



Open Space Current Use Assessment

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

City Council Chambers

747 Market Street

Starts at approximately 5:30 p.m.

SUBJECT

The City of Tacoma has received an application for the property at 811 N KARL JOHAN AVENUE to reclassify 3.13 acres of their property as Open Space under the Current Use Assessment program.

The Planning Commission considered the item on December 5th, 2018 and the City Council Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability (IPS) Committee on January 9th, 2019, both recommend approval.

SUMMARY

If approved the reclassification would lower the property tax rate on a privately-owned, wooded gulch with wetlands, a stream and biodiversity areas. The open space serves as a greenbelt buffering the neighborhood from State Route 16. The reclassification would not apply to buildings or other improvements.

The Current Use Assessment program, enacted by the state legislature through RCW 84.34, is a voluntary program to incentivize private conservation of open space assets valuable to the general public. For properties within incorporated cities, Pierce County and the City jointly review the proposals. State law requires the process be conducted with a public hearing and thus this public notice.

The property tax rate would be reduced in exchange for a voluntary agreement from the property owners to leave the site undeveloped and in its natural state. No development or other changes to the property are being proposed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact: Larry Harala, Planner at (253) 591-5640 or lhara@cityoftacoma.org

