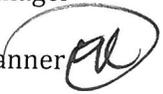




## Memorandum

Date: August 25, 2008

To: Chris Jordan, City Manager

From: Chris Kerr, Senior Planner 

Subject: Wildlife Habitat Areas Inventory (PLN-08-02)

---

Due to the late hour of the August 11, 2008 City Council meeting, the Council continued the hearing on the referenced item until September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Attached are the written public comments that were submitted at the August 11<sup>th</sup> meeting on this proposal. In particular, please note the letter submitted by Mr. Gregory Morse proposing that an additional "Recommended Action Measure" be included into the text of the Comprehensive Plan with the adoption of this Ordinance.

At issue is Staff's recommendation that, after the adoption of this Inventory, a professional consultant with specific technical expertise be hired by the City to provide the Council with a report outlining various policy options, statutory requirements, and regulatory issues related to providing additional wildlife habitat protections beyond those that currently exist in the City. This action is in accordance with the recommendation of the previous consultant (Winterbrook planning).

Staff does not believe that a text amendment to the Comprehensive Plan is required to ensure that this task is completed, and that it can be accomplished simply by having the Council direct Staff to do so. However, should the Council choose to specify this particular activity in the Comprehensive Plan, Staff would strongly recommend modifying the language as follows, to more accurately represent the purpose of the task:

**Action Measure #12: Utilize a professional consultant to provide technical expertise and review statutory regulations with recommendations to the City Council on the various policy options related to providing additional protections for threatened wildlife areas identified on the City's Wildlife Habitat Areas Map. Recommendations shall address protection/preservation options and shall include, at a minimum, the following protection options: (1) relying on existing regulations, (2) implementing full protections, or (3) providing additional limited protections.**

Attachments