

CITY OF SHORELINE CURRENTS

March 2007 Vol. 9 No. 2

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More Sidewalks in 2007

A list of potential sidewalk projects is in design and construction is planned for this summer.

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Council looks at long-range financial projections

Since incorporation, the City of Shoreline has made it a priority to maintain a strong, stable financial position. It achieves this by only committing to provide services and programs that can be funded into the future and by tracking long-term financial projections and adjusting the budget accordingly. As a result, the City is able to provide quality services to the Shoreline community.

Over the last few years, the City of Shoreline's long-term projections have indicated that Shoreline was heading into a time when expenditures would outpace revenues, resulting in budget gaps. For the past few years the City has been able to close those gaps through increased efficiencies.

"The projections indicate that

in 2008 efficiencies alone will not allow the City to continue to fund existing service levels without additional revenue," explains Shoreline City Manager Bob Olander. "During the 2007 budget process the City Council asked staff to develop strategies to address the upcoming budget gap."

The first step was a City Council retreat with department directors on January 29. At that meeting the group reviewed expenditure and revenue trends, current service levels and potential revenue sources. Based on the discussion and direction from the City Council, staff is preparing recommendations for City Council consideration to close the budget gap.

"The goal of the recom-

See **Projections** page 2

Share your ideas at March 20 civic center/city hall meeting

The community is invited to a public meeting on March 20 to share ideas about Shoreline's new civic center/city hall. What social, environmental, financial and general community concerns should be considered during design and construction? What does the community want to see

in a civic center/city hall and what should its image be?

The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 20, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Meridian Park Elementary School cafeteria, 17077 Meridian Avenue N.

Last year, the City purchased

See **Civic Center** page 3

Long-range projections *continued from page 1*

mentations is to keep the City in a sound financial position and provide Shoreline residents with quality services," Olander says. "We have worked hard to ensure our budget supports services the community wants and needs as efficiently as possible and we plan to continue that standard into the future."

The recommendations will likely include:

- Reducing a portion of the City's General Fund transfer to capital projects.
- Reducing operating expenses. The City Council has made it clear it is not proposing reducing service levels or cutting programs or staff.
- Increasing the utility tax on cable TV from the current 1% to 6%.
- Requesting Seattle City Light pay Shoreline a contract payment on all of the revenue generated by Shoreline customers instead of on just a portion of the revenue as it now pays. If approved by the City Council, it is likely that Shoreline would ask Seattle City Light to phase this in over a two-year period by paying 3% in 2008 and an additional 3% in 2009.
- Asking Shoreline voters to approve a property tax levy lid lift in 2009. The 2007 property tax levy rate is \$1.10 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. The City's legal rate limit set by the state is \$1.60 per \$1,000 of assessed property value but the total levy – the revenue the City collects – can only rise by 1% per

year. That means when assessed property values go up, the City's levy rate goes down. The City of Shoreline's levy rate has been going down since 2001. Raising the rate requires a "yes" vote by a majority of Shoreline voters. If the City Council approves asking voters for a levy lid lift, the City will begin an extensive public input

process to find out what services the community wants and how much it is willing to pay for them.

These proposals are scheduled to be presented to the City Council March 5 with further discussion and possible adoption March 19. See page 8 for City Council meeting details.

Balancing prior budgets

In light of the long-term forecasts, the City's focus over the last few years has been on cost containment, expenditure reductions and improving service efficiencies. Since 2003 these changes have resulted in more than \$1 million in budget savings.

Successes include:

- In 2003 an employee group developed an alternative health benefit policy. As a result of this policy change, the City's health benefit costs in 2006 were \$313,000 less than would have been budgeted under the previous policy.
 - The City initiated agreements with Yakima County and Issaquah to house prisoners at a lower rate than is charged by King County for misdemeanor offenders. In 2005 the City saved \$279,080 and in 2006 saved \$459,392.
 - Shoreline changed the way it pays for Police Department canine services by purchasing it on a call-out basis instead of having a dedicated unit. This has resulted in annual savings of \$100,000.
 - Departments absorbed \$167,000 in baseline budget reductions in 2005 and an additional \$169,000 in baseline reductions for 2007.
 - In addition to these cost-saving measures, the City has developed more efficient service delivery methods to enhance service levels without increasing budget costs. Examples include:
 - In-house athletic field maintenance as opposed to continuing with contract services.
 - In-house provision of street sweeping services versus private and County contract.
- The City also welcomes suggestions from the public on cost efficiencies and savings. Send your ideas to the Shoreline Finance Department at fince@ci.shoreline.wa.us.

Brightwater projects starting in Shoreline

Construction on the Brightwater treatment system project is set to get under way at two locations in Shoreline this year, and King County wants to make sure community members are kept informed.

This spring, the County's contractor, Jay Dee/Taisei/Colluccio, will begin building a 33-foot-deep access shaft, an underground sampling facility and a connection to the marine outfall at the Point Wells portal on Richmond Beach Drive. Construction on the marine outfall is scheduled to begin in 2008 after the County selects a contractor.

This summer, construction

is scheduled to begin at the Ballinger Way portal on Ballinger Way NE. The contractor, Vinci/Parsons/Frontier-Kemper, will build a 180-foot-deep access shaft to retrieve two tunneling machines that will be launched in Kenmore and at Point Wells.

King County's Brightwater treatment system is the County's largest clean-water project in 40 years. Brightwater will provide wastewater treatment capacity for our growing region, coming on line in 2010 when the County's current system is projected to reach capacity.

King County worked closely with the Shoreline community

throughout the siting process, and will continue close communication with the community and the City throughout construction.

Community relations staff will provide project updates and address questions, comments and concerns from the community during construction. Contact David Freed (Ballinger Way) at 206-296-1329 or david.freed@metrokc.gov and Monica Van der Vieren (Point Wells) at 206-263-7301 or monica.vandervieren@metrokc.gov.

Learn more about the Brightwater project at <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/wtd/brightwater> or by calling (206) 684-6799.

Civic center/city hall *continued from page 1*

property for the new civic center/city hall at N 175th Street and Midvale Avenue N. The new building will locate all City departments, except Police, under one roof and help centralize services for more effective citizen service.

In January, City Council approved a process for design, management and construction in 2008. The City is now moving into the process of selecting the best qualified design and construction team.

The process includes a collaborative approach to design and budget control that would result in faster completion of the project with construction risks transferred to the developer and contractor instead of the City.

With the design-bid-build/

lease-to-own approach, the developer assumes the responsibility and risk of the project. The City selects the best-qualified development team through a competitive process. The process is simplified by one entity handling design and construction of the project and the fee is set early in the process. If project expenses exceed original bids, it is the developer's responsibility to fund the shortfall.

The design-bid-build/lease-to-own approach has been used for numerous state projects including King County's King Street Center, the Issaquah District

Courthouse, Redmond City Hall and four University of Washington projects. Public participation is built into the design process and other opportunities for community involvement will follow the March 20 meeting.

For more information about the civic center/city hall project, contact Shoreline Project Manager Jesus Sanchez at (206) 546-2519.

Construction on Dayton retaining wall begins this summer and temporarily closes Dayton

The City of Shoreline has looked at many options for the long-term maintenance of the 150-foot retaining wall on Dayton Avenue near N 172nd Street.

At its Feb. 12 meeting, the Shoreline City Council approved a \$1,001,982 contract with Kemper Construction Corporation to build a new retaining wall and sidewalks for the Dayton Improvement Project. Council also approved the construction of new sidewalks along the north side of N 172nd Street from Dayton Avenue to Fremont Avenue.

Deterioration of the 50-year-

old timber pile wall has been repaired over the years. Shoreline dedicated money in the Capital Improvement Program to either continue repairs or to possibly replace the wall. The wall supports Dayton Avenue on the west side and is eight-feet tall at its highest point.

After preliminary design work, the City determined the area could benefit from other improvements to address safety and traffic concerns. In addition to replacing the retaining wall, a design to reconfigure the intersection of Dayton Avenue and St. Luke

Place was done. Curbs and gutters are needed along the west side of Dayton Avenue N from St. Luke Place to N 172nd Street and the project also adds new sidewalks along the north side of N 172nd Street from Dayton Avenue to Fremont Avenue.

A new 260-foot-long steel and concrete wall is planned to replace the old wall. It will be located behind the existing wall to provide room for the construction of sidewalks, curbs and gutters. Construction is expected to begin at the end of June with work to be completed by fall.

Due to limited space and safety concerns, the City Council also authorized closure of Dayton between N 172nd Street and St. Luke Place during construction. Detour information will be posted in the vicinity of the closure and on the City's Web site at www.cityofshoreline.com.

Drivers are asked to use alternate routes during the construction. Local access will be provided at either end of the closure for residences within the closure limits. Through access for vehicles will not be possible. Pedestrian access will be available at all times through the construction zone and the road closure.

For more information about the Dayton Improvement Project, contact Capital Projects Manager John Vicente at (206) 546-8903.

Shoreline now taking PRCS Board member applications

Shoreline is accepting Volunteer Service Applications from those interested in serving on the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Board.

The PRCS Board is an advisory board to the City Council and helps guide the development of park projects and recreation programs in Shoreline. Applicants must live, work or own property in Shoreline to be considered for this appointment. The PRCS Board meets monthly on the fourth Thursday evening of each month.

In addition, two youth members between the ages of 15 and 19 will be added to the Board and serve two-year terms. The City Council created these new positions to ensure that the opinions of younger citizens are represented.

Volunteer Service Applications are available at Shoreline City Hall, online at www.cityofshoreline.com or by calling the Shoreline Parks Department at (206) 546-5041. Please submit completed applications by March 23 to the City Clerks office at the City of Shoreline, 17544 Midvale Ave. N, Shoreline, WA 98133.

Sidewalks for 2007 now in design

The "Sidewalks – Priority Routes" program in the CIP has set aside \$6.4 million through 2012 to build both standard sidewalks and other "pedestrian facilities." Constructing the entire list of projects identified in the Transportation Master Plan could cost as much as \$67 million for the standard concrete curb-gutter-amenity zone-sidewalk configuration on both sides of the streets.

Since the standard configuration can be expensive and does not easily work in some areas, the City is using alternatives that will stretch tax dollars and provide more linear feet of pedestrian improvements over a wider geographical area. Alternatives include porous concrete curbs with asphalt sidewalks and separated pathways. Priority is also given to routes that have minimal utility or other conflicts that increase the price of construction.

Proposed projects for 2007 include walkways near Echo Lake Elementary School, Shorewood High School, Shorecrest High School, Kellogg Middle School, Briarcrest Elementary School and Shoreline Christian School. There are a total of 11,880 linear feet of proposed walkways. Each of the following projects includes a concrete curb, a two to three-foot green strip and a five- to six-foot asphalt walkway:

- Ashworth Avenue N from N 185th to N 192nd Streets
- Dayton Avenue N from Carlyle Hall Road to N 172nd Street to St. Luke School
- 8th Avenue NW from NW Richmond Beach Road to NW

180th Street. This project would have a separated walkway without a curb.

- 25th Avenue NE from NE 150th to NE 168th Streets
- Fremont Avenue N from N 165th to N 170th Streets
- N 192nd Street from the Interurban Trail to Ashworth Avenue N

The 2007 budget will cover about half of the projects identified above. The number of walkways that get built will depend on the outcome of the construction bids.

The City will work with indi-

vidual property owners on design needs to minimize impacts and will host open houses to share information with the community.

Plans and design will be finalized over the next few months with construction scheduled for summer after school is out. The goal is to complete the walkways before school starts in September.

For more information, visit www.cityofshoreline.com. Comment forms are available on the Web site. Or contact Capital Projects Manager Jon Jordan at (206) 546-1678 or email sidewalks@ci.shoreline.wa.us.

Police volunteers needed

The Shoreline Police Department is seeking volunteers to staff the Police Neighborhood Centers. Police volunteers are a vital part of Shoreline's Community Oriented Policing Team.

Some of the activities volunteers assist with include victim follow-up calls, court reminder calls, false alarm tracking and citations, vacation house check, senior intervention program, community projects and events, pet licensing, neighborhood crime prevention surveys, operation ID, Block Watch, police activity maps, newsletters and neighborhood flyers, handle incoming calls, answer questions and direct residents to resources.

Volunteers must be willing to commit at least four hours per week and be able to work independently. A background check through the King County Sheriff's Office is also required. For volunteer brochure and preliminary application, please stop in at any of the following locations:

Eastside Police Neighborhood Center
521 NE 165th, (206) 363-8424

Westside Police Neighborhood Center
624 NW Richmond Beach Rd., (206) 546-3636

Shoreline Police Department
1206 N 185th Street, (206) 546-6730

Aurora 165th - 205th continues environmental process, makes RTID list

The environmental review process for the Aurora Corridor Improvement Project (N 165th Street to N 205th Street) is now underway.

The City has formed the Aurora Business and Community (ABC) Team consisting of volunteers representing a broad spectrum of project viewpoints to monitor the environmental review process.

The ABC Team will review key aspects of the environmental technical reports and bring information back to the community. The team will be looking at issues such as stormwater, traffic, air

quality, noise, construction impacts, economics and wetlands. City staff and the City's environmental consultant, Jones & Stokes, will provide regular briefings to the ABC Team throughout the environmental review process. ABC Team meetings are open to the public.

Members of the ABC Team are: Gretchen Atkinson, Michael Broili, Mark Deutsch, Donald Ding, Jim Doherty, Arthur Ellis, Zachary Gray, Paulette Gust, Joanne Hargrave, Larry Heesacker, Carolyn Mayer, Robin McClelland, Thomas Nasky, Greg Olson, Rebecca Partman, Rocky

Piro, Kevin Reeve, Lamar Scott, Larry Steele, Rick Stephens, Shari Winstead-Tracey, Dale Wright, and William Vincent.

Construction on the next two miles is expected to begin in late 2008. The next steps following the environmental process include design and right-of-way acquisition.

The preliminary estimated cost for design and construction of the next two miles is \$80 million. The City of Shoreline has secured approximately \$30 million in grant funding and has set aside approximately \$10 million in City funds for the project.

The Regional Transit Investment District's (RTID) "Blueprint for Progress," a roads and transit ballot that is being developed to go before voters in November, includes \$40 million to pay for the business access/transit lanes for Shoreline's remaining two miles of Aurora. Before the final ballot is adopted for voter consideration, a number of open houses are being held around the Puget Sound area to gather community feedback. The closest one to Shoreline is on Thursday, March 15, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Lynnwood Convention Center, 3711 196th Street SW, Lynnwood. For more information about this proposed ballot, visit www.soundtransit.org/st2 or www.rtid.org.

For more information about Shoreline's Aurora Corridor Project, visit www.cityofshoreline.com.

Shoreline welcomes new public works director

The City of Shoreline welcomed Mark Relph as its new Public Works Director Feb. 12.

"Mark's breadth and depth of experience in all aspects of municipal public works is a positive addition to our organization," says Shoreline City Manager Bob Olander. "He's a proven, experienced leader who can guide our Public Works Department as well as help us complete our major projects such as Aurora and city hall."

Relph comes to

Shoreline with over 25 years experience in local government, including 15 years with the City of Grand Junction, Colorado, eight years as Public Works and Utilities Director and seven years as Public Works Manager. One of the major projects undertaken in Grand Junction under Relph's leadership was the Riverside Parkway, a \$110 million capital construction project.

"He brings a passion for excellent public service and an enthusiasm for a collaborative, team-based approach to problem solving and service delivery. Mark is well respected by his peers, employees, City Council, current and past city managers, and the public in Grand Junction and we are pleased to welcome him to Shoreline," Olander adds.



Shoreline Public Works Director Mark Relph

Police Citizen's Academy begins March 20

Have you always wanted to learn more about police work? The Shoreline Police Department invites interested residents to sign up for the spring session of its Citizen's Academy beginning March 20 through May 22.

The academy was developed to increase understanding between residents and their police department. The goal is to provide a better understanding of law enforcement's role in the criminal justice system, and an appreciation for the many challenges facing police in today's complex society.

The 10-week course covers a variety of topics, which include defensive tactics, domestic violence, traffic enforcement and police procedures, homicide and major crimes and checks, fraud

and computer forensics.

The free class is open to anyone who lives or works in the City of Shoreline. Classes will be held Tuesday evenings from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the King County Sheriff's Office Precinct 2 in Kenmore from March 20 through May 22. Class size is limited and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Applicants will be required to undergo a basic background check.

Applications are available at the main Police Station and both Police Neighborhood Centers (see page 8 for addresses).

Residents who complete the course are eligible to ride with an officer during part of a patrol shift. For more information, contact Officer Leona Obstler at (206) 546-3636.

New captain joins police

Shoreline Police recently welcomed new captain Kent Baxter to the department. Former Shoreline captain Dan Pingrey transferred to a position in Seattle overseeing the police contracting unit.

"We're pleased to welcome Captain Baxter to Shoreline," says Shoreline Police Chief Tony Burt. "His many years of police experience in King County and other contract cities will be a big benefit to the residents of Shoreline and we are happy to have him join our team."

Captain Baxter is a 23-year veteran of the King County Sheriff's Office, most recently working out of the Burien Precinct. He was also police chief for the City of Woodinville for almost four years. In his spare time, he enjoys hunting and fishing.



Captain Kent Baxter

Shoreline 2010 Speaker Series Continues

Monday, March 19, at 6:30 p.m.

(during the Shoreline City Council meeting)

Gene Duvernoy, president of the Cascade Land Conservancy, will speak about the Cascade Agenda Cities Program. The program addresses questions such as: How can we preserve the quality of life we have today 100 years from now for our children's grandchildren? How can we preserve what we have as the population of the region continues to grow, doubling in number over the next 100 years to more than 7.5 million residents?

Thursday, April 5, at 7:00 p.m.

Tom Von Schrader and Amalia Leighton are professional engineers from SvR Design Company, a firm that specializes in integrated and environmentally responsible design. Their interests include green streets, low-impact, high-performance public infrastructure and water quality systems.

All presentations will be held in the Mt. Rainier Room of the Shoreline Conference Center, 18560 1st Avenue NE. Visit www.cityofshoreline.com for more details.

Free gun locks

"Put a lock on safety" with free gun locks from the Shoreline Police thanks to a grant from Project Home Safe and the U.S. Department of Justice.

The cable locks are designed to work on all types of handguns, shotguns and rifles. The locks come with an instructional booklet and a key. Contact Neighborhood Center Officers listed on page 8 to make an appointment.

Who, what, where in the City of Shore-

City of Shoreline

Shoreline City Hall
17544 Midvale Ave. N., Suite 100
Shoreline, WA 98133-4921
(206) 546-1700
Fax (206) 546-7868

City Hall Annex
Home of Planning and
Development Services Department
and Public Works Department
Highland Plaza
1110 N. 175th St., Suite 105
Shoreline, WA 98133

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City Council

Mayor Bob Ransom
Deputy Mayor Maggie Fimia
Rich Gustafson
Ron Hansen
Keith McGlashan
Cindy Ryu
Janet Way

Meeting Location
Shoreline Conference Center
18560 First Ave. NE
Mt. Rainier Room

Workshop Meetings
First and third Mondays
beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Regular Meetings
Second and fourth Mondays
beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Agenda Line
(206) 546-2190

Televised City Council Meetings
Cable Channel 21
Tuesday noon and 8 p.m.
Wednesday through Sunday
6 a.m., noon and 8 p.m.

Shoreline Police

Emergency: 911

Shoreline Police Station
Chief Tony Burt
1206 N. 185th St.
Shoreline, WA 98133
(206) 546-6730

Westside Neighborhood Police Center
Officer Leona Obstler
624 NW Richmond Beach Road
Shoreline, WA 98177
(206) 546-3636

Eastside Neighborhood Police Center
Officer Sue Sherwood
521 NE 165th St.
Shoreline, WA 98155
(206) 363-8424

City of Shoreline Web site

Information about meetings,
projects and programs is
available online.

www.cityofshoreline.com



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