. ❖ a community with a local and regional transportation system that integrates cars, pedestrians, bicycles, and transit. ❖ a community with a thriving, attractive, and customer-friendly city center and business areas. ❖ a community with land use patterns that bring together individual, business and community goals. ❖ a model community with excellent police and fire services, outstanding schools, and quality community services and facilities.

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	<p>support services as before, how can North Highline are assured of receiving its fair share of Levy revenue if annexed?</p> <p>There has never been any discussion regarding the use of Seattle Families & Education Levy monies for “direct school” services. All of the monies are used for “out of classroom” services. In regards to receiving its fair share, the Levy dollars are allocated based on the number of low-income students that attend schools within specific geographic areas of Seattle. Mayor Nickels believes, and has stated, that if all or part of the North Highline area is annexed into Seattle then those eligible students that are Seattle residents will receive services through the Families & Education Levy. This will be determined as part of the annexation assessment/implementation process, in consultation with the City’s Families and Education Levy Board.</p>	