ORDINANCE NO. 391

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON AMENDING REGULATIONS DEFINING PUBLIC NUISANCES AND ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES IN TITLE 10, TITLE 13, TITLE 15 AND TITLE 20 OF THE SHORELINE MUNICIPAL CODE

WHEREAS the City Council approved a work plan for 2004-2005 that included a goal to “Review and consider improvements in code enforcement standards”;

WHEREAS input from the public was obtained for the purposes of defining code enforcement issues and solutions at the March 2, 2005 Council of Neighborhoods meeting and a Code Enforcement Community Workshop on April 6, 2005;

WHEREAS the Neighborhoods of Echo Lake (April 19, 2005), Ridgecrest and North City (joint meeting May 25, 2005) invited staff to attend their neighborhood meetings to discuss code enforcement issues and possible solutions;

WHEREAS a workshop was held at the Planning Commission on June 16, 2005 to introduce the final set of code enforcement issues as confirmed through public input and staff analysis;

WHEREAS a SEPA Determination of Nonsignificance was issued on June 27, 2005;

WHEREAS the Planning Commission conducted a public hearing on July 7, 2005 to address the proposed amendments to Shoreline Municipal Code Titles 10, 13 and 20 including the adoption of the International Property Maintenance Code with local amendments; and

WHEREAS the proposed changes are focused on enhancing the Shoreline Municipal Code to more adequately enforce the identified issues; NOW THEREFORE

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Amendment. SMC 10.05.010 is amended as follows:

10.05.010 Adoption by reference.

The “Washington Model Traffic Ordinance”, Chapter 308-330 WAC, except as identified in SMC 10.05.020 and 10.50.030 is hereby adopted by reference as the traffic ordinance
of the city of Shoreline as if set forth in full. Also adopted by reference are Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12 and 23 of Chapter 275, Laws of 1994 and RCW 46.04.215, 46.20.730 as amended by Section 23 of Chapter 275, Laws of 1994. [Ord. 70 § 1, 1996]

Section 2. New Section. A new section 10.05.030 is adopted to read:

10.05.030 MTO Amendments.

A. WAC 308-330-406 is amended to read as follows:

WAC 308-330-406 RCW sections adopted -- Abandoned, unauthorized, and junk vehicle tow truck operators. The following sections of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) pertaining to abandoned, unauthorized, and junk vehicle tow truck operators as now or hereafter amended are hereby adopted by reference as a part of this chapter in all respects as though such sections were set forth herein in full: RCW 46.55.010, 46.55.020, 46.55.025, 46.55.035, 46.55.037, 46.55.040, 46.55.050, 46.55.060, 46.55.063, 46.55.070, 46.55.075, 46.55.080, 46.55.085, 46.55.090, 46.55.100, 46.55.105, 46.55.110, 46.55.113, 46.55.120, 46.55.130, 46.55.140, 46.55.150, 46.55.160, 46.55.170, 46.55.230, and 46.55.240.

1. RCW 46.55.010 is adopted with the following amendments to subsections (4) and (13):

(4) "Junk vehicle" means a vehicle certified under RCW 46.55.230 as meeting at least three of the following requirements:
   a) Is three years old or older;
   b) Is extensively damaged, such damage including but not limited to any of the following: A broken window or windshield, or missing wheels, tires, motor, or transmission;
   c) Is apparently inoperable including a condition which makes the vehicle incapable of being operated legally on a public highway;
   d) Has an approximate fair market value equal only to the approximate value of the scrap in it;

(13) "Unauthorized vehicle" means a vehicle that is subject to impoundment after being left unattended in one of the following public or private locations for the indicated period of time:

   Subject to removal after:
   (a) Public locations:
      (i) Constituting an accident or a traffic hazard as defined in RCW 46.55.113 .................. Immediately
      (ii) On a highway and tagged as described in RCW
46.55.085 ........................................................................24 hours

(iii) In a publicly owned or controlled parking
facility, properly posted under RCW 46.55.070 ....Immediately
(iv) Vehicles used for human habitation under
RCW 46.61.570.................................................................24 hours
(v) Failing to displaying current and valid registration
tabs properly mounted in accordance with
RCW 46.16.240, 46.16.047, 46.16.160, and 308-96A-295.........................................................24 hours

(b) Private locations:

(i) On residential property ..........Immediately
(ii) On private, nonresidential property,
properly posted under RCW 46.55.070 ....Immediately
(iii) On private, nonresidential property, not posted ....24 hours

2. RCW 46.55.113 is adopted with the following amendment to Subsection (2):

(2) In addition, a police officer may take custody of a vehicle, at his or her discretion,
and provide for its prompt removal to a place of safety under any of the following
circumstances:

    (a) Whenever a police officer finds a vehicle standing upon the roadway in
violation of any of the provisions of RCW 46.61.560, the officer may provide for the
removal of the vehicle or require the driver or other person in charge of the vehicle to
move the vehicle to a position off the roadway;

    (b) Whenever a police officer finds a vehicle unattended upon a highway where
the vehicle constitutes an obstruction to traffic or jeopardizes public safety;

    (c) Whenever a police officer finds an unattended vehicle at the scene of an
accident or when the driver of a vehicle involved in an accident is physically or
mentally incapable of deciding upon steps to be taken to protect his or her property;

    (d) Whenever the driver of a vehicle is arrested and taken into custody by a police
officer;

    (e) Whenever a police officer discovers a vehicle that the officer determines to be
a stolen vehicle;

    (f) Whenever a vehicle without a special license plate, card, or decal indicating
that the vehicle is being used to transport a disabled person under RCW 46.16.381 is
parked in a stall or space clearly and conspicuously marked under RCW 46.61.581
which space is provided on private property without charge or on public property;
(g) Upon determining that a person is operating a motor vehicle without a valid driver's license in violation of RCW 46.20.005 or with a license that has been expired for ninety days or more;

(h) When a vehicle is illegally occupying a truck, commercial loading zone, restricted parking zone, bus, loading, hooded-meter, taxi, street construction or maintenance, or other similar zone where, by order of the director of transportation or chiefs of police or fire or their designees, parking is limited to designated classes of vehicles or is prohibited during certain hours, on designated days or at all times, if the zone has been established with signage for at least twenty-four hours and where the vehicle is interfering with the proper and intended use of the zone. Signage must give notice to the public that a vehicle will be removed if illegally parked in the zone.

(i) When the vehicle is a junk vehicle and is parked, wholly or partially, on a public right-of-way.

B. WAC 308-330-462 is amended to read as follows:

WAC 308-330-462  RCW sections adopted -- Stopping, standing, and parking. The following sections of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) pertaining to vehicle stopping, standing, and parking as now or hereafter amended are hereby adopted by reference as a part of this chapter in all respects as though such sections were set forth herein in full: RCW 46.61.560, 46.61.570, 46.61.575, 46.61.581, 46.61.582, 46.61.583, 46.61.585, 46.61.587, and 46.61.590.

RCW 46.61.570 is adopted with the following amendments to subsections (1) and (5):

(1) Except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic, or in compliance with law or the directions of a police officer or official traffic control device, no person shall:

(a) Stop, stand, or park a vehicle:

   (i) On the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a street;

   (ii) On a sidewalk or street planting strip;

   (iii) Within an intersection;

   (iv) On a crosswalk;

   (v) Between a safety zone and the adjacent curb or within thirty feet of
points on the curb immediately opposite the ends of a safety zone, unless official signs or markings indicate a different no-parking area opposite the ends of a safety zone;

(vi) Alongside or opposite any street excavation or obstruction when stopping, standing, or parking would obstruct traffic;

(vii) Upon any bridge or other elevated structure upon a highway or within a highway tunnel;

(viii) On any railroad tracks;

(ix) In the area between roadways of a divided highway including crossovers; or

(x) At any place where official signs prohibit stopping;

(xi) On public right of way unless said vehicle displays a current and valid registration tabs properly mounted in accordance with 46.16.010(1).

(xii) Within the same block to avoid a time limit regulation specified in that particular area, except as provided in RCW 46.61.582 and 46.61.583;

(5) It shall be unlawful to use a vehicle for human habitation on any public, right-of-way or parking area. "Human habitation" means the use of a vehicle for sleeping, setting up housekeeping or cooking.

Section 3. Amendment. SMC 13.14.030 is amended as follows:

A. It is unlawful for the owners or occupants of private property to deposit or accumulate, or to permit the deposit or accumulation of, garbage upon such private property; provided, however, that this shall not prohibit the storage of garbage in private garbage receptacle(s), in accordance with health and safety regulations; or when such garbage receptacle(s) are for immediate disposal provided, that all garbage and refuse shall be removed at least every two weeks; provided further, that the use of a compost pile or bin shall not be prohibited if the use and maintenance thereof is in such a manner as to prevent the attraction, breeding and/or harboring of insects and rodents. Any such use permitted hereunder shall not be construed to permit a nuisance as defined by SMC 20.30.750 or state law.
B. No garbage shall be placed out for collection in bundles or otherwise outside of an approved garbage receptacle. [Ord. 251 § 1, 2000]

20.20.016 D definitions.

Dwelling Unit. Residential living facility, used, intended or designed to provide physically segregated complete independent living facilities for one or more persons, including living, sleeping, cooking and sanitation facilities. A dwelling unit is to be distinguished from lodging, such as hotel/motel or dormitory.

20.30.730 General provisions.

A. For the purposes of this subchapter, any person who causes or maintains a Code Violation and the owner, lessor, tenant or other person entitled to control, use, or occupancy of property where a Code Violation occurs shall be identified as the responsible party and shall be subject to penalties enforcement action as provided in this subchapter. However, if a property owner affirmatively demonstrates that the action which resulted in the violation was taken without the owner’s knowledge or consent by someone other than the owner or someone acting on the owner’s behalf, that owner shall be responsible only for bringing the property into compliance to the extent reasonably feasible under the circumstances, as determined by the Director. Should the owner responsible party not correct the violation, after service of the notice and order, civil fines, and penalties and abatement costs may be assessed.

B. It shall be the responsibility of any person identified as a responsible party to bring the property into a safe and reasonable condition to achieve compliance. Payment of fines, applications for permits, acknowledgment of stop work orders and compliance with other remedies does not substitute for performing the corrective work required and having the property brought into compliance to the extent reasonably possible under the circumstances. The date set for compliance in the Notice and Order takes precedence over any date established for the expiration of any required permit(s) and will be subordinate only to written extension of the Notice and Order.

C. The procedures set forth in this subchapter are not exclusive. These procedures shall not in any manner limit or restrict the City fromremedying or abating Code Violations in any other manner authorized by law. (Ord. 238 Ch. III § 10(b), 2000).

20.30.740 Enforcement provisions.

A. Infraction. Whenever the Director has determined that a Code Violation has occurred, the Director may issue a Class 1 civil infraction, or other class of infraction specified in the particular ordinance violated, to any responsible party, according to the provisions set forth in Chapter 7.80 RCW.

B. Misdemeanor.
Any person who willfully or knowingly causes, aids or abets a Code Violation by any act of commission or omission is guilty of a misdemeanor. Upon conviction, the person shall be punished by a fine not to exceed $1,000 and/or imprisonment in the county jail for a term not to exceed 90 days. Each week (seven days) such violation continues shall be considered a separate misdemeanor offense. A misdemeanor complaint or notice of infraction may be filed as an alternative, or in addition to any other judicial or administrative remedy provided in this subchapter or by law or other regulation.

C. Suspension, revocation or limitation of permit.

1. The Director may suspend, revoke or limit any permit issued whenever:
   a. The permit holder has committed a Code Violation in the course of performing activities subject to that permit;
   b. The permit holder has interfered with the Director in the performance of his or her duties relating to that permit;
   c. The permit was issued in error or on the bases of materially incorrect information supplied to the City; or
   d. Permit fees or costs were paid to the City by check and returned from a financial institution marked nonsufficient funds (NSF) or cancelled.

2. Such suspension, revocation or modification shall be carried out through the notice and order provisions of this subchapter and shall be effective upon the compliance date established by the notice and order. Such revocation, suspension or cancellation may be appealed to the Hearing Examiner using the appeal provisions of this subchapter. Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, the Director may immediately suspend operations under any permit by issuing a stop work order.

D. Civil Penalties.

1. A civil penalty for violation of the terms and conditions of a notice and order shall be imposed in the amount of $500.00. The total initial penalties assessed for notice and orders and stop work orders pursuant to this section shall apply for the first 14-day period following the violation of the order, if no appeal is filed. The penalties for the next 14-day period shall be 150 percent of the initial penalties, and the penalties for the next 14-day period and each such period or portion thereafter, shall be double the amount of the initial penalties.

2. Any responsible party who has committed a violation of the provisions of Chapter 20.80 SMC, Critical Areas, will not only be required to restore damaged critical areas, insofar as that is possible and beneficial, as determined by the Director, but will also be required to pay civil penalties in addition to penalties under subsection D(1), for the redress of ecological, recreation, and economic values lost or damaged due to the violation. Civil penalties will be assessed according to the following factors:
   a. An amount determined to be equivalent to the economic benefit that the responsible party derives from the violation measured as the total of:
i. The resulting increase in market value of the property; and
ii. The value received by the responsible party; and
iii. The savings of construction costs realized by the
    responsible party as a result of performing any act in
    violation of the chapter; and
b. A penalty of $1,000 if the violation was deliberate, the result of
   knowingly false information submitted by the property owner,
   agent, or contractor, or the result of reckless disregard on the part
   of the property owner, agent, or their contractor. The property
   owner shall assume the burden of proof for demonstrating that the
   violation was not deliberate; and
   c. A penalty of $2,000 if the violation has severe ecological impacts,
      including temporary or permanent loss of resource values or
      functions.

3. A repeat violation means a violation of the same regulation in any location
   within the City by the same responsible party, for which voluntary
   compliance previously has been sought or any enforcement action taken,
   within the immediate preceding 24 consecutive month period, and will
   incur double the civil penalties set forth above.

4. The responsible parties have a duty to notify the Director of any actions
   taken to achieve compliance with the notice and order. For purposes of
   assessing civil penalties, a violation shall be considered ongoing until the
   responsible party has come into compliance with the notice and order and
   has notified the Director of this compliance, and an official inspection has
   verified compliance.

5. Civil penalties may be waived or reimbursed to the payer by the Director,
   with the concurrence of the Finance Director, under the following
   circumstances:
   a. The notice and order was issued in error; or
   b. The civil penalties were assessed in error; or
   c. Notice failed to reach the property owner due to unusual
      circumstances; or
   d. Compelling new information warranting waiver has been presented
      to the Director since the notice and order was issued and documented with
      the waiver decision.

E. Abatement.
1. All public nuisances are subject to abatement under this subchapter.
2. Imminent nuisance and summary abatement,
   If a condition, substance, act or nuisance exists which causes a condition
   the continued existence of which constitutes an immediate and emergent
   threat to the public health, safety or welfare or to the environment, the
   City may summarily and without prior notice abate the condition. Notice
   of such abatement, including the reason for the abatement, shall be given
to the person responsible for the property and the violation as soon as reasonably possible after the abatement. The Director or his/her designee shall make the determination of a condition, substance, act or other occurrence constituting an imminent nuisance requiring summary abatement. Costs, both direct and indirect, of the abatement may be assessed as provided in this chapter.

F. Additional enforcement provisions.

The enforcement provisions of this section are not exclusive, and may be used in addition to other enforcement provisions authorized by the Shoreline Municipal Code or by state law, including filing for injunctive relief or filing of a civil action.

20.30.750 Declaration of public nuisance, enforcement

Code violations detrimental to the public health, safety and environment are hereby declared public nuisances. All conditions determined to be public nuisance shall be subject to and enforced pursuant to the provisions of this subchapter except where specifically excluded.

A. A public nuisance is any City land use and development ordinance, public health ordinance, or violations of this subchapter including, but not limited to:

A Code Violation, as used in this subchapter, is declared to be a public nuisance and includes violations of the following:

1. Any City land use and development ordinances or public health ordinances;

2. Any public nuisance as set forth in RCW 7.48 and RCW 9.66;

3. Violation of any of the Codes adopted in SMC 15.05;

4. Any accumulation of refuse, except for such yard debris that is properly contained for the purpose of composting. This does not apply to material kept in garbage receptacles maintained for regular collection, except as provided in Chapter 13.14 SMC, Garbage Code;

5. Nuisance vegetation; and

6. The discarding or dumping of any material onto the public right-of-way, waterway, or other public property;

B. No act which is done or maintained under the express authority of a statute or ordinance shall be deemed a public nuisance.

20.30.770 (E) Notice & Orders.

8. A statement advising that, if any required work is not commenced or completed or a written extension for completion obtained within the time specified by the notice and order, the Director may proceed to abate the violation and cause the work to be done and charge the costs thereof as a lien against the property and as a joint and several personal obligation of all responsible parties;

1. The Shoreline City Council finds that there exist within the City of Shoreline premises that are unfit for human habitation or other uses due to conditions that are inimical to the health and welfare of City residents.

2. In the case of such unfit dwellings, buildings, structures, and premises or portions thereof, the Director, as an alternative to any other remedy provided in this subchapter, may abate such conditions and have abatement costs collected as taxes by the King County treasury pursuant to SMC Section 20.30.775.

3. The Uniform Code for the Abatement of Dangerous Buildings (UCADB), 1997 Edition, as published by the International Conference of Building Officials is adopted for abatement procedures under this section, subject to the following amendments:
   a. Whenever used in the UCADB, "building official" shall mean the Director.
   b. UCADB Sec. 302 is amended to read as follows:
      SECTION 302 UNFIT BUILDINGS AND PREMISES.
      For the purpose of this Code, any building, structure or premises which has any or all of the conditions or defects hereinafter described shall be deemed to be an unfit building or premises, provided that such conditions or defects exist to the extent that the life, health, property or safety of the public or its occupants are endangered.
      15. Whenever any building, structure or premises, because of inadequate maintenance, dilapidation, decay, damage, faulty construction or arrangement, inadequate light, air or sanitation facilities, accumulation of garbage or refuse, or otherwise, is determined by the Director to be unsanitary, unfit for human habitation or in such a condition that is likely to cause sickness or disease to the occupants, occupants of neighboring dwellings or other residents of the City. When a structure or premises is declared unfit under this subsection, repair as used in the UCADB shall include removal of the condition.
   c. UCADB Sec. 205, Board of Appeals, is hereby repealed.
   d. UCADB Chapter 5, Appeal, is hereby repealed, and substituted with the appeal provisions specified in this subchapter
   e. UCADB Chapter 6, Procedures for Conduct of Hearing Appeals, is hereby repealed and substituted with the procedures for appeal as specified in this subchapter.
   f. UCADB Chapter 9, Recovery of Cost of Repair or Demolition, is hereby repealed and the following provision is substituted:
      The amount of cost of repairs, alterations or improvements, or vacating and closing, or removal or demolition by the Director shall be assessed against the
real property upon which such cost was incurred unless such amount is previously paid. Upon certification to him by the City Finance Director of the assessment amount being due and owing, the County treasurer shall enter the amount of such assessment upon the tax rolls against the property for the current year and the same shall become a part of the general taxes for that year to be collected at the same time and with interest at such rates and in such manner as provided for in RCW 84.56.020, as now or hereafter amended, for delinquent taxes, and when collected to be deposited to the credit of the general fund of the City. If the dwelling, building structure, or premises is removed or demolished by the Director, the Director shall, if possible, sell the materials from such dwelling, building, structure, or premises and shall credit the proceeds of such sale against the cost of the removal or demolition and if there be any balance remaining, it shall be paid to the parties entitled thereto, as determined by the Director, after deducting the costs incident thereto.

The assessment shall constitute a lien against the property, which shall be of equal rank with State, county and municipal taxes.

20.30.775 Collection of Penalties and Costs

1. 20.30.770 K. All monies collected from the assessment of civil penalties and for abatement costs and work shall be allocated to support expenditures for abatement, and shall be accounted for through either creation of a fund or other appropriate accounting mechanism in the Department issuing the notice and order under which the abatement occurred. (Ord. 238 Ch. III § 10(f), 2000).

2. The amount of cost of repairs, alterations or improvements; or vacating and closing; or removal or demolition by the Director shall be assessed against the real property upon which such cost was incurred unless such amount is previously paid. Upon certification to him by the City Finance Director of the assessment amount being due and owing, the County treasurer shall enter the amount of such assessment upon the tax rolls against the property for the current year and the same shall become a part of the general taxes for that year to be collected at the same time and with interest at such rates and in such manner as provided for in RCW 84.56.020, as now or hereafter amended, for delinquent taxes, and when collected to be deposited to the credit of the general fund of the City. If the dwelling, building structure, or premises is removed or demolished by the Director, the Director shall, if possible, sell the materials from such dwelling, building, structure, or premises and shall credit the proceeds of such sale against the cost of the removal or demolition and if there be any balance remaining, it shall be paid to the parties entitled thereto, as determined by the Director, after deducting the costs incident thereto.

The assessment shall constitute a lien against the property, which shall be of equal rank with State, county and municipal taxes.
3. In addition to, or in lieu of the provisions set forth in this subchapter, the City may commence a civil action in any court of competent jurisdiction to collect for any such charges incurred by the City to obtain compliance pursuant to this chapter and/or to collect any penalties that have been assessed.

20.50.410 Parking design standards.

B. On property occupied by a single-family detached residence or duplex, the total number of vehicles wholly or partially parked or stored outside of a building or carport shall not exceed six, excluding a maximum combination of any two boats, recreational vehicles, or and trailers. This section shall not be interpreted to allow the storage of junk vehicles as covered in SMC 20.30.760.

Section 5. Repeal. Section 20.30.780 of the Shoreline Municipal Code is repealed in its entirety.

Section 6. Amendment SMC 15.05.010 is amended as follows:

15.05.010 Adoption of referenced codes.

The city of Shoreline hereby adopts the following codes, as amended by the Washington State Building Code Council pursuant to RCW 19.27.074, for the purpose of establishing rules and regulations for the construction, alteration, removal, demolition, equipment, use and occupancy, location and maintenance of buildings, premises and structures, including permits and penalties:


E. The current edition of the International Fire Code, published by the International Code Council, Inc., as adopted by the Washington State Building Code Council in Chapter 51-54 WAC, as now or hereafter amended, including those standards of the National Fire Protection Association specifically referenced in the International Fire Code; provided, that notwithstanding any wording in this code, participants in religious ceremonies shall not be precluded from carrying handheld candles. The following appendices are specifically adopted:
1. Appendix B, Fire-Flow Requirements for Buildings;
2. Appendix C, Fire Hydrant Locations and Distribution;
3. Appendix E, Hazard Categories;

F. Except as provided in RCW 19.27.170, the current edition of the Uniform Plumbing Code and Uniform Plumbing Code Standards, published by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, as adopted by the Washington State Building Code Council in Chapters 51-56 and 51-57 WAC, as now or hereafter amended; provided, that any provisions of such code affecting sewers or fuel gas piping are not adopted. The following appendices are specifically adopted:
   1. Appendix A, Recommended Rules for Sizing the Water Supply System;
   2. Appendix B, Explanatory Notes on Combination Waste and Vent Systems;
   3. Appendix D, Sizing Storm Water Drainage Systems;
   5. Appendix I, Installation Standards.

G. The rules adopted by the Washington State Building Code Council establishing standards for making buildings and facilities accessible to and usable by the physically disabled or elderly persons, as provided in RCW 70.92.100 through 70.92.160.


I. The 2003 International Property Maintenance Code published by the International Code Council as amended and filed under City Clerk’s receiving number 3505.
Section 7. Effective Date and Publication. A summary of this ordinance consisting of its title shall be published in the official newspaper of the City. The ordinance shall take effect and be in full force five days after passage and publication.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2005.

Mayor Ronald B. Hansen

ATTEST:

Scott Passey
City Clerk

Date of Publication: September 15, 2005
Effective Date: September 20, 2005

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Ian Sievers
City Attorney