



Burien

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Annexation Discussions on Council Agenda

The City Council is currently studying the potential effects of annexing the remainder of North Highline, which includes White Center, Top Hat, Beverly Park, Glendale and portions of Boulevard Park, Riverton Heights, and Shorewood. Burien annexed the southern section of North Highline in 2010.

The City Council has not made a decision whether or not to pursue the annexation but is expected to decide this fall. A special Council meeting Sept. 19 when the proposed annexation will be discussed will not include a public comment session although residents are welcome to attend and observe. The annexation also will be discussed at the Sept. 26 regular meeting where the public will have the opportunity to make comments.

A report by a consulting firm hired by the City stated that annexing the remaining North Highline area would be financially feasible, and even provide additional resources to the City above the costs of annexation, since Burien would receive up to \$5 million a year for 10 years in the form of a state sales tax credit designed to assist eligible cities in annexation. If the annexation occurred, it would increase the population of Burien by 17,392, adding 6,586 households and 3.2 square miles to the City. Voters in the proposed annexation area would get the final say on whether to become part of the City of Burien. A ballot measure could take place as early as summer of 2012. Current Burien residents would not vote in the election.

