

Lisa Clausen

From: Public Council Inbox
To: Wilcox, Richard A
Subject: RE: Request to be Incorporated into Burien City Limits

Thank you for your message to the Burien City Council. It will be included in the Correspondence for the Record for the next City Council meeting.

L. Clausen
City Manager's Office

-----Original Message-----

From: Wilcox, Richard A [mailto:richard.a.wilcox@boeing.com]
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2011 4:47 AM
To: Public Council Inbox
Subject: Request to be Incorporated into Burien City Limits

Dear Burien Mayor Joan McGilton and fellow Burien City Council Members

My name is Richard Wilcox and my address is 2505 - Southwest 109th Street, Seattle, Washington 98146-1960, which is part of Unincorporated King County and is located just seven blocks north of the Burien's city limits.

After what I consider unlawful behavior that happened during the Fourth of July, I would like to request that the city of Burien extend its northern boundary from 116th Street to 107th Street. Increasing the boundary of Burien would place my residence within Burien City Limits.

This would allow our residence and the other residents in our neighborhood to be protected from non-residents, who habitually trespass into our area to shoot off their highly dangerous skyrocketes and mortars, especially around our house. Though these fireworks are supposedly considered legal, I believe that the legality is in question, because they were large mortar-type skyrocketes that I have not seen sold at fireworks stands around the White Center area.

When we called the King County Sherriff, we were told that there nothing legally that could be done to these transient individuals, because we lived in Unincorporated King County and were not protected by King County or by Burien Rules and Regulations.

I have reviewed the current Burien City Limit and the extension of Burien's city limits would not be a major impact to Burien. The exact locations of my proposed city limit extension are as follows:

To modify Burien's city limits in accordance with my request, refer to the City of Burien Street Map and increase part of the northern boundary of Burien from Southwest 116th Street to Southwest 107th Street to the north. End the western boundary of this area at 26th Avenue Southwest and end the eastern boundary at 10th Avenue Southwest.

I have read that Seattle wants to incorporate the business district of the White Center area. This plan is fine with me, because the White Center area business district is located north of Southwest 107th Street and they are welcome to all of the White Center area, north on my proposed new boundary area.

The area that I am proposing could also include Cascade Middle School and Evergreen High School. Since this is part of the Highline School District, they should be part of Burien as

well. The proposed new boundary also excludes the areas that have been re-built into low-income housing, which would be better suited under Seattle Housing jurisdiction.

For the past five years, I have read about proposed annexation of the unincorporated areas of King County into Burien City Limits and I am tired of waiting for a decision to be made about this issue. Please review my proposal and hopefully implement my proposed boundary revision as soon as possible.

Please consider my request, because it benefits both Burien and Seattle by giving each city, the area they want to annex. In response to inquiries concerning non-profit groups selling fireworks around White Center; non-profit organizations could still sell fireworks in the White Center area to White Center/Seattle residents. After purchase, the local residents and their guests would only be allowed to use the fireworks in designated areas like the White Center Field House Parking Lot or Baseball Field.

However, I question the right of charitable organizations to sell these fireworks in White Center. The reason that I question their motives is that these non-profit organizations make money by selling fireworks that threaten personal safety of the individual and the private property of King County residents. This is unacceptable, because they are not legally responsible to the victims of the individuals who cause expensive damage to other people's homes from using these so-called legal fireworks in residential areas.

The following is my description of the terrible ordeal we had to endure during the last Fourth of July weekend. From early morning of the fourth to after 2:00 AM, fire crackers, illegal M-80s or worse were detonated all around our neighborhood. During the time between 8:00 PM and midnight, larger, probably illegal skyrockets were shot off and rained down on our house from these transient non-residents. I saw skyrockets shot off from three different groups and since our house is located on the corner of 25th and 109th, we were bracketed on both sides.

Due to noise and rocket debris falling down all around us, it felt like we were living in a war zone around our house. When I looked over our property the next morning, there was skyrocket debris covering the roof of the house, the front yard and the back yard. I even found debris in the furthest corner of our property away from the street, which shows how far and how high these skyrockets flew over our house. I spent the morning cleaning up the mess from these skyrockets.

We were very lucky that the roof did not catch fire, as did the house in Kent, Washington. In fact, the individual who is campaigning to make fireworks illegal in Kent inspired me to act and request Burien change its boundaries to make fireworks illegal in our neighborhood as well. The group that stood in front of our house and shot the skyrockets onto our roof and yard refused to move when we asked them three times not to aim at our house. We finally called the King County Sherriff to register a complaint. Even though the Sherriff had no jurisdiction in our area, he asked them to stop. They did stop, but only because they ran out of fireworks before he arrived.

Please review my request and vote to extend the northern boundary of Burien to include my residence. If there is anything else that I do, please let me know concerning how I may assist the Burien City Council in their decision about my proposal.

Sincerely
Richard A. Wilcox
2505 Southwest 109th Street
Seattle, Washington and would rather be in Burien, Washington 98146-1960
(206) 901-0610